



MEDIA RELEASE

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CAA SET TO INTRODUCE NEW AIR CARGO SECURITY REGULATIONS

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For immediate release

Midrand – Following rumours to the contrary, the South African Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA) today announced that the commencement date of the new cargo security regulations will not change. The new regulation, *Part 108 (Air Cargo Security)*, which forms part of the existing Civil Aviation Regulations, comes into effect on 1 July 2009.

According to Captain Colin Jordaan, Commissioner for Civil Aviation and Chief Executive Officer of the SACAA, the Minister of Transport approved *Part 108* in 2007 and the original implementation date of 1 February 09 was extended to 1 July 09, to allow all affected cargo operators and agents to comply.

“In essence, as from 1 July 2009, air carriers will not be allowed to carry unknown cargo. In terms of this regulation, cargo intended for loading on board an aircraft will need to be processed through a regulated agent who is required to apply security controls to such cargo and who holds a certificate of approval, issued by the Commissioner of the SACAA.

“South Africa is a signatory state to the International Civil Aviation Organisation’s (ICAO) Convention of 1944 and it is therefore expected to meet its international obligations in terms of ICAO standards and recommended practices. In this case, ICAO identified the need to enhance controls in the face of increased risks factors relating to air cargo,” explains Capt. Jordaan.

Moreover, says Jordaan, the plan is to proactively look at ways that will bring the local cargo industry on par with forerunners in other parts of the world.

“Rumours currently circulating that the SACAA has decided to call off the introduction of *Part 108* are false. Applicants for Regulated Agent status are encouraged to continue with the submission of their applications and security manuals for approval to the SACAA.”

Where Regulated Agent or Known Consignor applicants are unable to comply with certain requirements of *Part 108* of the Regulations they need to engage with the Civil Aviation Authority prior to 1 July 2009 for further assistance.

“The time to implement preventive measures is overdue. If we don’t, the industry will find it difficult to do away with the prevailing perception that the air cargo sector is the weakest link in civil aviation security,” concludes Capt. Jordaan.

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About the CAA:

The South African Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA) was established on 1 October 1998 following the enactment of the South African Civil Aviation Authority Act, No.40, in September of the same year. The SACAA promotes and maintains a safe, secure and sustainable civil aviation environment, by regulating and overseeing the functioning and development of the industry in an efficient, cost-effective, and customer-friendly manner according to international standards.

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