European Union Emissions Trading System (EU ETS) Phase III
Guidance for aircraft operators administered by the UK
How to comply with the EU ETS for the period 2017 to 2020

February 2018
About this guidance

This guidance has been produced to assist aircraft operators who are administered by the UK, to understand the EU ETS and what they have to do to comply with it.

This guidance replaces any previous guidance, and reflects the recent changes to requirements in the EU ETS Directive (as amended), and UK Regulations (2017).

It is essential that you report emissions and surrender sufficient allowances for each scheme year by the deadlines set out in legislation. These dates vary depending on the scheme year, so you must refer to Table 1 below to check the statutory deadlines for reporting and surrender for each scheme year. Failure to comply with the requirements of EU ETS, especially failing to surrender allowances equal to your reportable emissions may result in significant civil penalties.

If you are unclear about any of your obligations under the EU ETS or this guidance, please contact your Regulator.

Key definitions

To assist in your understanding, the following definitions apply:

Aviation activities – All commercial and non-commercial flights, as defined in Annex I to the EU ETS Directive (reproduced in Appendix B), that arrive or depart from an aerodrome located in the European Economic Area (EEA)\(^1\) other than those which are exempt under points (a) to (k) of that section.

Reduced scope aviation activities 2013 – 2023 – All commercial and non-commercial flights, between aerodromes in the EEA (detailed in Appendix A), other than those which are exempt under points (a) to (k), under the heading ‘Aviation activities’ in Annex I of the Directive (reproduced in Appendix B).

UK Administered Operator – Aircraft operators that are identified on the Commission list as being administered by the UK, or have been designated by the Secretary of State, if not on the list.

UK Aircraft Operator – A UK Administered Operator that has performed an aviation activity.

Statutory Deadlines – Table 1 below details the statutory reporting and surrender deadlines for each scheme year. Please ensure you refer to this table for the relevant scheme year.

Table 1 – Statutory Deadlines

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scheme year</th>
<th>Statutory reporting deadline</th>
<th>Statutory surrender deadline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>31 March 2018</td>
<td>30 April 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>11 March 2019</td>
<td>15 March 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>31 March 2020</td>
<td>30 April 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>31 March 2021</td>
<td>30 April 2021</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^1\) All EU Member States (including a number of overseas territories to which the treaty applies) and the additional EEA states of Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein.
How will this guidance help me?

This guidance will help you meet your obligations under the UK Regulations and the applicable European legislation. It will explain how to notify your Regulator, make applications (including emissions plan applications) and help you comply with the conditions in your approved emissions plan. To do this, we have divided the information into five sections:

1. Do I have any obligations under the EU ETS in the UK?
2. How do I apply for an emissions plan?
3. I have an approved emissions plan, what do I need to do now?
4. Things have changed, what should I do?
5. I’m not happy with a decision, what should I do?

Each section is structured so that your key actions/obligations are detailed either at the beginning of a section or in bold, with any additional information in the relevant section.

For more information

We have provided hyperlinks throughout this document for further information. If you are reading a printed copy of this guidance, you can turn to Appendix D for a full list of documents and websites.

If you have any other questions, please contact your Regulator’s helpdesk. See the table below to find the Regulator responsible for you.

There are four Regulators in the UK that regulate UK Administered Operators. This is based on the location of their registered office in the UK or, where there is no registered office in the UK, on their attributable emissions.

Table 2 – Aviation EU ETS Regulators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location of registered office</th>
<th>EU ETS aviation Regulator</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>England</td>
<td>Environment Agency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Ireland</td>
<td>Northern Ireland Environment Agency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scotland</td>
<td>Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wales</td>
<td>Natural Resources Wales</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Any updates to this and other UK guidance will be notified on the GOV.UK website and through our newsletters. Please ensure you are using the latest guidance.

EU ETS – further information

This guidance focuses on compliance only. The European Commission (EC) has published extensive guidance documents that deal with monitoring and reporting and verification, as well as the allocation of allowances and entry into the scheme.
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1 Do I have any obligations under the EU ETS in the UK?

This section will help you determine if you have any obligations under the EU ETS in the UK. The key points you need to establish are:

- Am I a UK Administered Operator?
- Am I performing, or planning to perform reduced scope aviation activities?
- I am a UK Administered Operator, what do I need to do?
- How do I notify my Regulator?

1.1. Am I a UK Administered Operator?

If you are on the Commission list and assigned to the UK, or have been designated by the Secretary of State, you are a UK Administered Operator. Therefore, your first step is to confirm if you are on the Commission list or designated. Once you have confirmed you are a UK Administered Operator, you need to consider your aviation activities for the relevant scheme year (section 1.2).

The UK Regulations only require a person to be 'identified' on the Commission list; the name on the Commission list need not be exactly the same as the name of your legal entity.

If you are on the Commission list as being administered by the UK, then you will remain a UK Administered Operator until you are removed from the Commission list, or you meet the criteria for transfer to another Member State.

If you are not on the Commission list but think you should be, you should:

1. contact your Regulator for information on how to proceed;
2. inform the European Commission of your qualification to participate in the EU ETS (your regulator will help you to do this);
3. apply to the Secretary of State to designate the UK as your administering Member State.

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2 The Commission list is published annually and shows operators that have performed an aviation activity on or after 1 January 2006. Where the operator has been issued with an EU Operating Licence it is assigned to the Member State responsible for issuing that licence. Otherwise it is assigned to a Member State based on its greatest attributable proportion of CO₂ emissions. Please note an EU Operating Licence is a valid operating licence granted by a Member State in accordance with the provisions of Council Regulation (EEC) No 2407/92 of 23 July 1992 on licensing of air carriers.
Am I a UK Administered Operator?

I have no EU ETS obligations in the UK

Am I currently performing reduced scope aviation activities, or plan to?

Sections 1.2 and 1.3

Do I already have an emissions plan?

I need to access ETSWAP and notify my Regulator

Sections 1.3 and 1.4

Do I have access to ETSWAP?

Yes

I need to apply for an emissions plan

Section 2

Yes

I must monitor and report in accordance with the conditions in my approved emissions plan

Section 3

No

No
1.2. Am I performing, or planning to perform reduced scope aviation activities?

If you are a UK Administered Operator, you then need to consider what aviation activities you have performed in the relevant scheme year.

As defined at the beginning of this guidance, reduced scope aviation activities are all your commercial and non-commercial flights between aerodromes in the EEA (detailed in Appendix A), other than those which are exempt under points (a) to (k) of the Aviation Activities section of Annex I of the Directive (reproduced in Appendix B). The figure below gives an overview of the flights regulated under EU ETS. However, please refer to the specified appendices for the full details to establish for each scheme year if any of the flights you are currently performing, or intend to perform are classed as reduced scope aviation activities.

Please check which of the following categories you fall under and what your obligations are in section 1.3 for each scheme year:

- I am currently not performing any reduced scope aviation activities, and do not plan on doing so during the scheme year.
- I am currently not performing any reduced scope aviation activities, but plan on doing so during the scheme year.
- I am currently performing reduced scope aviation activities.
- All of my flights for the scheme year fall under an exemption listed in (a) to (k) of Annex I (reproduced in Appendix B).
1.3. I am a UK Administered Operator, what do I need to do?

UK Administered Operators must take the appropriate action within the timescales set out in the table below. If you have not taken the required action within the stated timescale you should contact your Regulator as soon as possible.

Please note the relevant date is the last day of the 12 week period beginning with the date on which you became a UK Administered Operator i.e. the date on which you appeared on the Commission list as allocated to the UK.

Table 3 – Activities and actions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Actions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I am currently <strong>not performing</strong> any reduced scope aviation activities, and <strong>do not plan</strong> on doing so during the scheme year.</td>
<td><strong>Notify your Regulator</strong> you will not perform any reduced scope aviation activities in the four months after the relevant date. Your Regulator will review this alongside data provided by Eurocontrol and inform you in writing of its assessment. If you miss this deadline please get in touch with your Regulator as soon as possible.(^3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I am currently <strong>not performing</strong> any reduced scope aviation activities, <strong>but plan on</strong> performing reduced scope aviation activities during the scheme year.</td>
<td><strong>Apply for an emissions plan</strong> no later than four months before you commence your reduced scope aviation activities. If you miss this deadline please get in touch with your Regulator as soon as possible.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I am currently <strong>performing</strong> reduced scope aviation activities.</td>
<td><strong>You should have applied for an emissions plan</strong> in advance of performing your reduced scope aviation activities. If not, apply, you should do so without undue delay and in any event within six weeks of performing a reduced scope activity, with an explanation for the delay. If you are outside the six week time limit you should contact your Regulator immediately, who will assist you to submit an application.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All of my flights for the scheme year fall under an <strong>exemption</strong> listed in (a) to (k) of Annex I (reproduced in Appendix B).</td>
<td><strong>You do not need an emissions plan under the UK Regulations.</strong> Notify your Regulator that all of your flights fall under the exemption and you will not perform any aviation activities in the four months after the relevant date. Your Regulator will review this alongside data provided by Eurocontrol and inform you in writing of its assessment.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^3\) If you became a UK Administered Operator before 31 December 2012, and are currently not performing any reduced scope aviation activities, and do not plan on doing so during the scheme year, you do not need to take any action. You should contact the Regulator if you are planning on performing any reduced scope activity.
Please note that the timescales differ if you become a UK Administered Operator at a later point during a scheme year, for example, if you have been transferred or designated as a UK Administered Operator by the Secretary of State, in which case you should contact your Regulator as soon as possible.

1.4. How do I notify my Regulator?

Depending on what your actions/obligations are based on the information above, in most cases your first step will be to notify your Regulator through ETSWAP\(^4\).

Please note, unless agreed with your Regulator, it is a legal requirement for all notifications to your Regulator to take place through ETSWAP. ETSWAP enables notifications to be sent to and received from your Regulator, sends timely reminders of any actions that might need to be taken, and allows the submission of annual emissions report, and if required, verification reports.

In order to use ETSWAP, you need to contact your Regulator to obtain the login details. Please e-mail your Regulator’s helpdesk with the following information:

- UK Administered Operator or UK Aircraft Operator name
- UK Administered Operator or UK Aircraft Operator code as specified on the Commission list (this is the same as your Central Route Charges Office number)
- first name
- surname
- telephone contact number
- email address
- date/expected date of the first aviation activity in the year that you appear on the Commission list

Once your Regulator has this information, it will be able to set you up with an account on ETSWAP and provide you with login details.

Please refer to the ETSWAP Help Page for further help in using ETSWAP.

\(^4\) Emissions Trading System Workflow Automation Program (ETSWAP).
2. How do I apply for an emissions plan?

This section is only relevant to you if you are applying for an emissions plan via ETSWP as per section 1.3.

Your Regulator manages all emissions plan applications, variations, notifications and submissions of reports through ETSWP. Once you have established that you have obligations under the UK Regulations, you will need to:

1. submit an application for an emissions plan via ETSWP;
2. open a Union Registry account (to receive, trade and surrender allowances);
3. obtain sufficient allowances to meet any surrender obligation.

You need to pay an application fee when you apply for an emissions plan, ETSWP will inform you of the application fee during the application process. There is also an annual subsistence charge to cover Regulator’s costs. You can find out more under ‘fees and charges’ in Appendix D for your Regulator.

General information about applications

The following applies to any application, report or notice you submit to your Regulator or the performance of any other obligation under the UK Regulations.

• All applications must be in writing and, unless otherwise agreed with your Regulator, submitted on a form available from it. The forms will set out the information required.
• If your Regulator asks you to submit the form through ETSWP, you must do this.
• All applications must include the name, postal address and telephone number of the applicant, together with an address where documents may be served. This can be an e-mail or postal address in the UK.
• All applications must be accompanied by any fee required.
• An application submitted to the Regulator is not ‘duly made’ unless and until it contains all the information required by the UK Regulations and you have paid any fee required.
• Your Regulator has to determine all applications made under the UK Regulations within two months from the date that the application is duly made, unless you agree a longer period in writing.

2.1. Step 1: Submit an application for an emissions plan via ETSWP

Once you have your login details (section 1.4), log onto ETSWP. You will be prompted to specify if all of your flights are exempt, for example if you are a non-commercial aircraft operator who emits less than 1,000 tonnes CO₂ per year (based on full scope aviation activities).

If you answer ‘yes’ to this question you may be asked to submit supporting evidence to your Regulator.

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5 These costs will be based on the scope of the EU ETS and whether or not you are exempt.
If you answer ‘no’ to this question, you will be prompted to complete an application for an emissions plan and provide supporting evidence. You must submit your completed application to your Regulator via ETSWAP.

**Depending on your circumstances, you must submit your emissions plan application within the timescales outlined in section 1.3.** If you cannot meet these deadlines, you must explain within the plan application form the reason(s) why the application is being submitted late.

We advise you to read carefully the [Monitoring and Reporting Regulation and the relevant guidance documents](#) to make sure that you provide all the necessary information with your application.

The forms within ETSWAP have been designed to help operators provide the information that is required under the [UK Regulations](#) and include guidance on how to complete specific fields within the forms. Where relevant, the forms also provide references to additional guidance documents or legislation for further information.

Once you have submitted your application for an emissions plan, you will be prompted to pay, or identify how you will pay for your application. The application is not ‘duly made’ until the application fee has been received. Your Regulator will assess the application and contact you if it has any further questions or requires additional information.

Once approved under the [UK Regulations](#), the emissions plan issued to you will satisfy the requirements of the Monitoring and Reporting Regulation to describe the measures planned to monitor and report specified emissions. Your plan will also contain Conditions that you must comply with.

You can find more detailed information and guidance on submitting an emissions plan application in the following documents:

- [Monitoring and Reporting Regulation](#)
- [Monitoring and Reporting Regulation - General Guidance for Aircraft Operators](#)
- [Other relevant Commission Guidance](#)

### 2.2. Step 2: Open a Union Registry account

The Union Registry operates in a similar way to an internet bank account and is hosted and managed by the European Commission. It records allowance allocations for aircraft operators, annual verified emissions, allowance transfers and surrenders of allowances.

**You must apply for a Union Registry Aircraft Operator Holding Account (AOHA) within 20 working days of being issued with an approved emissions plan.** This is in addition to having an ETSWAP account.

To open a Union Registry AOHA, you must:

- Register at least two users in the Union Registry. To do this you must first:
  - Make sure that at least two people have registered with [EU Login](#).
  - Once they have done this, they need to go to the [Union Registry](#) UK website, select ‘Login’, follow the instructions and provide their personal details.
  - All those registered with EU Login that you have nominated will be issued with a Union Registry Identification Number (URID), which they need to pass on to you.
- Once the above is complete, you then need to:
  - Go to the [Union Registry](#) UK website and select ‘Account request’ and then choose ‘Aircraft operator holding account’ in the dropdown box.
Nominate between a minimum of two and a maximum of six Authorised Representatives (and optionally Additional Authorised Representatives), all of whom have provided you with their URID.

- Wait for the UK National Administrator\(^6\) to tell you what documents need to be provided.
- Provide these documents to the UK National Administrator.
  - Wait for the UK National Administrator to confirm your account has been opened and your Authorised Representatives approved, and then send your Authorised Representatives their enrolment keys.

**As the Union Registry is in effect a bank for allowances, the opening of a Union Registry account and validation of individuals must undergo the same scrutiny as when opening a bank account. As such, this process can take up to two months (and longer in some cases). If you need any help with this, please contact our Registry helpdesk.**

You can find further links to information about the Union Registry in the Registry section of Appendix D. Information on the types of accounts, allowances, as well as transactions that can be performed in the Union Registry can be found in Appendix C.

### 2.3. Step 3: Allowances

One allowance allows you to emit one tonne of CO\(_2\). The principle of the EU ETS is that you must monitor your reportable emissions each year, and in the following year, report them and surrender a number of allowances equal to those emissions by the statutory deadlines. Failure to do this may result in significant penalties.

Most aircraft operators will receive a number of free allowances\(^7\) from the European Commission. Free allowances are allocated into your Aircraft Operator Holding Account annually by 28 February. Most of the aircraft operators on the Commission list submitted data to the Commission during a 2010 benchmarking process, based on which this free allocation has been calculated. Details of your free allocation (if eligible) can be found [here](#). For scheme years 2017 to 2020 you will only receive free allowances if you are performing reduced scope aviation activities.

If you have not completed the 2010 benchmarking exercise, you will not have a free allocation and will have to buy all the required allowances.

**I do not have enough allowances for surrender, where can I buy them?**

If you do not have enough allowances to meet your surrender obligation, either because your free allocation is not sufficient, or you are not eligible for free allowances, the only other available options for obtaining allowances are purchasing them on the carbon market or through an auction.

**If purchasing allowances through the carbon market, you need to ensure they are eligible for EU ETS compliance purposes.** The only allowances that can be used for compliance are EUA’s and EUAA’s (please see [Glossary](#)) or eligible international project credits (limited to a maximum of 1.5% of your annual verified emissions)\(^8\). **Please note it can take up to nine**

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\(^6\) The Environment Agency is the National Administrator for the whole of the UK.

\(^7\) You can find more details about eligibility and the free allocation methodology on the [Commission’s website](#) and in [Commission Decision of 26 September 2011 on benchmarks to allocate greenhouse gas emission allowances free of charge to aircraft operators pursuant to Article 3e of Directive 2003/87/EC (2011/638/EU)](#).

\(^8\) Please note any eligible international project credits will have to be exchanged into EUAA’s before they can be used to meet your surrender obligations.
working days from purchase for allowances to arrive in your account. You should confirm
the date of delivery of allowances into your account with the supplier.

We cannot recommend any particular person or organisation that sells allowances, but you may
wish to contact any member of the International Emissions Trading Association, or other EU ETS
participants that might have a surplus of allowances. You can also use the various internet based
search engines to find information on other sources.

Auctions take place at set dates throughout a year. For the most up to date information about
auctioning, please refer to the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS)
website. The Commission website also has details of auction calendars for aviation allowances.
3. I have an approved emissions plan, what do I need to do now?

Once your Regulator has approved your emissions plan, there are a number of requirements you need to comply with. It is important that you **take the time to read and understand your approved emissions plan**, as the introductory note and Conditions have been developed to help you comply with the requirements of the **UK Regulations**. This section and the flowchart below will describe your obligations and the relevant timescales. Please check the statutory deadlines for reporting and surrender for each scheme year in Table 1.

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**Previous Scheme Year**
- I have monitored my emissions for the whole scheme year (section 3.1).
- I have notified my Regulator of any changes (sections 3.1 and 4).
- I have appointed an independent verifier* (section 3.4).

**This Scheme Year**

- From 1st January
  - I have started monitoring my emissions for this year on 1st January (section 3.1).
  - I will notify my Regulator of any changes (sections 3.1 and 4).
  - I have started preparing my emissions report for last year (section 3.2).

- By 28th February
  - I will receive my free allowances if eligible (section 3.3).
  - Eurocontrol data for the previous year should be made available (section 3.3).

**ETSWAP (section 3.5)**
- I must complete my emissions report in ETSWAP.
- I must submit my emissions report to my verifier* through ETSWAP.
- My verifier* will verify my emissions report and submit their opinion statement through ETSWAP.
- I must then formally submit my emissions report (verified* where applicable) to my Regulator through ETSWAP.

**UNION REGISTRY (section 3.6)**
- I must enter my reportable emissions in my Union Registry account.
- My verifier* will approve the reportable emissions in my Union Registry account as correct.
- My Regulator will approve my reportable emissions in my Union Registry account as correct where the simplified procedure^ has been used.
- I will ensure I have sufficient allowances in my Union Registry account to match my reportable emissions (section 2.3).

**UNION REGISTRY (section 3.7)**
- I must surrender a number of allowances that equal my reportable emissions for the previous scheme year.

- By 30th June latest
  - I will have to submit an improvements report by this date if notified through ETSWAP (section 3.8).

* Where an independent verifier has been appointed (section 3.4).
^ Where the simplified procedures has been used (section 3.3).
^^ Refer to ‘Table 1 – Statutory Deadlines’.
If you fail to comply with a Condition of your approved emissions plan (or other requirements in the UK Regulations), you may be liable to a civil penalty. If you fail to surrender sufficient allowances by the statutory surrender deadline each year to cover your reportable emissions for the previous year you will be liable to a significant mandatory penalty of €100 per tonne of CO₂. Any emissions in respect of which you have not surrendered will be added to your reportable emissions for the following scheme year and you will have to surrender sufficient allowances to cover the total emissions figure by the statutory surrender deadline.

A few examples of where penalties would apply and the size of the penalty are presented below:

**Example 1**: Your reportable annual emissions are 10,000 tonnes CO₂. You fail to monitor and report your emissions, as well as fail to surrender allowances. The result would be:

\[
10,000 \times €100 = €1,000,000 \text{ mandatory penalty}
\]

+ surrender 10,000 allowances

+ possible penalties for failure to monitor and report

+ costs for determination of emissions by your Regulator

**Example 2**: Your reportable annual emissions are 10,000 tonnes CO₂. You submit your annual report (verified where applicable) stating 10,000 tonnes CO₂ by the statutory reporting deadline and enter the same amount in your Union Registry account. You surrender 7,000 allowances by the statutory surrender deadline. The result would be:

\[
3,000 (10,000 - 7,000) \times €100 = €300,000 \text{ mandatory penalty}
\]

+ surrender 3,000 allowances

You can find further information on civil penalties and the Environment Agency’s approach to enforcement and sanctions in Appendix D.

**Complying with your approved emissions plan**

To make sure you comply with your approved emissions plan, you need to complete the tasks below and meet the specified legislative deadlines.

**3.1. Monitor your emissions**

You must monitor the emissions from your reduced scope aviation activities from 1 January until 31 December for each scheme year in which you are a UK Aircraft Operator.

You must monitor your emissions in accordance with your approved emissions plan (including the written procedures supplementing that plan) and the Monitoring and Reporting Regulation. The emissions data monitored during one scheme year will be used to produce the Annual Emissions Report that you must submit by the statutory reporting deadline in the following scheme year.

**Notify your Regulator of non-significant changes to the approved emissions plan**

You must notify your Regulator of any non-significant changes to the approved emissions plan through ETSWAP by 31 December in the year in which the change was planned or has occurred.

If you propose to make a significant change to the approved emissions plan, you must apply to your Regulator to vary the approved emissions plan at least 14 days before you make the change or, where this is not practicable, as soon as possible afterwards.
More information on dealing with changes to the approved emissions plan is provided in section 4.

3.2. Start your Annual Emissions Report

It is advisable to start preparing your Annual Emissions Report towards the end of the year to which it relates. As this report must be submitted by the statutory reporting deadline in the following year, this will give you enough time to complete the report, have it verified (if required) and correct any errors before you submit it to your Regulator.

A task to compile your annual emissions report will be placed in your ETSWAP work queue on 1 January of the following scheme year. The task will contain the emissions report form.

Please note all data should be rounded as specified in Article 72 of the Monitoring and Reporting Regulation. More information regarding this is available in section 4.9 of the Accreditation and Verification in the EU ETS FAQ.

Reporting the use of biofuels

The Monitoring and Reporting Regulation specifies that if an emission factor of zero has been reported in respect of the use of biofuels, you must satisfy your Regulator that the sustainability criteria set out in Article 17(2) to (5) of the Renewable Energy Directive have been fulfilled in accordance with Article 18(1) of that Directive.

Record keeping

Annual emissions reports are subject to periodic Regulator audits. You must, therefore, keep records of all relevant data and information for at least 10 years in line with Article 66 of the Monitoring and Reporting Regulation.

3.3. Emissions less than 25,000 tonnes CO₂ per year based on total aviation activities, and/or emissions of less than 3,000 tonnes of CO₂ per year based on reduced scope aviation activities

Aircraft operators emitting less than 25,000 tonnes of CO₂ per year based on total aviation activities and/or emitting less than 3,000 tonnes of CO₂ per year based on reduced scope aviation activities, can choose to use the ‘simplified reporting procedures’ as an alternative to using an independent verifier.

The simplified reporting procedures involve:

- estimating your emissions using the Small Emitters Tool approved under Regulation 606/2010/EC; and
- populating the tool with un-amended data from Eurocontrol’s Support Facility (ETS-SF).

The data for a scheme year is usually made available by Eurocontrol at the end of February in the following scheme year. It is your responsibility to check that your emissions data received from ETS-SF is complete using your own internal flight records. If your data is incorrect you must contact Eurocontrol in order for them to correct it before it can be used under simplified reporting procedures.

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9 In practice this is 10 years from the date of the report submission, however the data used in preparing the report will have to be kept as well, even though it will be older than 10 years.
If you use the Small Emitters Tool populated with your own flight data you will need to have your emissions report verified by an accredited verifier.

3.4. Ask your verifier to start the annual verification process

If you are an aircraft operator emitting greater than or equal to 25,000 tonnes of CO\textsubscript{2} per year based on your total aviation activities, \textbf{and} greater than or equal to 3,000 tonnes of CO\textsubscript{2} per year based on reduced scope aviation activities, you must appoint an independent verifier to verify your emissions.

The chosen verifier must be accredited (or certified) for the regulated activity you are reporting, and you must provide them with all the information that they need (a list of the minimum information that you need to provide is given in Article 10 of the Accreditation and Verification Regulation).

During verification, your verifier will assess the monitoring methods, information, data and calculations you have used to compile your annual emissions reports. Verification involves checks to ensure that the emissions data in annual emissions reports accurately represent emissions monitored and are reported in accordance with your approved emissions plan and the Monitoring and Reporting Regulation.

To ensure you can report your emissions on time, we recommend you appoint a verifier before you start preparing your Annual Emissions Report and at least nine months before you need to submit it. This would allow your verifier to start the verification process as soon as possible, check compliance and the monitoring data for the first half to three quarters of the year, and avoid a heavy workload in January/February of the following year, which could cause delays in completing the verification process by the statutory reporting deadline.

The list of accredited verifiers known to us can be accessed from your ETSWAP account, under the ‘Organisation Details’ section and from the ‘Default Verifier’ drop-down list.

You can find more information on verification and a list of UK based accredited verifiers for EU ETS at:

- Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (GOV.UK website)
- Finding an accredited verifier in the UK
- UK Accreditation Service (UKAS)

\textbf{Site visits (where a verifier has been appointed)}

Site visits are an integral part of the annual verification process and, without a site visit, your verifier may not be able to give a positive opinion statement. The Accreditation and Verification Regulation defines a ‘site’ to mean ‘locations where the monitoring process is defined and managed, including the locations where relevant data and information are controlled and stored’. This definition means that your verifier does not necessarily need to physically visit every aircraft or aerodrome because much of the data is often centralised. This is particularly so if you are a small emitter using the Eurocontrol Support Facility, or you are approved to use the Eurocontrol small emitter tool for determining your fuel consumption. In these circumstances your verifier may, based on their risk analysis, consider that a site visit is not needed.

Site visits are about gathering evidence and include interviewing staff and testing, among other things, the effectiveness of internal processes and control procedures. It is therefore unlikely that a site visit will be waived, and the number of locations and the selection of them are dependent upon your verifier’s risk analysis.

A site visit waiver cannot be applied for without the agreement of your verifier. More information on site visit waivers can be found in:
3.5. Submit your annual emissions report by the statutory reporting deadline

By the statutory reporting deadline, you must submit your annual emissions report (verified where applicable) for the previous reporting year to your Regulator via ETSWAP. The statutory reporting deadlines are set out in Table 1.

Verifiers (where applicable) will also need to submit their verification report, containing their ‘verification opinion statement’ via ETSWAP by this date. This report must be in accordance with the Monitoring and Reporting Regulation and the Accreditation and Verification Regulation.

If you have not performed an aviation activity during the reporting year, you are deemed not to be a UK Aircraft Operator in relation to that scheme year, and are not required to monitor emissions or submit a verified report for that year. Your Regulator will change your status in ETSWAP to exempt, either on the basis of you submitting a report saying so, or through using Eurocontrol data.

You need to follow these steps to formally submit your annual emissions report to your Regulator:

1. Complete the annual emissions report in ETSWAP. If while completing the report you choose to use the ‘simplified procedure’ please go straight to step 5 below.10
2. Once you have completed the report you must select a verifier to verify your report from the drop down list available (having previously spoken to them and set up a contract with them).
3. You should then submit your report to your chosen verifier for verification.
4. Once the verification process has been completed, your verifier will return the verified report to you via ETSWAP.
5. Formally submit your annual emissions report to your Regulator. ETSWAP will display the following message when the report has been successfully submitted 'AEM Report section: Action: AEM report submitted for assessment'.

Please note your report has not been formally submitted until step 5 above has been completed.

You can find guidance on completing this task in ETSWAP and also at:

- ETSWAP Help Page
- The Monitoring and Reporting Regulation – General guidance for Aircraft Operators

If you fail to submit an emissions report (verified where applicable) by the statutory reporting deadline, you may be liable to a civil penalty. If no emissions report is submitted by the statutory reporting deadline, your Regulator will then determine your reportable emissions in accordance with the UK Regulations and the Monitoring and Reporting Regulation. Your Regulator is entitled to recover the costs for this work.

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10 This will only apply to aircraft operators emitting less than 25,000 tonnes of CO₂ per year based on their total aviation activities, and/or aircraft operators emitting less than 3,000 tonnes of CO₂ per year based on reduced scope aviation activities.
3.6. Enter your emissions into the Union Registry by the statutory reporting deadline

You must enter your emissions figure into your Union Registry Aircraft Operator Holding Account by the statutory reporting deadline. The statutory reporting deadlines are set out in Table 1. Please note this is in addition to your obligations in ETSWAP.

Where a verifier has been used, they must first be appointed to your Union Registry Aircraft Operator Holding Account if not already done so. They must then log on to the Union Registry and approve the emissions you entered are correct and match the verified emissions figure submitted through ETSWAP as per section 3.5. To allow time for this, it is advisable to enter the annual emissions in the Union Registry some days before the statutory reporting deadline.

Where simplified reporting procedures have been used and no independent verifier appointed, your Regulator will approve the emissions you entered in the Union Registry are correct and match the emissions figure reported through ETSWAP.

If you fail to comply with this requirement, your Union Registry account will be blocked on the day after the statutory reporting deadline (see Appendix C).

3.7. Surrender allowances by the statutory surrender deadline

You must surrender allowances from your Union Registry Aircraft Operator Holding Account equal to your annual reportable emissions made in the previous reporting year by the statutory surrender deadline each year. The statutory surrender deadlines are set out in Table 1.

If you fail to surrender sufficient allowances on time you will be liable to a mandatory penalty of €100 per tonne of CO₂. We have no discretion in relation to this penalty which will apply even if you surrender after the statutory surrender deadline.

Please refer to section 2.3 and ensure you have sufficient allowances to meet your surrender obligations.

Any emissions in respect of which you have not surrendered will be added to your reportable emissions for the following scheme year and you will have to surrender sufficient allowances to cover the total emissions figure by the statutory surrender deadline.

3.8. Improvement reports

If your verifier (or Regulator) identifies any recommendations for improvements and/or non-conformities in the annual verification report, you must submit a ‘verifier recommended improvement report’ by 30 June in the year when the report was submitted. That report must describe how and when you addressed or plan to address the non-conformities and implement the recommended improvements. Non-conformities will usually relate to specific non-compliances in implementing your approved emissions plan or in your annual emissions report, and you should address these as soon as possible.

If you consider that the recommended improvements would not improve the monitoring methodology or would be unreasonably expensive, you must provide your Regulator with the reasons for this together with any supporting evidence.

ETSWAP will automatically generate this task if on submission of your annual emissions report your verifier has identified a non-compliance, non-conformity or recommended improvement.
If your verifier identifies any errors or non-conformities in the approved emissions plan, you could be required to resubmit an updated emissions plan to your Regulator for approval.
4. Things have changed, what should I do?

You should regularly check if your approved emissions plan reflects the nature of your operations and whether you can improve the monitoring methodology. This also includes regularly reviewing your risk assessment to identify if there are changes to the risks that you initially identified and if the control measures that you have put into place are still effective.

You must let your Regulator know about any deviations from the approved emissions plan. This may mean you will need to vary your plan.

You must notify us of these changes via ETSWAP. Please remember to read the guidance on the relevant ETSWAP pages and note that specific types of notification do have time limits, as explained below.

When reading this section please refer to the General guidance for aircraft operators, as well as other relevant Commission guidance. You should also refer to your approved emissions plan conditions, Schedule 8 of the UK Regulations, and Articles 14, 15 and 16 of the Monitoring and Reporting Regulation.

A brief summary of some of the changes to your approved emissions plan are shown below.

4.1. Changes requiring 14 day advance notice

You must notify your Regulator at least 14 days before any of the activities listed below take place or, where this isn’t practicable, as soon as possible afterwards:

- Your proposed change to the approved emissions plan is significant, or the name of the UK Aircraft Operator is changing (see section 4.3).
- You are classed as a small emitter, but have exceeded the relevant threshold as specified in Article 54(4) of the Monitoring and Reporting Regulation.

4.2. Other changes requiring notification

Unless already notified (as required by other emissions plan conditions), you must let your Regulator know of any non-significant changes to the approved emissions plan by 31 December in the year in which the change was planned or has occurred. Section 4.3 lists changes that are considered significant. However, please note this list is not exhaustive, and some changes, although not listed, could be considered significant by your Regulator.

The following changes will mean you have to modify your emissions plan:

- New emissions occur because new activities are carried out, which have not been identified in the emissions plan.
- The change in data available, due to using new types of measuring instruments, sampling methods or analysis methods means emissions can be determined more accurately.
- Data resulting from the previously applied monitoring methodology has been found incorrect.
- Changing the emissions plan makes the reported data more accurate, unless this is technically not feasible or incurs unreasonable costs.

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11 This does not apply to fleet changes.
• The emissions plan does not meet the requirements of the Monitoring and Reporting Regulation and your Regulator asks you to change it.
• You have to respond to suggestions to improve the emissions plan contained in a verification report.

In relation to changes to the emissions plan, the notification must describe the change, set out whether and how it affects the information in the emissions plan and explain how the change is in accordance with the Monitoring and Reporting Regulation.

If the proposed changes are not significant, or where monitoring in accordance with the original emissions plan would lead to incomplete emission data, you may carry out monitoring and reporting using the modified emissions plan before it is approved by your Regulator. If you are not sure, you must carry out all monitoring and reporting using both the modified and the original emissions plan and make sure it is all documented until your Regulator has approved the modified emissions plan.

If your proposed change to the emissions plan is significant, or the name of the UK Aircraft Operator is changing, you must apply for a variation instead (see section 4.3).

### 4.3. Variations

If your proposed change to the emissions plan is significant, or a corporate UK Aircraft Operator is changing its name, you must apply to vary the approved emissions plan at least **14 days before** you make the change or, where this is not practicable, as soon as possible afterwards.

Significant changes to the emissions plan shall include:

- a change of tiers related to fuel consumption
- a change of emission factor values laid down in the emissions plan
- a change between calculation methods as laid down in Annex III of the Monitoring and Reporting Regulation
- the introduction of new source streams
- a change in the categorisation of source streams where a minor source stream changes to a major source stream
- changes in the status of the aircraft operator as a small emitter within the meaning of Article 54(1) of the Monitoring and Reporting Regulation

The application to vary must contain a description of the proposed change and set out whether and how it affects the information contained in the emissions plan and explain how the change is in accordance with the Monitoring and Reporting Regulation.

**Applications for variations should be made as soon as required via ETSWAP.**

### 4.4. Mergers and splits

You must notify your Regulator and the UK National Administrator within 10 working days if you have undergone a merger involving two or more aircraft operators, or a split into two or more aircraft operators. This will enable your Regulator to advise if a variation to your emissions plan is required, and the UK National Administrator to make any changes to the national allocation table.

In this context, the terms 'merger' and 'split' will be interpreted widely in the UK to include any split, merger, acquisition, consolidation or other transaction involving the transfer of the aviation business of an existing aircraft operator to another new or existing aircraft operator.
4.5. Transfer from/to another Member State

If you are a UK Administered Operator and have not performed an aviation activity in the UK during the first two years of Phase III, you will be reassigned to the Member State with the greatest proportion of attributable emissions during those two years. However, the transfer will not take place until the start of the following trading period (2021). You will continue to be a UK Administered Operator until the Commission list is updated.
5. I’m not happy with a decision, what should I do?

Generally, if you are dissatisfied for any reason with a decision by your Regulator, please discuss it with them first. In some cases, you may have a right of appeal, which your Regulator will give you details about.

Please note:

- in the case of an appeal against a decision by the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA), the appeal body is the Scottish Ministers;
- in the case of an appeal against a decision by the chief inspector (Northern Ireland), the appeal body is the Planning Appeals Commission;
- in the case of an appeal against any other decision, the appeal body is the First-tier Tribunal.

If you are dissatisfied for any reason with your verifier, please discuss it with them first\textsuperscript{12}. If you are still not satisfied, you should contact the relevant national accreditation body and also inform your Regulator.

\textsuperscript{12} Clause 5.9 Of EN ISO/IEC 17011 requires national accreditation bodies to allow the accredited verifier the opportunity to deal with complaints before the national accreditation body intervenes.
Glossary of terms for EU ETS

The table below contains the basic definitions of common terms used in EU ETS.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General Terms</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Allowance</strong></td>
<td>An allowance to emit one tonne of carbon dioxide equivalent.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Annex I activity</strong></td>
<td>An activity falling within the description in Annex I to the EU Directive.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>AR</strong></td>
<td>Authorised Representative for the Union Registry account.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>AAR</strong></td>
<td>Additional Authorised Representative for the Union Registry account.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>BEIS</strong></td>
<td>Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Civil penalty</strong></td>
<td>Financial penalty relating to certain failures to comply with the UK Regulations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CO₂</strong></td>
<td>Carbon dioxide.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CO₂e</strong></td>
<td>Carbon dioxide equivalent.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ktCO₂pa</strong></td>
<td>Kilotonnes of carbon dioxide per annum.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>tCO₂</strong></td>
<td>Tonnes of CO₂.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Emissions Monitoring Plan</strong></td>
<td>Methodology for monitoring and reporting emissions of CO₂.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EMS</strong></td>
<td>Environmental Management System.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ETSWAP</strong></td>
<td>Emissions Trading System Workflow Automation Program.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EUA</strong></td>
<td>European Union Allowance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EUAA</strong></td>
<td>European Union Aviation Allowance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EU ETS</strong></td>
<td>European Union Emissions Trading System.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GHG</strong></td>
<td>Greenhouse gas.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISO</td>
<td>International Standards Organisation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phase III</td>
<td>Third phase of the EU ETS, runs from 1 Jan 2013 to 31 Dec 2020.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UK Aircraft Operator</td>
<td>Defined in the UK Regulations as a legal entity identified on the Commission list as administered by the UK that has performed an aviation activity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UKAS</td>
<td>United Kingdom Accreditation Service.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNFCCC</td>
<td>United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Verifiers</td>
<td>Independent bodies accredited by the national accreditation body (e.g. UKAS) or certified by a national certification authority to carry out EU ETS verification.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Monitoring and Reporting Terms (simplified definitions)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity data</th>
<th>Volume or mass of fuels/materials.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EF</td>
<td>Emission factor.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCV</td>
<td>Net calorific value.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Source stream (de minimis)</td>
<td>Group of source streams jointly emitting &lt;1,000 tonnes, or &lt; 2% of total emissions (up to max of 20,000 tonnes), whichever is the highest in terms of absolute value.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Source stream (major)</td>
<td>Major fuels or materials used on site (defined as not being minor source streams).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Source stream (minor)</td>
<td>Group of source streams jointly emitting &lt; 5,000 tonnes, or &lt;10% of total emissions (or &lt;100,000 tonnes), whichever is the highest in terms of absolute value.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statutory reporting deadline</td>
<td>Please refer to Table 1. Date by which you must report your scheme year emissions through ETSWAP, and enter this figure in your Union Registry account (where applicable).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statutory surrender deadline</td>
<td>Please refer to Table 1. Date by which you must surrender allowances equalling your reportable emissions in your Union Registry account.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tier</td>
<td>A set requirement used for determining activity data, calculation factors, annual emission and annual average hourly emission, as well as for payload.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Appendix A: Flights covered under EU ETS for the period 2013 to 2023

EEA States:
Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom, Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein. Basel-Mulhouse-Freiburg aerodrome (LFSB and LSZM) is located in French territory.

Territories of Member States which are part of the EEA:
Melilla, Ceuta (ES); Åland Islands (FI); Jan Mayen NO; Gibraltar (UK).

Flights between aerodromes in these territories and any aerodrome in the EEA remain fully covered.

Flights between any aerodromes in the EEA and offshore installations of EEA countries that are outside territorial waters (e.g. oil and gas production or exploration platforms) also remain fully covered under the EU ETS.

Outermost Regions:
Canary Islands (ES); French Guiana; Guadeloupe; Martinique; Mayotte; Réunion; Saint Martin (FR); Azores; Madeira (PT).

* Internal flights within Outermost Regions are included (i.e. Canary Islands to Canary Islands); however flights between Outermost Regions (e.g. Canary Islands to Madeira) are not included.

** Flights between Croatia and EEA States are fully included from 1 January 2013. Domestic flights within Croatia were reported from 1 July 2013 to 31 December 2013, but had no surrender obligation for these emissions. Emissions from flights within Croatia are fully covered, with regards to both reporting and surrendering from 1 January 2014.
It should also be noted that the following (overseas) countries and territories of Member States are not part of the EEA. Flights from aerodromes in the EEA to aerodromes in these countries and territories are therefore excluded from the EU ETS for 2017 to 2023.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country Code</th>
<th>Country/Region</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DK</td>
<td>Greenland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Faeroe Islands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FR</td>
<td>French Polynesia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mayotte (until 2013; from 2014 Mayotte is considered an outermost region)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>New Caledonia</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Saint Barthélemy</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Saint Pierre and Miquelon</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wallis and Futuna</td>
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<tr>
<td>NL</td>
<td>Aruba</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bonaire</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Saba</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sint Eustatius</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Curacao</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sint Maarten</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NO</td>
<td>Svalbard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UK</td>
<td>Anguilla</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bermuda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>British Antarctic Territory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>British Indian Ocean Territory</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>British Virgin Islands</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cayman Islands</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Falkland Islands</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bailiwick of Guernsey</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Isle of Man</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Jersey</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Montserrat</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Pitcairn, Henderson, Ducie and Oeno Islands Saint Helena</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ascension and Tristan da Cunha</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Turks and Caicos Islands</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Akrotiri</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dhekelia</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Appendix B: Annex I of the EU ETS Directive relating to aviation

From 1 January 2012 all flights which arrive at or depart from an aerodrome situated in the territory of a Member State to which the Treaty applies shall be included (please also refer to Appendix A).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Greenhouse gases</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Flights which depart from or arrive in an aerodrome situated in the territory of a Member State to which the Treaty applies.</td>
<td>Carbon dioxide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This activity shall not include:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a) Flights performed exclusively for the transport, on official mission, of a reigning Monarch and his immediate family, Heads of State, Heads of Government and Government Ministers, of a country other than a Member State, where this is substantiated by an appropriate status indicator in the flight plan.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) Military flights performed by military aircraft and customs and police flights.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) Flights related to search and rescue, fire-fighting flights, humanitarian flights and emergency medical service flights authorised by the appropriate competent authority.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d) Any flights performed exclusively under visual flight rules as defined in Annex 2 to the Chicago Convention.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e) Flights terminating at the aerodrome from which the aircraft has taken off and during which no intermediate landing has been made.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f) Training flights performed exclusively for the purpose of obtaining a licence, or a rating in the case of cockpit flight crew where this is substantiated by an appropriate remark in the flight plan provided that the flight does not serve for the transport of passengers and/or cargo or for the positioning or ferrying of the aircraft.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g) Flights performed exclusively for the purpose of scientific research or for the purpose of checking, testing or certifying aircraft or equipment whether airborne or ground-based.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h) Flights performed by aircraft with a certified maximum take-off mass of less than 5,700 kg.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i) Flights performed in the framework of public service obligations imposed in accordance with Regulation (EEC) No 2408/92 on routes within outermost regions, as specified in Article 299(2) of the Treaty, or on routes where the capacity offered does not exceed 30,000 seats per year; and</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>j) Flights which, but for this point, would fall within this activity, performed by a commercial air transport operator operating either:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• fewer than 243 flights per period for three consecutive four-month periods, or</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• flights with total annual emissions lower than 10,000 tonnes per year</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Flights performed exclusively for the transport, on official mission, of a reigning Monarch and his immediate family, Heads of State, Heads of Government and Government Ministers, of a Member State may not be excluded under this point.

k) From 1 January 2013 to 31 December 2030, flights which, but for this point, would fall within this activity, performed by a non-commercial aircraft operator operating flights with total annual emissions lower than 1,000 tonnes per year.
Appendix C: The Union Registry

What is the Union Registry?

Operational since January 2005, the registry system ensures the accurate accounting of all units (allowances) issued under the European Union Emissions Trading System (EU ETS).

The revised EU ETS Directive that was adopted in 2009 centralised the EU ETS operations into a single European Union Registry, hosted, maintained and operated by the European Commission. The single Union Registry has replaced all EU ETS and National Registries established under the Kyoto Protocol hosted in the Member States and covers all EU Member States as well as Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein. Each Member State has its own National Administrator and national registry section within the Union Registry. The National Administrator for the UK is the Environment Agency.

The Union Registry is an online database that operates in much the same way as an internet bank account and records annual allowance allocations (if eligible), annual verified emissions, transaction history of unit transfers and the surrenders of allowances. The Union Registry is comprised of EU ETS Registries and National Registries. The Union Registry is mainly used for compliance and/or trading. General and aviation allowances may be traded between EU ETS Registry accounts. In addition to EU ETS general and aviation allowances, EU ETS Registry accounts may also hold International Project Credits which the European Commission has deemed eligible for use within the EU ETS. Each aircraft operator will have a limited entitlement of eligible International Project Credits that they may exchange for EU ETS aviation allowances, which is 1.5% of their verified emissions. Once the eligible International Project Credits have been exchanged, the resulting aviation allowances can be surrendered for compliance purposes. Please note International Project Credits can be purchased on the Carbon Market and are not allocated for free.

Non-eligible International Project Credits can only be traded between National Registry accounts and cannot be used for EU ETS compliance or held within EU ETS part of the Union Registry. As such, there is a choice of account types depending on your circumstances and what you wish to do with your units.

What type of account must I have?

If you hold an approved emissions plan in the UK, you will be required to open and maintain an Aircraft Operator Holding Account (AOHA) in order to meet your EU ETS compliance obligations. The requirements for this application are set out on the Environment Agency’s website.

Each year you must enter your reportable emissions into your AOHA and have these approved by your verifier (or your Regulator if you are using the simplified procedure) by the statutory reporting deadline. General or aviation allowances equalling your verified or approved emissions must then be surrendered by the statutory surrender deadline each year.

If you have not entered your verifier (or Regulator) approved reportable emissions by the statutory reporting deadline, your AOHA will be blocked from the following day. No processes may be initiated from blocked accounts, except surrendering allowances, entering verified emissions, and updating your account details.

Your AOHA will also allow you to receive your free allocation (if eligible) as well as acquire additional allowances through auctions that will take place throughout the year from a variety of sources (United Kingdom, Germany, the EU and Poland) or through the carbon market. You must have these allowances in your AOHA in time to meet your surrender obligations by the statutory surrender deadline each year. You should take into account the fact that it can take up to nine
working days to complete the transfer of allowances. The supplier of your allowances will be able to confirm how long it will take to finalise the transaction.

You can also use your AOHA to transfer (trade) any surplus allowances to a third party. In order to be able to transfer allowances out of your AOHA to a third party, you must set up the third party registry account as a ‘Trusted Account’. This takes seven working days to complete. You cannot transfer allowances or International Project Credits to an account that is not trusted.

Any exchange of International Project Credits, or proposed transfers out of your AOHA will be subject to a 26-hour delay before being finalised. If you have appointed an Additional Authorised Representative (AAR) to your AOHA, their approval for the transaction will be required before the 26 hour delay is started. Please note, nominating Additional Authorised Representatives is optional. Surrender transactions are not subject to the 26 hour delay; however, they will require approval by a second Authorised Representative (or Additional Authorised Representative if one has been appointed).

The types of allowances that you can hold in your AOHA and surrender/trade are:

- General allowances: issued to operators of installations.
- Aviation allowances: issued to aircraft operators, or as a result of exchanging eligible Kyoto units (up to 1.5% of verified emissions).

An AOHA is set to excluded once your Regulator notifies the UK National Administrator that no reduced scope aviation activities took place in the previous calendar year. It will remain excluded until your Regulator notifies the UK National Administrator that reduced scope aviation activities have resumed. For the years where your AOHA is set to excluded, you will not be able to transfer allowances out of the account, enter verified emissions, exchange eligible Kyoto units or receive a free allocation. Updating account details and surrendering allowances will still be possible and you can receive allowances from a third party.

**Other types of accounts?**

**Verifier account**

This type of account must be opened by verifiers to enable them to approve reportable emissions entered into Aircraft Operator Holding Accounts. It is not possible to hold units or trade from this type of account. A Verifier must open a Verifier account in order to appear on the list of verifiers for an operator to appoint to their AOHA.

**Person Account in National Registry**

Person Accounts in National Registry may only be used to trade in International Project Credits. You will need this account if you wish to receive units directly from the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) Registry or, if you wish to trade in units that cannot be held in or used for compliance within the EU ETS Registry. This account cannot be used to meet your EU ETS compliance obligations.

**Person Holding Account (PHA)**

Person Holding Accounts may be used to trade general allowances, aviation allowances and International Project Credits. This account cannot be used to meet your EU ETS compliance obligations.

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**Notes:**

13 All transactions initiated by the Authorised Representative on an account (and any approvals of transactions made by Additional Authorised Representatives) must be confirmed using an SMS code sent to the user’s mobile (cellular) phone. Irrespective of the time of day a transaction is initiated it will not be processed outside the hours of 10:00 and 16:00 CET/CEST. Most transactions will not complete until 26 hours after their processing has commenced.
Trading Account

Trading Accounts may trade general allowances, aviation allowances and International Project Credits. This account has more flexibility than the Person Holding Account but it cannot be used to meet your EU ETS compliance obligations.

Changes to allocation and recovery of allowances

Your Regulator will notify the UK National Administrator of any changes to your free allocation (if eligible) resulting from exclusions, mergers and splits. The UK National Administrator will then either make the changes, or request BEIS notify the Commission so that the Central Administrator may make the changes (as appropriate) to the annual free allocation entitlement for affected aircraft operators for each remaining year of Phase III.

Certain changes to the free allocation need to be approved by the European Commission before your Regulator will trigger the change process.

Allowances issued by mistake, or to aircraft operators that were not entitled to receive them must be returned to a Regulator account in the Union Registry.

Public information

Please be aware that certain information about Union Registry accounts is made available to the public under the requirements of the Kyoto Protocol and Registries Regulation on the European Union Transaction Log (EUTL).

The type of information that will be made public is:

- Information regarding open accounts and their Account Holders. Authorised Representative information is regarded as confidential and is not published.
- Joint Implementation (JI) information as conversions to Emissions Reduction Units (ERUs). Please note, this does not apply to the UK.
- Information regarding transactions, holding information, and legal organisations authorised to hold units. Detailed information regarding accounts, their holdings and transactions is regarded as confidential and is not published. Transactional information, including the names of Account Holders involved in the transaction is only made public after three years on the EUTL.
## Appendix D: List of quoted guidance and websites

The links below are those referred to in the main body of this guidance document.

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Helpdesk

etregistryhelp@environment-agency.gov.uk
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<td><a href="https://ec.europa.eu/clima/policies/transport/aviation_en#tab-0-1">Commission list</a></td>
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<td><a href="https://ec.europa.eu/clima/policies/ets/auctioning_en">Auctioning calendar</a></td>
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This document is produced in accordance with the Regulators' Code produced by the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy, and will be reviewed by 31 December 2020.

We welcome any questions or comments about this guidance, or suggestions about how we could improve it. Please email us at etaviationhelp@environment-agency.gov.uk, phone us on 03708 506 506 or write to us at:

Environment Agency
National Customer Contact Centre
PO Box 544
Rotherham
S60 1BY

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