

Policy Statement Number: 23

Subject: Aerodrome Operating Minima

Effective Date of Implementation: 23 January 2009

ASSI File Reference: UK/X/J/86/02 – Policy Statements

Rationale:

Certain minima, such as the meteorological minima incorporated in the Visual Flight Rules, are contained within the Rules of the Air [AN(OT)O Schedule 8] and apply equally to all Territories.

Aerodrome Operating Minima for departure, landing and alternate aerodromes are not listed in the AN(OT)O and should be promulgated by each Territory. By publishing, in the relevant AIP, the standard text provided by this policy statement, the JAR-OPS / EU-OPS minima are legally enabled and operators can use these minima direct from the commercially available flight guides (subject to any additional increments applied by an operations manual).

Legal requirements are set out in AN(OT)O Articles 42, 75 and 76; i.e. an aircraft operator shall not allow operations to continue below the notified minima.

In the United Kingdom, Aerodrome Operating Minima are calculated according to [the methods set out in EU-OPS](#). Jeppesen and European Aeronautical Group (Aerad) have estimated that calculation and indication of the Appendix 1 (New) to Ops 1.430 minima in their publications will not be completed until at least 2010/11. Until the new minima are available Appendix 1 (Old) to Ops 1.430 is to be used for minima calculations. Where special helicopter procedures are promulgated the [JAR-OPS 3](#) method is applied.

Application of the notified aerodrome operating minima shall not permit a landing or take-off in circumstances where the relevant aerodrome operating minima declared by the competent authority of a foreign State would prohibit it (unless that authority otherwise permits in writing).

Policy Statements:

- 1 The body Designated by the Governor for the regulation of Annex 15 Aeronautical Information Services shall notify in the relevant Territory AIP the UK method for determining Aerodrome Operating Minima, by including, in the AD Section, the standard text set out in paragraph 3 (overleaf).
- 2 In addition, as a transitional measure, where RNAV approaches are available within the Territory, the minima provided by the designer of the procedure shall be specified in the relevant part of the AIP for the individual aerodrome/approach.

[continued overleaf]

- 3 *The method of determining aerodrome operating minima in <name of Territory> is that set out in EU-OPS (European Commission Regulation (EC) 859/2008 of 20 August 2008). Therefore the minima to be used are the JAR-OPS / EU-OPS minima shown in commercially available flight guides (subject to any additional increments applied by an operations manual).*

These notified Aerodrome Operating Minima shall apply as follows:

- (a) To aircraft registered in the Territory, wherever they may be;*
- (b) Foreign-registered aircraft operating in the Territory shall use minima not lower than those calculated according to the above method; and*
- (c) Helicopters use aeroplane Category A minima where no special helicopter procedures have been promulgated.*

For AWOPS/low visibility operations the aircraft/operator must be appropriately approved and the aerodrome must also be suitable and equipped for such operations.

*Minima shall be no lower than those calculated according to either Appendix 1 (Old) [the same as JAR-OPS] or Appendix 1 (New) to OPS 1.430. **No mixing of these two methods is permissible.***

Appendix 1 (Old) will become obsolete and should not be used after 19 August 2011. During the transition period, where RNAV approaches are available within the Territory reference must be made to data specified in the relevant part of the AIP for the individual aerodrome/approach.

The use of Head-up guidance landing system (HUDLS) or Enhanced vision system (EVS) may allow operations with lower visibilities than normally associated with the aerodrome operating minima, in accordance with Appendix 1 (New) to OPS 1.430, where the operator holds an appropriate approval only.

Where special helicopter procedures are promulgated, the method of determining heliport operating minima shall be that set out in JAR-OPS 3 Amendment 5, 1 July 2007 (Appendix 1 to JAR-OPS 3.430).