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INDUSTRY NOTICE 002 OF 2015

CANCELLATION OF THE STANDARD CATEGORY CERTIFICATE OF AIRWORTHINESS FOR MI-8 ROTORCRAFT REGISTERED IN THE SOUTH AFRICAN CIVIL AVIATION REGISTER

PURPOSE OF THIS INDUSTRY NOTICE

This Industry Notice advises of a directive issued by the South African Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA) pertaining to the cancellation of all Standard Category Certificates of Airworthiness (C of A) for MI-8 Rotorcraft registered in the South African Civil Aviation Register (SACAR). This notice is issued in terms of Part 21.08.12 (1)(b) of the Civil Aviation Regulations, 2011(CAR, 2011).

BACKGROUND

Subsequent to the request for representations regarding the SACAA's intention to revoke the Standard Category Certificate of Airworthiness of MI-8 Rotorcraft, the SACAA has received and considered representations from the industry including inputs of other parties who are affected by the Industry Notice issued in March 2015.

Representations from the industry (as well as those submitted by other interested parties) were highly deliberated upon taking into account concerns raised by SACAA in letter dated 4 March

2015. All the relevant factors advanced by affected organisations were weighted up against the fact that the Mi-8 rotorcraft currently being operated in South Africa do not comply with both the ICAO annex 8 and South African Civil Aviation Regulations data and design standards requirements, which in South Africa, is a requirement for the issuance of a Standard Category C of A for a large rotorcraft. The fact that section 71 of the Civil Aviation Act, 2009(Act No. 13 of 2009) requires the SACAA to promote aviation safety also has to be taken into account in the decision-making process.

The SACAA advises the operators/owners of the MI-8 rotorcraft and the aviation Industry that it is embarking on a process of re-categorizing Mi-8 rotorcraft C of A's due to non-compliance to the following requirements:

- (a) Part 21.04.4(1), (b) and (c) of CAR,2011 which requires that the applicant should provide airworthiness design standards in order for an Rotorcraft to be Type accepted and eventually issued with a Standard category C of A;
- (b) The Mi-8 Rotorcraft registered in South Africa are Ex-Military aircraft that was specifically designed for military purposes;
- (c) The rotorcraft data and design standards do not comply with FAR 29 design standards- implying a lack of compliance to the civilian airworthiness design standards as required by the standard;
- (d) The rotor craft does not meet the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Annex 8 requirements; and
- (e) Requirements as set on Part 21.08.1(1)(a) of CAR, 2011.

CONCLUSION


On the basis of the above, the SACAA has taken a decision to cancel all Standard category of C of A's issued to Mi-8 Rotorcraft and replace the certificates with a restricted category C of A, the directive is effective from the date of the issuance of this Industry Notice. The restricted C of A will entail the following:

- (a) The air craft shall be utilized within the South African airspace and may not be operated in a foreign State without the express written approval of that foreign State.

(b) Operations shall include essential crew but exclude fare paying passengers for transportation.

(c) Operations shall be restricted to heavy lifting, aerial work and fire- fighting.

This decision was taken in the interest of aviation and public safety.


A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Mrs Poppy Khoza', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and somewhat cursive.

Mrs Poppy Khoza
Director for Civil Aviation

Date: 23/9/15