



Part 131 Manual of Standards Technical Working Group Tasking Instructions

The Part 131 Manual of Standards (MOS) Technical Working Group (TWG) is established and operates in accordance with the Terms of Reference of the Aviation Safety Advisory Panel (ASAP) dated November 2021 (or as amended).

Background

Civil Aviation Safety Regulation (CASR) Part 131 was made in December 2019 and will commence on 2 December 2021. CASA formed a working group to discuss the policies to be articulated in the Part 131 Manual of Standards (MOS) who first met in February 2020. CASA proposes shifting this industry working group into an ASAP TWG to remain in line with current consultation processes. For consistency, CASA also proposes the appointment of the same industry members for the ASAP TWG. (See 'Membership' below).

Since February 2020, CASA has been progressively developing a draft MOS that can be consulted with industry representatives prior to conducting a public consultation activity.

It is intended that the TWG reviews the draft MOS in 2-3 tranches for convenience, however the draft MOS is intended to be publicly consulted as an entire document.

Purpose

The Part 131 MOS Technical Working Group will:

- Provide industry sector insight and understanding of current needs and challenges.
- Provide current, relevant technical expertise for the development, analysis and review of legislative and non-legislative solutions to identified issues.
- Assist with the development of draft regulations, standards, guidance materials and other supporting materials – both before and after public consultation.
- Provide endorsement and/or conditional endorsement of draft regulations, standards, guidance materials and other supporting materials for consideration by the ASAP and CASA.

Key proposals

Key proposal 1: Consolidate the operational standards for lighter-than-air aircraft engaged in the following activities:

- Balloon transport operations
- Specialised balloon operations
- Recreational balloon operations
- Tethered gas balloon operations

Note. The definition of what constitutes a standard visual signal, the requirement for an intercepted aircraft to comply with ICAO Annex 2 and the placarding requirements for experimental aircraft (including Part 131 experimental aircraft) are contained in the Part 91 MOS.

Key proposal 2: Define balloon flying training to mean two kinds of activity:

- Balloon flying training for the authorisation granted by a Part 131 ASAO
- Balloon flying training conducted as a prescribed activity under regulation 206 of CAR in accordance with Part 5 of CAR

Key proposal 3: Apply, where possible, outcome-based rules for safe flight and encourage operators to identify hazards and risk mitigation strategies.

Key proposal 4: Apply additional operational requirements for balloon transport operators.

Key proposal 5: The Part 131 MOS will include delayed start dates for requirements introducing change unable to be reasonably complied with by 2 December 2021.

Specific objectives

1. The TWG is to evaluate whether the draft Part 131 MOS will:
 - a. Achieve the policy intent/identified key proposals
 - b. Be implementable by the Australian aviation industry

2. The TWG is to provide a concise summary to the ASAP recommending either:
 - a. That the ASAP endorse the Part 131 MOS.
 - b. That the ASAP endorse the Part 131 MOS provided certain issues are resolved.
 - c. That the ASAP does not endorse the Part 131 MOS due to underlying policy inconsistencies.

Roles and responsibilities

CASA	Technical Working Group Members
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organise meetings and workshops, and produce agendas, papers and supporting materials • Facilitate meetings and workshops • Record insights and findings • Communicate openly and consistently with working group members about project status and issues • Respect the time of all working group members by minimising work required to achieve outcomes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commit to supporting the project objectives and timeline • Engage and collaborate constructively at all times • Prepare for working group activities by reviewing agendas, papers and supporting materials • Provide timely and considered advice in meetings, and between meetings as required • Respond to requests for feedback on draft materials within agreed timeframes

Confidentiality

All discussions and materials from TWG meetings should be treated as confidential. Premature dissemination of information may dilute TWG processes, particularly if discussion points remain unsettled or documents are not ready for public consultation.

Reporting arrangements

At the conclusion of the meeting, or soon thereafter, recommendations and reports of the TWG will be provided to the Chair of the ASAP, through the Secretariat.

Consensus

A key aim of the Technical Working Group is that a consensus be reached, wherever possible, in the finalisation and preparation of advice for the Aviation Safety Advisory Panel and CASA.

The Technical Working Group will be guided by the ASAP Terms of Reference (Section 6) with respect to determining and documenting consensus.

Membership

The following persons are current members of the TWG:

- John Wallington – Balloon Aloft Canberra
- Steve Buckley – Global Ballooning Operations
- Clayton Priddle – Hot Air Balloon
- Jacky Jansse – Australian Ballooning Federation
- Jay Schesser – Hot Air Balloon
- Sean Kavanagh – Kavanagh Balloons
- Graeme Day – Floating Images
- Damian Crock
- Steve Griffin

Requests for changes to the membership will be made to the Chair of the ASAP, through the Secretariat.

Attendance and travel

Due to challenges associated with local and travel restrictions associated with COVID-19, the TWG meetings are intended to be held via videoconference in blocks. This will be coordinated by the ASAP Secretariat.