

RA 2355 - Static Line and Freefall Parachuting, Fast Roping and Abseiling

Rationale *Static Line and Freefall Parachuting, Fast Roping and Abseiling have resulted in numerous injuries and fatalities. The activity requires careful management, specific approvals and detailed procedures.*

Contents
2355(1): Approval for Static Line and Free Fall Parachuting, Fast Roping and Abseiling
2355(2): Procedures for Static Line and Free Fall Parachuting
2355(3): Procedures for Fast Roping and Abseiling

Regulation 2355(1)
Approval for Static Line and Free Fall Parachuting, Fast Roping and Abseiling
 2355(1) Static Line and Free Fall parachuting, Fast Roping and Abseiling from UK Military Aircraft **shall** be approved by the aircraft Aviation Duty Holder.

Acceptable Means of Compliance 2355(1)
Approval for Static Line and Free Fall Parachuting, Fast Roping and Abseiling
 1. Static Line and Free Fall parachuting from UK Military Aircraft **should** only be approved from aircraft that are specifically cleared for the role in the aircraft's Release to Service (RTS) or, for non-RTS operations, the ► **Military Permit to Fly (MPTF)** ◀ of Certificate of Usage (CofU). Aviation Duty Holder and Accountable Managers (Military Flying) (AM(MF)) Orders for non-RTS operations **should** specify the requirements for Static Line and Free Fall parachuting from UK Military Aircraft taking account of the Tactical Air Transport (Tac AT) manuals.
 2. Any equipment used for Static Line and Free Fall parachuting, Fast Roping and Abseiling **should** be approved for use within the RTS of the intended aircraft.

Guidance Material 2355(1)
Approval for Static Line and Free Fall Parachuting, Fast Roping and Abseiling
 3. Safety responsibilities for Static Line and Freefall Parachuting, Fast Roping and Abseiling are divided between those pertinent to aviation and those pertinent to the specific conduct of the activity. For example, there are responsibilities wrt on- aircraft safety, the RTS, the air-delivery of personnel to within safe navigation parameters etc that would routinely be the responsibility of the Aviation Duty Holder or AM(MF). Similarly, there are responsibilities wrt personnel and equipment, such as parachute-packing techniques, fitness and training etc that would be the responsibility of the Commander who holds Duty of Care responsibility for the personnel undertaking the specific activity. Both the Aviation Duty Holder (or AM(MF)) and the Commander must have an understanding of the division of responsibilities prior to conducting the activity.

Regulation 2355(2)
Procedures for Static Line and Free Fall Parachuting
 2355(2) Aviation Duty Holders, AM(MF) and Commanders **shall** publish Orders for the conduct of all Static Line and Free Fall parachuting.

**Acceptable
Means of
Compliance
2355(2)****Procedures for Static Line and Free Fall Parachuting**

4. HQ 2 Gp (RAF) Tac AT Manuals **should** be used as the definitive document for all Static Line and Free Fall parachuting. Parachuting programmes not conducted under HQ 2 Gp (RAF) Tac AT Manuals are designated Sport Parachuting. Sport Parachuting from UK Military Aircraft **should not** be permitted unless specifically approved by the appropriate Aviation Duty Holder. Where approved, Sport Parachuting procedures **should** be promulgated by Aviation Duty Holders, AM(MF) and Commanders.
5. **Accident and Incident Reporting.** All accidents or incidents **should** be reported in accordance with RA1410.
6. **Parachuting Notice to Airman (NOTAM) action.** All units conducting parachuting operations **should** ensure that the correct NOTAM action is taken via Airspace Utilisation Section (0207 453 6599).

**Guidance
Material
2355(2)****Procedures for Static Line and Free Fall Parachuting**

7. Nil.

**Regulation
2355(3)****Procedures for Fast Roping and Abseiling**

- 2355(3) All Fast Roping and Abseiling from UK military helicopters, whether for operations or trials **shall** be conducted in accordance with DAP 101A-1114-1, Air Transport Operations Manual – Roping from Helicopters.

**Acceptable
Means of
Compliance
2355(3)****Procedures for Fast Roping and Abseiling**

8. **Joint Air Delivery Test & Evaluation Unit (JADTEU).** Except where approved by the JADTEU, fast roping and abseiling from UK military helicopters, whether for operations or trials, **should** be conducted in accordance with DAP 101A-1114 -1, Air Transport Operations Manual - Roping from Helicopters. Divergence from these procedures **should** only be authorized by JADTEU. Aviation Duty Holders and AM(MF) Orders for non-RTS operations **should** specify the requirements for Fast Roping and Abseiling from UK military helicopters.
9. **Accident and Incident Reporting.** All accidents or incidents **should** be reported in accordance with RA1410.

**Guidance
Material
2355(3)****Procedures for Fast Roping and Abseiling**

10. Nil.