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AIRWORTHINESS DIVISION
MAINTENANCE ADVISORY NOTICE # 043

**GENERAL: UN-APPROVED CHANGES TO AIRCRAFT INSTALLED
EQUIPMENT/PRODUCTS/PARTS**

1. PURPOSE OF THIS MAN

Measures to be taken when unapproved changes to aircraft installed equipment/products/parts are identified in an aircraft.

2. APPLICABILITY

- This **MAN** applies to Type Certified Aircraft with un-approved installations of equipment, parts and products found embodied in an aircraft.
- Does not apply to newly installed aircraft equipment, parts or products, STCs and sophisticated installations, these installation must be referred to Certification Department at the SACAA or Design Organization.

3. BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

This **Maintenance Advisory Notice** supersedes ***MAN 43 dated 2010/05/05***. In the interest of aviation safety, the Director for Civil Aviation has decided to review the afore-mentioned **MAN 43** which was issued with an intention of eliminating the problem of unapproved installation of equipment/products/parts on aircraft.

The previous **MAN 43** proved to be onerous and made it impractical for the industry to comply on time and has subsequently resulted in sluggish submission of Modification Applications for approval to the SACAA. The ultimate objective of this **MAN** is to present simplified, revised legal procedures and promote voluntary compliance with the Regulations which states that:

CAR 43.02.15 “(1) No person shall, without the prior written approval of the *Commissioner(DCA)*, carry out any modifications, including changes to equipment or the installation thereof, which affect, or are likely to affect, the serviceability of the aircraft, or the safety of its occupants or of any other persons or property.”

4. UN-APPROVED INSTALLATIONS

Any **un-approved installation** to an aircraft which does not comply with the aircraft's Type Design and is not covered by a Service Bulletin or Airworthiness Directive **will be deemed an un-approved change unless** the installation has been performed in accordance with a modification approval issued by the SACAA or has been approved by an Appropriate Authority.

5. EXTENSION OF THE AMNESTY PERIOD

The initial **MAN 43** granted a twelve months amnesty, **which will be ending on the 30th of April 2011**, to the industry to get all un-approved changes to products/parts/equipments fitted in an aircraft to an approved status by following steps that were detailed in that **MAN**. The Director for Civil Aviation has granted an extension of the amnesty for a further **6 (six) months ending on the 31st of October 2011**.

6. IDENTIFICATION OF UN-APPROVED INSTALLATIONS

The following are examples of **un-approved installation**:

- The equipment on-board differs from the approved equipment list.
- The permanent modification number has not been recorded on logbooks.
- There is no installation history.

As an act of precaution and to avoid premature decision making, Operators/Owners/AMO's are strongly encouraged to consult with the SACAA prior to commencement of any **modification/ installation removal**. To verify whether an aircraft has any record of modification, the AMO/Operator/Owner should request information from the SACAA. Copies of relevant pages, if available, may be obtained on request at the prescribed cost from the SACAA.

7. OPTIONS IN CASE UN-APPROVED INSTALLATIONS ARE IDENTIFIED

When an unapproved modification is identified during the amnesty period, one of the following options may be exercised.

- Removal of the **un-approved installation** to restore the aircraft to an approved standard.
- Submission of documents to the SACAA as per **Section 9(nine)** of this **MAN**.

8. REMOVAL OF UN-APPROVED INSTALLATIONS

In the case where an **un-approved installation** can be removed and the aircraft be restored to an approved modification status, the following is required:

- Copies of logbook entry/CRMA's certifying that the **installation removal** was carried out properly, *reflecting any change of Products/ Equipment/ Parts*, must be forwarded to the relevant **Airworthiness Inspector** at the SACAA.
- Mass and Balance report copy reflecting the current situation must be submitted.
- The AMO must update the equipment list to reflect current situation thereafter submit copies.
- If the aircraft has multiple installations removals, an appropriate System check flight should be carried out and recorded in the logbook, in order to confirm that the airworthiness, operational characteristics and safety of the aircraft were not adversely affected.
- The AMO, shall *in case of installation removal*, ensure that all surrounding installations including structures, cables, avionics equipment, etc.) are returned to their original condition.
- In the case where the structure cannot be restored to its original condition (for instance due to a hole), a repair must be performed in accordance with approved data.

NOTE: Restoring the aircraft to a previously approved condition does not require de-modification approval.

9. APPROVAL OF AN UN-APPROVED INSTALLATIONS FOUND EMBODIED

The following shall be submitted to the relevant Airworthiness Inspector as minimum requirements in satisfying requirements for any un-approved Installations during this amnesty period:

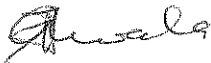
- CRMA from an appropriately rated AMO stating that the installed equipment is certified (TSO) and found to be installed in a satisfactory manner and thus safe on the aircraft.
- Update equipment list.
- Mass and Balance.
- CA43-02 or CA43-03 (item 8) when applicable

Following satisfactory review of the above submitted documents, an endorsement letter will be issued by the Inspector to confirm the status of the aircraft as of that date. This letter shall be pasted to the logbook and/or attached to the equipment list.

10. CONCLUSION

It is the onus of the Operator/Owner to ensure that all installations of Equipment/Parts/Products have been approved. Should it be discovered that an aircraft is in non-compliance, *with MAN 44 read together with AIC 61-6* (dated 13th of January 2011) *and the applicable CARs, after* the expiry date of this MAN43 amnesty period, which is the 31st of October 2011, the aircraft may be grounded in terms of CAR part 13.01.1.1(c) until such time that any discrepancies pertaining to illegally installed Equipment/Parts/Products have been satisfactorily addressed.

This maintenance advisory notice is issued in the interest of aviation and public safety.



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Director for Civil Aviation

6 - Oct - 11

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Date