



Australian Government
Civil Aviation Safety Authority

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF AVIATION SAFETY

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Dear Aviation Stakeholder

Class D airspace and changes to non-towered aerodrome procedures

By now I would hope you are aware that on 3 June 2010, Class D airspace procedures will come into effect at all six GAAP aerodromes in Australia. These new Class D procedures, which bring Australia closer to ICAO standards, are broadly aligned with the US Federal Aviation Administration Class D procedures. These procedures will also take effect at all current Class D aerodromes. On the same day, a range of changes are being made to operating procedures at, or in the vicinity of, non-towered aerodromes.

The introduction of Class D at the GAAP aerodromes is a continuation of safety improvements CASA has been implementing since the middle of 2009. Changes being made to procedures at non-towered aerodromes will improve situational awareness and the separation of aircraft. CASA has progressively released information about all of these changes and is now about to launch major safety education and information campaigns on both subjects.

The campaigns have commenced with an invitation to you to book your seat at a workshop/information session where your local CASA Aviation Safety Advisor, Flight Training Examiner and/or Flying Operations Inspector will be able to answer any questions about the package of changes and operations at your local aerodrome. A range of support materials will also be available to help you fully understand the changes and to act as reference material.

In early May, CASA will launch on-line safety education that will provide comprehensive information on all of the key topics relating to the changes. Please keep an eye out for this launch as it will make understanding the changes much easier and prepare you for the workshops and information sessions.

I understand that change demands some effort. Nevertheless, it is important to remember these changes are being made to improve safety for everyone. I can assure you that careful assessment has taken place to ensure aviation risks are reduced. I look forward to your co-operation and assistance in making these improvements a success.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John F. McCormick', written in a cursive style.

John F. McCormick
Director of Aviation Safety