



Videoconference – Microsoft Teams

Date: 11 June 2020, 10:00 – 14:30

MEETING NOTES

Item No	Item	
1. OPENING		
2. REVIEW OF ACTION ITEMS		
<i>A review and status update of any open action items from previous meetings.</i>		
3. PRIORITY SAFETY MATTERS		
<i>Agenda items brought forward by CASA or members relating to safety issues where action is considered necessary.</i>		
3.1	Approach traffic mitigation strategy (Ms Fleming)	
4. EMERGING RISKS AND AREAS OF INTEREST		
<i>Aviation safety related emerging risks or areas of interest for discussion and/or notice.</i>		
4.1	RPAS development and integration update – ASAP standing agenda item	
5. POLICY PROPOSALS		
<i>Consultation/endorsement of a policy position.</i>		
6. PROJECT INITIATION		
<i>Proposals to commence activity on a significant piece of work (including Technical Working Groups, etc).</i>		
6.1	Flight Operations suite transition – ASAP standing agenda item – <i>discussion</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part 121 MOS • Part 138 MOS consultation 	
6.2	Regulatory Services and Surveillance Transformation – ASAP standing agenda item	
6.3	Part 147 – proposal to establish a TWG (Mr Davis/Mr Thompson)	
7. OTHER BUSINESS		
7.1	Flight Crew Licensing TWG update – ASAP standing agenda item <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FCL TWG Report 	
7.2	NVIS TWG report	
7.3	TWG EOI process (Ms Fleming)	

1. OPENING

The Chair welcomed all ASAP members to the second meeting of the Panel for 2020 which was being held via videoconference.

Apologies were received from Mr Michael Monck.

The Minutes of the previous meeting were approved by the Panel.

2. REVIEW OF ACTION ITEMS

Action items from the previous meeting were reviewed and are recorded at **Attachment 1** and, where appropriate, below.

2017-2/2 – In progress.

Mr Crawford informed members that work is still in-progress on recognising foreign simulator training. He added that CASA is taking direction in conducting initial desktop audits for training organisations.

2018-1/1 – In progress.

Mr Simon Moore (Department) advised the Panel of the possibility of an on-going shortage of pilots in the near future. However, future skills initiatives will need to reflect the effects of the COVID-19 crisis with the need to understand the longer-term effects. The ASAP is to maintain a watching brief on this matter.

2019-1/5 – In progress.

Mr Walker informed the Panel that there is no update regarding the discussions with CASA and ASQA, with CASA still interested in pursuing an improvement of the alignment between academic and licensing outcomes for flight training. The Panel discussed the need to present specific examples to ASQA as to why the current academic outcomes are not fit for purpose. All Panel members are requested to present detailed examples to assist with dialogue with ASQA. The Panel urged CASA to pursue the matter, using the examples provided by the Panel.

2020-1/2 – In-progress.

Dr Clothier provided a brief outline to the Panel on the regulatory and safety challenges of remotely piloted aircraft and will present a paper on the sector risks, opportunities, and recommendations at the next ASAP meeting.

2020-1/3 – Closed.

The Panel discussed a proposed approach for a Part 147 TWG (agenda item 6.3).

2020-1/4 – Closed.

CASA has put the request for external validation of the Regulatory Performance Framework on hold and will re-engage the Panel if required.

2020-1/5 – In progress.

Mr Walker advised the Panel that CASA has received the report from the consultancy for the independent risk assessment and that CASA will receive a handover brief. He informed the Panel that the final report will be shared with members prior to public release.

3. PRIORITY SAFETY MATTERS

3.1 Approach traffic mitigation strategy

Ms Fleming raised potential solutions to the congestion of IFR training flights at major city airports

and ground-based navigation facilities. The Panel discussed occurrences of air proximity events and supported the paper. Mr Cronin suggested that CASA should consider the use of simulators for IFR training given their ability to reduce the safety risk of congested aerodromes. The Panel proposed, as a safety matter, CASA should take the lead on moving ahead and reviewing the issue.

Mr Crawford added that industry should work with CASA on the matter to find proportionate and practical solutions. The Panel requested CASA to provide an update on progress at the next meeting.

Action / Recommendation	<p>The ASAP:</p> <p>(1) Requests CASA to take a lead on moving ahead and coordinate reviewing potential solutions and to update the Panel at the next meeting.</p>
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4. EMERGING RISKS AND AREAS OF INTEREST

4.1 RPAS development and integration update

Dr Clothier discussed that despite a number of political activities occurring in the drone sector including the drone policy statement, the sector is concerned that they do not have insight to the direction of RPAS policy and regulation, with many matters that stretch beyond the realm of CASA. He also advised members that CASA have been engaging with industry for input on the development of guidance material for RPAS, however, he noted that there is opportunity for further industry involvement.

Dr Clothier discussed the significance of the digital platform and traffic management solutions for low-level airspace which could mean a potential in improving the way CASA executes its regulatory function, including regulatory surveillance and oversight. He also noted that it is important for the ASAP to be aware and involved in the discussions pertaining to the opportunities for safety innovation and the ways that CASA can leverage the innovation in technology. He also proposed the opportunity for broader industry involvement and the establishment of an advisory panel to ensure industry's involvement in the discussions and decisions made in this area.

Mr Simon Moore informed the Panel that the Department is supportive of the proposal of an industry advisory panel. However, he also noted that it is a complex environment which is seeing a fundamental shift in viewing the technologies from a safety-centric focus to a more multi-dimensional way. Mr Moore advised that there is a review of the Australian airspace policy of which a draft will be released by the end of the year.

The Chair enquired where Australia is placed on a technological regulatory approach. Dr Clothier advised that Australia is placed in the middle amongst other National Aviation Authorities (NAAs) with EASA progressing in the regulatory space, and the FAA in implementation, therefore he noted that there is opportunity for CASA and Australia to be early adopters. Mr Crawford advised that for RPAS, CASA elected to be a 'quick follower' as opposed to a leader but has ongoing dialogue with EASA and FAA.

Mr Gissing enquired how the ASAP can begin to take meaningful action on the matters raised by Dr Clothier. Dr Clothier responded that the ASAP should be abreast of the safety innovation occurring in the RPAS sector and of the introduced risks to the broader industry that they could bring.

Dr Clothier to present a technical paper on the sector risks, opportunities, and recommendations at the next ASAP meeting (from Action Item 2020-1/2).

5. POLICY PROPOSALS

There were no policy proposals raised.

6. PROJECT INITIATION

6.1 Flight Operations Regulations Transition (ASAP Standing Agenda Item)

Mr Crawford provided an update to the Panel on the development and implementation of the flight operations regulations. He informed members that both CASA and industry had concerns on the progress of the Part 121 Manual of Standards (MOS) which resulted in CASA amending its approach to develop the MOS. This approach would see the MOS reviewed by the TWG and publicly consulted in three separate tranches with the intention of completing the final consultation by the end of August. Mr Crawford added that the TWG was comfortable with the change in approach. Mr Gissing and Mr Aggs advised that the feedback they received on the approach was positive and they do not believe further industry support is required for MOS development. The Chair commented that the changed approach for consultation has been effective due to industry 'buy-in' during the development process which kept CASA better informed on the feedback.

The Chair briefed the Panel on the Part 138 MOS consultation process and the letter sent to the DAS reaffirming the TWG's position. The letter informed the DAS of the Panel's position that if industry had been engaged during the development of the MOS, the current disconnect between CASA and industry's views on the MOS could have been avoided. Mr Cronin stated that a common view amongst the sector is that the MOS is difficult to read and therefore hard to provide constructive feedback. There are many matters in the MOS that require clarification and while there were many meetings, there was a disconnect when the MOS was constructed. Mr Crawford outlined that the key to assisting industry with the MOS will be guidance material. He explained the role of the Office of Parliamentary Counsel in drafting Regulations written to Australian standards. CASA's intention is to place more standards in the MOS as it is easier to make amendments when required. Mr Crawford added that CASA has discussed the production of plain English guides for specific sectors to assist industry with understanding the MOS.

The Chair informed the Panel that he was contacted by some members of the Part 138 TWG who advised that the major issue of the proposed Part 138 MOS was its useability and readability. He added that at earlier meetings during the early stages of that MOS's development, a different format was discussed, and it was therefore very important that effective communication and consultation occurred during the development of the MOS.

6.2 Regulatory Services and Surveillance Transformation (RSST) (ASAP Standing Agenda Item)

Mr Crawford gave an update on the Regulatory Services and Surveillance Transformation (RSST) program. A facet of the RSST will include the implementation of a guidance function, consisting of a technical guidance delivery team which would work directly with industry and the Flight Standards Branch. He informed the Panel that CASA intends to commence implementing the program in August 2020. Mr Aggs enquired about the possibility of rolling out internal CASA training for the guidance function as it may benefit industry to understand the intent of the regulations.

Mr Crawford confirmed he is supportive of CASA and industry collaborating on the training that is being provided to CASA staff.

The Chair enquired about the reception of CASA staff of the RSST. Mr Crawford advised there were differences regarding the changes but, this is expected from a large transformation in any organisation. One benefit of the RSST is far better utilisation of the technical skills of staff. The RSST project will be completed in advance of the commencement of the flight operations regulations.

6.3 Part 147 – Proposal to establish a TWG

Mr Davis advised the Panel that there is interest in forming a Part 147 TWG. The ASAP discussed the potential to amend the Part 66 TWG tasking instructions to include reviewing Part 147 matters. Concern was raised that the Part 66 TWG members may not have the required technical expertise to understand the relationship between the two regulations. The Panel recommended establishing a subset of the Part 66 TWG, with additional members, as opposed to a separate TWG to review Part 147. Mr Thompson and Mr Davis were requested to review Mr Crawford’s proposed amendments to the Part 66 TWG Tasking Instructions and to liaise with the ASAP Secretariat on proposed timelines for the Part 147 sub-set.

Action / Recommendation	The ASAP: (1) Recommends establishing a subset of the Part 66 TWG, with additional members, to review the implications to Part 147. (2) Requests Mr Thompson and Mr Davis to review Mr Crawford’s proposed amendments to the Part 66 TWG Tasking Instructions, and to liaise with the ASAP Secretariat on proposed timelines for the Part 147 sub-set.
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7. OTHER BUSINESS

7.1 Flight Crew Licensing TWG update (ASAP Standing Agenda Item)

The Panel discussed the TWG report and requested Mr Crawford to provide a comprehensive update on progress of the resolutions identified by the TWG and on CASA’s intentions on the recommendations.

Mr Walker outlined the role of the Flight Examiner Core Group which was established by CASA to be a reference group of industry subject matter experts providing advice to the Flight Testing Office on flight examiner matters. The TWG suggested new industry members be added to the Core Group, which was supported.

The ASAP supported the TWG’s recommendation to establish sub-groups. The Panel encourages a protocol for the establishment of sub-groups where they would meet and report back to the TWG, which provides its advice to the ASAP.

Action / Recommendation	The ASAP: (1) Requests Mr Crawford to provide a comprehensive update out of session on the progress of the resolutions identified by the TWG, and on CASA’s intentions on the recommendations.
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7.2 Night Vision Imaging System (NVIS) TWG report

Mr Crawford referred to the comments made by the CASA Lead in the NVIS TWG report and outlined CASA’s intention with proposed amendments to Civil Aviation Order (CAO) 82.6. He explained that the TWG had discussed high priority matters that were recommended to be addressed prior to the commencement of the flight operations regulations in December 2021, which would require an amendment to CAO 82.6. Mr Cronin added that it was important to recognise that CAO 82.6 requires renewal and expressed his support of the proposed changes to CAO 82.6. Noting the recommendation made in the TWG’s report was addressed to CASA, the Chair commented that the ASAP is required to be a part of recommendations to CASA and an important aspect of the ASAP’s role is to advise CASA on priorities. Therefore, it is vital that the ASAP has visibility over the advice and recommendations provided by the TWG through their reports.

7.3 Technical Working Group Expression of Interest (EOI) process

Ms Fleming raised that industry members who have missed out on being nominated for a TWG have approached her wanting to contribute in other ways. The Panel discussed alternative methods to engage with those who have registered on the TWG Expression of Interest (EOI) but are not TWG members, such as informing those who have registered about upcoming consultations.

Mr Walker will provide an update at the next meeting and outline potential opportunities with the EOI register.

Action / Recommendation	The ASAP: (1) Requests Mr Walker to update the Panel on potential opportunities to communicate and engage with individuals on the TWG EOI register.
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7.4 Issues pertaining to the transition of aviation personnel between sectors

Mr Thompson discussed issues relating to the granular interpretation of regulations in relation to the transition of aviation personnel between different areas of the industry. He used the example of maintenance personnel shifting from large fixed wing aircraft to rotary wing who are being told they are required to complete specific theory modules, despite already possessing the skills required. Mr Thompson added that this issue could be heightened in the aftermath of the COVID-19 crisis-and he will discuss the matter offline with CASA.

7.5 ASAP Membership

The Panel provided a formal vote of thanks to Mr Davis, Mr Gissing and Mr Monck for their hard work, application, and volume of assistance during their tenure on the ASAP. Mr Walker advised that the DAS is looking at the membership of the ASAP going forward, with the intention that all parties concerned will be informed in early July. Mr Davis noted that there was optimism within industry on a refreshed engagement process when the ASAP was established, that the TWG and ASAP process has worked extremely well and expressed his full confidence in ASAP due to the high calibre of its membership.

Patrick Murray
Chair
August 2020

CHAIR

Prof Patrick Murray

ATTENDING PANEL MEMBERS

Mr Stuart Aggs

Dr Reece Clothier

Mr Graeme Crawford

Mr Ray Cronin

Mr Jim Davis

Ms Adrienne Fleming

Mr John Gissing

Mr Mark Thompson

Mr Rob Walker

APOLOGIES

Mr Michael Monck

OBSERVERS

Mr Matthew Di Toro ASAP Secretariat
Civil Aviation Safety Authority

Mr Simon Moore Executive Director Aviation and Airports
Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and
Communications

ATTACHMENT 1

Updated Action Register

Reference	Action/Recommendation	Responsible	Status
2017-2/2	CASA to provide further advice on issues raised by panel members: - Multiple flight testing requirements for flight examiner ratings - Recognition of foreign simulator training	CASA	2020-2: Mr Crawford provided an update to the Panel and informed members that work is still in-progress on recognising foreign simulator training. He added that CASA is taking direction in conducting initial desktop audits for training organisations.
2018-1/1	ASAP to maintain a watching brief on potential issues arising from shortages of skilled aviation personnel.	ASAP/ Department	2020-2: Mr Simon Moore (Department) advised the Panel that estimates show that there will be an on-going shortage of pilots in the near future, however noting the impacts of COVID-19. He added that future skills initiatives will need to reflect the effects of the COVID-19 crisis with the need to understand the longer-term effects. The ASAP is to maintain a watching brief on this matter.
2019-1/5	CASA to provide an update on the discussions between CASA and ASQA.	CASA/ Department Mr Gissing/ Ms Fleming/ Mr Aggs/Mr Thompson/ Mr Davis	2020-2: Mr Walker informed the Panel that there is nothing further to add regarding the discussions with CASA and ASQA and noted that CASA is still interested in pursuing an improvement of the alignment between academic and licensing outcomes for flight training. The Panel discussed the need to present specific examples to ASQA as to why the current academic outcomes are not fit for purpose. All Panel members are requested to present detailed examples to assist with dialogue with ASQA. The ASAP strongly urges CASA to prosecute the matter, using the examples provided by the Panel.
2020-1/2	Dr Clothier to present a paper which provides insight to the regulatory and safety challenges associated with the integration of RPAS and traditional aviation, and that also outlines the advice the sector requires from the Panel on these matters.	Dr Clothier	Dr Clothier to present a technical paper on the sector risks, opportunities, and recommendations at the next ASAP meeting.
2020-1/3	Mr Davis and Mr Thompson to discuss the scope of a Part 147 TWG and present the Panel with a proposal.	Mr Davis/ Mr Thompson	Closed. The Panel discussed a proposed approach for a Part 147 TWG (agenda item 6.3).
2020-1/4	CASA to circulate the draft Regulatory Performance Framework report out of session to review in order for Panel members to decide whether to accept the task of conducting the external validation.	CASA	Closed. CASA has put the request for external validation of the Regulatory Performance Framework on hold and will reengage the Panel if required.
2020-1/5	The ASAP to meet in-session via teleconference when given the Part 135 seat-break independent analysis report.	ASAP	2020-2: Mr Walker advised the Panel that CASA has received the report from the consultancy and will be given a handover brief. The final report will be shared with the Panel prior to public release.
2020-2/1	CASA to take a lead on moving ahead and coordinating a review of potential solutions to the issue of congestion of IFR training flights at major city airports and ground-based navigation facilities.	CASA	CASA to update the panel on progress at the next meeting.



2020-2/2	Mr Thompson and Mr Davis to review Mr Crawford's proposed amendments to the Part 66 TWG Tasking Instructions, and to liaise with the ASAP Secretariat on proposed timelines for the Part 147 sub-set of the Part 66 TWG.	Mr Davis/ Mr Thompson	
2020-2/3	Mr Crawford to provide a comprehensive update out of session on the progression of the matters discussed with the Flight Crew Licensing TWG and to outline CASA's intentions on the recommendations.	Mr Crawford	
2020-2/4	Mr Walker to update the Panel on potential opportunities to communicate and engage with individuals on the TWG EOI register.	Mr Walker	