
Uncontrolled Aerodromes Review Request For Proposal

S-A-560-01 (DW1259640-0)

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Description of Project

The aim of this project is to review practices at uncontrolled aerodromes to inform CAA of the appropriateness or otherwise of current practices. The CAA wishes to review practices at aerodromes for which an air traffic control (ATC) service is not provided. When ATC is present there is a degree of consistency provided by the use of standard procedures. By comparison, operations at unattended aerodromes, or when ATC is off watch, or at aerodromes where there is an aerodrome information service (AFIS, UNICOM) the responsibility for traffic sequencing and separation relies more heavily on individual pilots. The CAA wishes to review the systems in place at uncontrolled aerodromes and identify appropriate strategies to mitigate risk.

Scope

The review will consider practices at aerodromes which operate without an Air Traffic Control (ATC) Service. It also includes operations at aerodromes with an ATC service, but outside of the ATC unit's hours of watch. The review will include those aerodromes with an Aerodrome Flight Information Service or similar.

For the purposes of the review all of these environments will be referred to as 'uncontrolled aerodromes'.

The review need not consider the private airfields and airstrips which are not published in the Aeronautical Information Publication (AIPNZ).

The CAA recognises that a great deal of knowledge and experience regarding aerodrome operations rest with active participants in the industry. Accordingly this review should involve extensive and targeted consultation with representative industry participants.

There is also a considerable body of experience within the CAA and much work has been done in the area of aerodrome air traffic practices. This experience and knowledge can inform and direct the required consultation with industry.

Accordingly it is envisaged that the conduct of this review will have three major components.

Part 1: Research and Review of Current Practice:

- Review current air traffic practices at unattended aerodromes in NZ, including reference to;
 - the status of the standard overhead join procedure and to what degree it should continue to be promoted and applied as standard practice at uncontrolled aerodromes.
 - A summary of the circuit heights and dimensions, directions in use and comment on the variation between aerodromes.
- A review of reported airspace occurrences at uncontrolled aerodromes in the last 5 years. CAA will provide the occurrence reports, and investigations where these were completed.

- Current and proposed air traffic management practices applied at uncontrolled aerodromes in Australia, Canada, the US and UK. It is anticipated that this be accomplished by a desk based review of any relevant requirements and guidance and advisory material.
- Identification of any feasible alternatives to the current practice in New Zealand that could result in potential opportunities for system safety improvement.

Part 2: Industry Consultation

Informed by the result of Part 1, the review should elicit and document the views of a representative selection of uncontrolled aerodrome users and aerodrome operators.

Part 3: Data Analysis and Report Presentation

The results of the research and consultation conducted under Parts 1 and 2 need to be collated and presented as report in a format that would support future CAA airspace policy decisions.

Information Sources

Consideration should be given to the contents of:

- New Zealand Civil Aviation Rules and associated Advisory Circulars, Flight Test Standard Guides, Flight Instructor Guides, and the contents of the Aeronautical Information Publication New Zealand (AIPNZ). Other sources such as the CAA Good Aviation Practice (GAP) booklets and information on the CAA website such as the Policy on Threat and Error Management and situational awareness should also be considered;
- CAA accident and incident reports;
- Transport Accident Investigation Commission reports;
- Any relevant reports and other documentation from regulatory and investigating authorities of other States;
- The Aeronautical Information Publications and procedures in use within other States.

The above list is not exhaustive and material from other sources may also be considered.

The review must include consultation with a representative selection of aviation community organisations and representative bodies. The proposal should outline the proposed extent and methods of industry consultation.

Deliverables

The review will deliver a report to the CAA that includes the following:

1. A summary of the current advisory material and regulatory policies regarding operations at uncontrolled aerodromes, in particular the procedures for the conduct of circuits and circuit joining.
2. An analysis of the current air traffic practices at uncontrolled NZ aerodromes. Comment on its apparent effectiveness and the reported safety outcomes.
3. A comparison of the NZ practices with those of other comparable States.
4. A summary of industry comments and views with regard to circuit procedures and circuit joining at uncontrolled aerodromes.
5. Identifying, for further CAA consideration, any potential opportunities for system safety improvement at uncontrolled aerodromes, including identification of any changes required to published information and training procedures.

CAA Involvement

While it is intended that this project be conducted with a degree of independence, the CAA will provide the following assistance to the contractor.

1. Provision of CAA accident and incident data regarding aerodrome and airspace incidents.
2. Access to CAA staff for consultation.

Project Timeline

The CAA wishes to commence this review as soon as practicable. Responses to this RFP must be received by Tuesday 2 April 2013. Proposals may be submitted as an electronic copy or hardcopy (electronic copies preferred).

Hardcopy or electronic copies on digital media may be delivered to

Civil Aviation Authority
Asteron House Level 15,
55 Featherston Street,
Wellington 6011

Attention: Manager Intelligence, Safety and Risk Analysis

Electronic copies (<5MB) may be emailed to:

Manager Intelligence, Safety and Risk Analysis

jack.stanton@caa.govt.nz

It is intended to select the successful tenderer by 5 April, and the final report must be delivered to the CAA by 30 June 2013.