
Helicopter Aviation Inspection Bodies

Notice to all helicopter safety consultants and builders, designers, and operators of "large commercial yachts" and "passenger yachts" designed/fitted with helicopter landing areas.

This notice should be read with The Large Commercial Yacht Code and The Passenger Yacht Code.

Summary

This MGN provides the criteria to be met for Aviation Inspection Bodies (AIBs) to be accepted by the MCA for the purpose of issuing Helicopter Landing Area Certificates (HLACs). A link to the list of recognised AIBs is also provided.

1. Introduction/ Background

- 1.1 Vessels seeking compliance with section 24.2.2 of The Large Commercial Yacht Code and Chapter 11.2 of The Passenger Yacht Code require a Helicopter Landing Area Certificate (HLAC) to be issued by one of the Aviation Inspection Bodies (AIBs) recognised by the flag Administration.
- 1.2 Only certification issued by the AIBs listed in this MGN will be accepted by the MCA for the purpose of meeting the requirements of Section 24.2 of The Large Commercial Yacht Code and Chapter 11.2 of The Passenger Yacht Code.
- 1.3 Revision 3 of The Large Commercial Yacht Code (to be published as Revision 3 to MSN 1792 for UK vessels) will be amended to account for the change in process for accepting AIBs.

2. Criteria for Aviation Inspection Bodies

- 2.1 In order for an organisation to be recognised by the MCA as an AIB, and for the HLACs issued by the organisation to be accepted by MCA for the purpose of compliance with Section 24.2 of The Large Commercial Yacht Code and Chapter 11.2 of The Passenger Yacht Code, the criteria listed in 2.2 to 2.8 of this MGN must be met.
- 2.2 An AIB must provide evidence to the MCA of a minimum of 5 years experience of inspecting helicopter landing areas located on ships or yachts, against the requirements of either;
 - 2.2.1 International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) Annex 14, Volume 2

- 2.2.2 an equivalent national helicopter landing area standard such as the UK Civil Aviation Authority's CAP437
- 2.2.3 Annex 6 to The Large Commercial Yacht Code
- 2.2.4 Chapter 11.2 of The Passenger Yacht Code
- 2.3 An AIB must be accredited by a UKAS certificated body for compliance against the requirements of ISO9001:2008.
- 2.4 An AIB must be able to demonstrate to the MCA knowledge of the requirements of Section 24.2 and Annex 6 of The Large Commercial yacht Code, and Chapter 11.2 of the Passenger Yacht Code.
- 2.5 An AIB must demonstrate to the MCA the ability to develop certification and reports in a format acceptable to the MCA and to record all evidence on a central database system.
- 2.6 An AIB must hold liability insurance to satisfy the minimum liability requirements of the MCA, details of which may be obtained upon request.
- 2.7 An AIB must agree to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the MCA which will outline the working relationship between the MCA and the AIB and outline the monitoring arrangements the MCA will undertake to gain assurance of the ability to meet these criteria.
- 2.8 An AIB must be able to demonstrate sufficient global coverage to inspect landing areas on yachts located anywhere in the world. This may be achieved through the ability to travel long distances at short notice.

3. Process of Application

- 3.1 An organisation wishing to act as an AIB should apply in writing to the address below, enclosing evidence of how the organisation meets the criteria listed in Section 2 of this MGN. All applications will be assessed against the above criteria and a response will be sent within 30 working days of receiving the application.
- 3.2 Address for Application

External Monitoring and Assurance,
Maritime and Coastguard Agency,
Bay 1/01, Spring Place,
105 Commercial Road,
Southampton,
United Kingdom,
SO15 1EG

4. Current List of UK Aviation Inspection Bodies

- 4.1 The latest list of AIBs, and their contact detail, is available on the MCA Website by selecting "Helicopter Aviation Inspection Bodies" at the following web address;

www.dft.gov.uk/mca/mcga07-home/shipsandcargoes/mcga-mcga-ensign.htm

More Information

External Monitoring and Assurance
Maritime and Coastguard Agency
Bay 1/01
Spring Place
105 Commercial Road
Southampton
SO15 1EG

Tel : +44 (0) 23 8032 9186
Fax : +44 (0) 23 8032 9388
e-mail: externalmonitoring@mcga.gov.uk

General Inquiries: infoline@mcga.gov.uk

MCA Website Address: www.dft.gov.uk/mca

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