

MEDIA RELEASE

Tuesday, 14 December 2010

SACAA INTRODUCES NEW RULES AND AIRSPACE FOR GRAND CENTRAL AIRPORT

Following requests from the aviation industry to investigate safety concerns related to flight operations in and out of Grand Central Airport in Midrand, the South African Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA) has today announced the introduction of a new Aerodrome Traffic Zone (ATZ).

The new ATZ is being established to assist pilots using the airspace in and transiting through the Kyalami VFR Blue Route to become familiar with the visual reporting points, the correct frequencies to be used, and the frequency change-over points.

“As the regulator, the SACAA takes safety concerns seriously and strongly believes that aviation safety can only get better through a closer cooperation between the SACAA and the aviation community. As such, this initiative is just one of such classic examples of a closer cooperation between the SACAA and its stakeholders,” explained Jeffrey Matshoba, Senior Manager: Air Navigation Services at the SACAA.

In accordance with the applicable regulations, the new Aerodrome Traffic Zone (ATZ Glass G Airspace) will be published by the SACAA in an AIRAC supplement and will be effective as from 5 May 2011.

The initiative is the result of a Work Group formed by the National Airspace Committee (NASCOM) and comprising key role-players such as the South African Air Force, Grand Central Management, the Aero Club of South Africa, the Commercial Aviation Association of Southern Africa, Air Traffic Navigation Services and the SACAA.

“We are confident that when the new ATZ glass G airspace comes into effect, we will see a reasonable improvement in safe flight operations in and around the Kyalami and Midrand area,” concluded Matshoba.

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About the CAA:

The South African Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA), an agency of the Department of Transport, is tasked with promoting and maintaining 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 and according to international standards.

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