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AIRWORTHINESS

MAINTENANCE

MALFUNCTION AND DEFECT REPORTS

☞ Indicates changes.

☞ This AIC replaces AIC 61-14 dated 02.07.15 in total.

1. GENERAL

1.1 Purpose

The purpose of this circular is to advise all operators, aircraft maintenance organisations and aircraft maintenance engineers of the requirement to, and method of reporting any defect or condition of an aircraft or component which may jeopardise the safety of the aircraft.

1.2 References

Regulations 21.01.3;43.02.3(f); 121.04.2; 127.04.2; 135.04.2; 145.02.16; 145.03.16; 145.04.16; 145.05.16; 145.06.16; 145.07.16 and 145.08.16 of the Civil Aviation Regulations, 1997, as amended, and their respective Civil Aviation Technical Standards (SA-CATS-AR; SA-CATS-GMR; SA-CATS-AMO; SA-CTS-OPS 121; SA-CATS-OPS 127; and SA- CATS-OPS 135).

2. REQUIREMENTS

The Director of Civil Aviation requires all operators, aircraft maintenance organisations and aircraft maintenance engineers to report any defect or condition of an aircraft or component which may jeopardise the safety of the aircraft, within 48 hours from the moment the defect or condition to which the report relates, has been identified.

3. DEFINITIONS

Note: Some of the following definitions do not appear in the Regulations, although they are frequently used in the text of various Parts of the Regulations.

Hazard means any act, omission, event or condition or a combination thereof that could lead to or result in an accident or incident.

Major Defect means a defect of such a kind that it may affect the safety of the aircraft or cause the aircraft to become a danger to person or property.

Defect means an imperfection that impairs the structure, composition or function of an object or system.

Malfunction means when a part of an aircraft, aircraft engine, propeller, system, or component fails to operate in the manner for which it was designed.

Failure means the lack of the expected or satisfactory performance.

4. **BENEFITS**

4.1 The intent of the malfunction and defect reporting program is:

- (a) Timely airworthiness control action,
- (b) Long term improvement in design, manufacturing and maintenance standard; and
- (c) The assessment of risk levels.

4.2 In submitting the defect reports, the operators, AMO's and AME's will be performing a service which might otherwise prove costly to some other operator or cause a serious accident, since the information so obtained will be reviewed by the South African Civil Aviation Authority, and if the difficulty is not isolated problem, it will be drawn to the attention of all concerned. This will be done by placing the information on the SACAA website, as well as an email to all concerned organisations and individuals.

4.3 The aviation community will, therefore, be provided with a uniform means for exchanging service experience that may improve the serviceability and safety of aeronautical products.

4.4 If the airworthiness of the aircraft could be adversely affected, an Airworthiness Directive would be issued so that the required corrective action can be taken. In other cases, a Maintenance Advisory Notice (MAN) will be issued.

5. **REPORTABLE MALFUNCTIONS AND DEFECTS**

5.1 The text of Regulation 21.01.3 and its associated SA-CATS-AR clearly indicates which Failures, Malfunctions and Defects have to be reported, and what exceptions are applicable.

5.2 This includes the reporting of any such failure that occurs subsequent to a similar failure previously reported.

6. **REPORTING**

6.1 A report form, CA 43-15 (Aircraft Defect Report), has been designed for this purpose. In submitting this form, all available information should be given. Attachments such as photographs or parts, bearing identifying information, would aid in the investigation and analysis of the malfunction or defect. This form is available on the SACAA website under Airworthiness, Forms.

6.2 The completed form with necessary attachments can be forwarded to:
Carel Raath, Manager Defect Reporting
Fax: 011 545 1462 or 086 602 4471
sdr@caa.co.za

6.3 The names of individuals or companies reporting such malfunctions, defects, service difficulties or malpractices will not be divulged to any other party.

7. **GENERAL**

For any additional information or any assistance, please contact the Manager Defect Reporting.



DIRECTOR OF CIVIL AVIATION