

**16 Feb 17**

## **MAA/RN/2017/02 – Design Approved Organization Scheme Joint MAA-CAA Audit Teams**

### **Issue**

1. The MAA currently award or renew a Design Approved Organization Scheme (DAOS) approval to Design Organizations following audit or surveillance by either the MAA or Civil Aviation Authority (CAA). The introduction of the Type Airworthiness Engineering (TAE) RA 5000 series necessitated a review of how the MAA utilises the CAA to conduct DAOS auditing in order to enhance the service provided. As such, it has been decided to move to a process of Joint MAA-CAA Audit teams in common with the process for auditing Maintenance Approved Organisation Scheme (MAOS) members'.

### **Aim**

2. To provide the Regulated Community with notification of the move to auditing of Design Organizations by joint MAA-CAA audit teams.

### **Implementation**

3. This guidance is effective immediately.

### **Background**

4. A MOD approval scheme for Design Organisations has existed in its current form since 1983. Since 2009, CAA International (CAAi) has been contracted to provide support to DAOS audit activity; this arrangement continued with the formation of the MAA and is extant today. CAAi provide the interface and contract management function with the CAA providing the Suitably Qualified and Experienced Personnel.

5. In 2013 the Contract with CAAi was uplifted to include MAOS; however a different strategy was applied on the composition of the audit team. The MAOS approach is for a joint audit team comprising both MAA and CAA personnel with CAAi invoicing the organization.

6. The principal advantages of moving to joint audit teams for DAOS are:

- a. The MAA will gain first-hand knowledge of all organizations covered by the scheme.
- b. Greater flexibility and robustness to the scheme through access to a wider pool of subject matter experts.
- c. Improved application of regulation across the civil/military boundary through CAA experience of EASA Part 21 and its read across to the TAE RA 5000 Series.
- d. The Regulated Community will see a common approach across both MAOS and DAOS.
- e. The majority of DAOS organizations will be covered by the same charging regime.

7. Although the concept is for all Design Organizations to be audited by joint MAA and CAA teams, there will be some exceptions where joint audit teams will not be utilized; these include

Design Organizations holding low value contracts with MOD as well as Service and some overseas Design Organizations.

8. For those organisations audited by joint teams a charge will be placed on the organization, at agreed rates, to cover the cost of CAA personnel participation including Travel and Subsistence. No charge will be levied for the MAA personnel participating in the audit. Those Design Organizations who are currently audited under the CAAi contract will normally see a reduction in the audit charge.

### **Queries**

9. Any observations or requests for further guidance on the content of this RN should be submitted by email to [DSA-MAA-MRPEnquiries@mod.uk](mailto:DSA-MAA-MRPEnquiries@mod.uk).

### **MAA Head of Oversight & Approvals**