



# Australian Government

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## Civil Aviation Safety Authority

Instrument number CASA EX03/22

I, PHILIPPA JILLIAN SPENCE, Director of Aviation Safety, on behalf of CASA, make this instrument under regulation 11.160 and 11.205 of the *Civil Aviation Safety Regulations 1998*.

**[Signed. P. Spence]**

Pip Spence  
Director of Aviation Safety

17 February 2022

### **CASA EX03/22 — SATCOM Systems (Offshore Services Australasia) Exemption 2022**

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#### **1 Name**

This instrument is *CASA EX03/22 — SATCOM Systems (Offshore Services Australasia) Exemption 2022*.

#### **2 Definitions**

In this instrument:

***offshore aerial operation*** means an operation involving the carriage of passengers for hire or reward to or from an offshore oil or gas facility.

***Offshore Services Australasia*** means Offshore Services Australasia Pty Ltd, ARN 800160.

***OSA helicopter*** means a helicopter operated by Offshore Services Australasia under an AOC.

***Part 133 MOS*** means the Part 133 Manual of Standards.

***SATCOM system*** means a system for telephone communication via satellite.

#### **3 Exemption**

- (1) Offshore Services Australasia and the pilot in command of an OSA helicopter are exempt from compliance with Subpart 133.K of CASR to the extent that the Subpart (when taken together with the relevant referred provisions: see subsection (2)), prevents Offshore Services Australasia or the pilot in command from using a SATCOM system when conducting an offshore aerial operation in the helicopter in circumstances where:
  - (a) there is no VHF radiocommunication coverage; and
  - (b) either:
    - (i) the helicopter is fitted with an HF radiocommunication system but the system is unserviceable; or

- (ii) the helicopter is not fitted with an HF radiocommunication system.
- (2) In subsection (1), the *relevant referred provisions* are:
  - (a) subsection 11.08 (1) of the Part 133 MOS and, by virtue of that provision:
    - (i) regulation 91.630 of CASR and, by virtue of that regulation, Division 21.2 of the Part 91 Manual of Standards; and
    - (ii) regulation 91.635 of CASR; and
    - (iii) paragraph 91.640 (1) (d) of CASR; and
  - (b) paragraphs 11.08 (2) (b) and (3) (b) of the Part 133 MOS.

#### **4 Conditions**

The exemption under section 3 is subject to the following conditions:

- (a) the SATCOM system may only be used in an OSA helicopter during descent below 1 500 ft, approach, landing, take-off and climb phases up to 1 500 ft or otherwise en route in the event of an emergency or abnormal operation;
- (b) for normal operation, the helicopter must remain within VHF;
- (c) the route for each offshore aerial operation conducted in the helicopter must be selected so that the use of the SATCOM system during the operation (including the outbound and return flights) does not exceed 30 minutes;
- (d) details of pre-flight checks using the SATCOM system must be included in the aircrew checklist and form part of Offshore Services Australasia's operating procedures for the helicopter;
- (e) details of the SATCOM system must be included in the helicopter's minimum equipment list;
- (f) any pre-flight check of the SATCOM system must not cause congestion of air traffic control lines;
- (g) the SATCOM system must be equipped with an external antenna and operated by means of a common VHF headset or microphone;
- (h) the SATCOM system must be interoperable with the helicopter's other radiocommunication navigation systems;
- (i) the communications via the SATCOM system must be recorded by the helicopter's cockpit voice recorder;
- (j) the SATCOM system must be capable of being disconnected from its power source;
- (k) the SATCOM telephone number must be included in field 18 of the helicopter's flight plan;
- (l) each flight carried out in the course of the operation must be continuously monitored by dedicated Offshore Services Australasia operations personnel via a SATCOM flight tracking system;
- (m) trained radiocommunication operators at each base must, during descent, approach, landing, take-off and climb phases of the operation, be in continuous communication with:
  - (i) the helicopter; and
  - (ii) Offshore Services Australasia's operations personnel; and
  - (iii) Offshore Services Australasia's head office;

- (n) each base must have SATCOM system capability;
- (o) defect reports (if any) for the SATCOM system must be issued and dispatched as for other radiocommunication systems in the helicopter.

## **5 Repeal**

This instrument is repealed at the end of 31 January 2025.

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