

United Kingdom Overseas Territories Aviation Circular

OTAC 121-27

URGENT

Aircraft in Distress – Amendment to the Requirement for autonomous means of transmitting position information

Issue 1.00
23 November 2022

Effective on issue

Valid until Publication of OTAR Part 121 Issue 14

GENERAL

Overseas Territories Aviation Circulars are issued to provide advice, guidance and information on standards, practices and procedures necessary to support Overseas Territory Aviation Requirements. They are not in themselves law but may amplify a provision of the Air Navigation (Overseas Territories) Order or provide practical guidance on meeting a requirement contained in the Overseas Territories Aviation Requirements.

PURPOSE

This OTAC has been issued to amend the wording of OTAR Part 121.708 pending formal amendment of the OTAR.

RELATED REQUIREMENTS

This Circular relates to OTAR Part 121.

CHANGE INFORMATION

First issue.

ENQUIRIES

Enquiries regarding the content of this Circular should be addressed to Air Safety Support International Air Safety Support International at the address on the ASSI website www.airsafety.aero, or to the appropriate Overseas Territory Aviation Authority.

1. Introduction

Subpart F to OTAR Part 121 contains instruments and equipment requirements for aircraft registered in the Overseas Territories. This OTAC serves as a temporary amendment to Subpart F of OTAR Parts 121 pending its reissue. This amendment is issued due to a change in applicability date from ICAO, regarding position transmitting equipment for aircraft over 27,000kg. These changes were made to ICAO Annex 6 Part I.

ICAO's change in applicability date, with regard to when an aircraft's individual certificate of airworthiness is first issued, is from '*on or after 1 January 2023*' to '*on or after 1 January 2024*', ie a one-year extension. However, it also adds an applicability date of 1 January 2025, which in effect gives a two-year extension.

2. Amendment to OTAR Part 121, SubPart F, Instruments and Equipment, 121.708 Aircraft in Distress

From the date of issue of this OTAC, OTAR Part 121.708 shall read as follows:

As of 1 January 2025, an aeroplane with a MTOM exceeding 27,000 kg, for which the first certificate of airworthiness, for that individual aeroplane, was issued on or after 1 January 2024, shall be equipped with;

- a) an autonomous means of transmitting information, from which its position can be determined at least once every minute, when in distress.