

► This RA has been substantially re-written; for clarity no change marks are presented – please read RA in its entirety. ◀

RA 1430 - Aircraft Post Crash Management and Significant Occurrence Management

Rationale

There is a requirement for Aviation Duty Holders (ADH), Heads of Establishment (HoE) and Accountable Managers (Military Flying) (AM(MF)) to ensure that Aircraft¹ Post Crash Management (APCM) and Significant Occurrence Management is carried out following an Accident, Incident or Significant Occurrence². The management measures and procedures that are required to be in place include correct reporting, preservation of evidence, Health and Safety precaution, appropriate corporate communications, and where required, activities to restore the Accident / Incident site to a satisfactory condition. If APCM is inadequately prepared for, the handling of Accidents, Incidents and / or Significant Occurrences could be compromised, which could impact the ability of organizations to conduct Aircraft Post Crash investigations. This RA ensures ADHs, HoEs and AM(MF)s are suitably prepared for APCM. For the avoidance of doubt, APCM does not encompass activation of emergency services or Accident / Incident investigation.

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Regulation 1430(1)

Aviation Duty Holders and Heads of Establishment

1430(1) ADHs and HoEs³ **shall** ensure that there are appropriate APCM plans and capabilities in place in the event of an Air System Accident, Incident or Significant Occurrence.

Acceptable Means of Compliance 1430(1)

Aviation Duty Holders and Heads of Establishment

1. ADHs and HoEs **should** produce and maintain standalone orders and procedures to be used for APCM and Significant Occurrences which **should**:
 - a. Detail, as a minimum, the following:
 - (1) Reporting procedures.
 - (2) Health and Safety precautions.
 - (3) Actions to ensure the preservation of evidence.
 - (4) Corporate communications procedures.
 - (5) Unit APCM individual roles and responsibilities, along with resources available.
 - b. Provide specific instructions regarding the handling and procedures for the preservation and isolation of electronic and digital data post Accident, Incident or Significant Occurrence, in order that the data is not lost or compromised.
 - c. Be reviewed on the following occasions:
 - (1) At least annually.
 - (2) In the event of an Air System Accident, Incident or Significant Occurrence.
 - (3) A major change to the scope of Air System operations.
 - d. Be readily available and auditable.

¹ The term 'Aircraft' within the context of the acronym 'APCM' also refers to an Air System.

² An occurrence involving circumstances indicating that there was a high probability of an Accident and associated with the operation of an Air System. The difference between an Accident and a Significant Occurrence lies only in the result.

³ Commanding Officers of aviation capable HM and RFA ships are to be regarded as HoEs for the purposes of this Regulation.

Acceptable Means of Compliance 1430(1)

2. APCM plans **should** ensure:
 - a. The provision and availability of Suitably Qualified and Experienced Persons (SQEP) APCM Incident Officers (APCMIO) ranked OF3 and above. Exceptionally, ADHs and HoEs can authorize SQEP OF2 or WO to act as APCMIO⁴.
 - b. That appropriate capabilities to cover Air System operations exist at permanent UK operating locations, on HM and RFA ships, and overseas deployed operating locations.
 - c. MOD units and Defence Contractor Flying Organizations (DCFOs) with an APCM responsibility⁵ complete a live exercise with civil emergency service representation every 2 years, with multi-agency table-top exercises in the intervening years⁶.
 - d. That live and table-top exercises include consideration of the full response required, and for live exercises the inspection and deployment of the unit's APCM Support Equipment.
 - e. The Defence Accident Investigation Branch (DAIB)⁷ is advised of exercise dates.
 - f. Exercise reports are submitted to the DAIB detailing lessons identified and / or learnt and confirming the suitability and serviceability of APCM Support Equipment.
 - g. That in the event of unusual aerial activity (eg unit air display) or if circumstances dictate, additional APCM training or exercises are carried out.
 - h. That appropriate Eng Tech (Weapons), ATO or Qualified Maintainer (RN) personnel are rostered and that they are available to provide specialist guidance to Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) operators.

Guidance Material 1430(1)

Aviation Duty Holders and Heads of Establishment

3. Guidance on the capabilities required to conduct APCM and the content of APCM plans can be found within the MAA MAPCM. Guidance on Significant Occurrence Management can be found within the MAA MAPCM and RA 1410(1)⁸.
4. Elements of APCM activity or a full APCM response may be required in response to a Significant Occurrence or serious Incident⁹, regardless of whether or not an Air System Accident / Incident has occurred.
5. Advice on APCM training can be sought from the DAIB and details of the APCMIO Course can be found in RA 1440¹⁰ and on the MAA website¹¹.
6. Unit specific training (including familiarisation with unit APCM plans and equipment) is required biennially in addition to the APCMIO Course.

Regulation 1430(2)

Accountable Managers (Military Flying)

- 1430(2) AM(MF)s **shall** ensure that there are appropriate APCM plans and capabilities in place in the event of a UK Military Registered Air System Accident, Incident or Significant Occurrence.

⁴ Only those authorized by the ADH and HoE **should** attend the APCMIO course.

⁵ The Manual of Aircraft Post Crash Management (MAPCM) Chapter 2 Annex A details APCM responsibilities.

⁶ In the event a unit responds to an Accident, Incident or Significant Occurrence with a full APCM response (utilizing all aspects of the APCM response that would be tested in an exercise), it will be considered to have fulfilled the live ex requirement. The 2 yearly exercise requirement will reset to align with the date of the Accident, Incident or Significant Occurrence.

⁷ DSA-DAIB-Air-Mailbox@mod.gov.uk.

⁸ Refer to RA 1410(1): Occurrence Reporting and Management.

⁹ Definition of Serious Incident, ICAO Annex 13 Ch 1 Pg 1-3.

¹⁰ Refer to RA 1440 – Air Safety Training.

¹¹ www.gov.uk/maa.

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1430(2)****Accountable Managers (Military Flying)**

7. AM(MF)s **should** produce and maintain standalone documents and procedures which are to be used for APCM and Significant Occurrences which **should**:
- a. Detail as a minimum, the following:
 - (1) Actions to be carried out in the event of an Accident, Incident or Significant Occurrence involving a UK Military Registered Air System, including actions to assist military APCM activity.
 - (2) Reporting procedures.
 - (3) Health and Safety precautions.
 - (4) Actions to ensure the preservation of evidence.
 - (5) Corporate communications procedures.
 - b. Provide specific instructions regarding the handling and procedures for the preservation and isolation of electronic and digital data post Accident, Incident or Significant Occurrence, in order that the data is not lost or compromised.
 - c. Contain contact details of the relevant RAF Regional Liaison Officer (RAFRLO)¹² and details of the lead regional APCM unit.
 - d. Be reviewed on the following occasions:
 - (1) At least annually.
 - (2) In the event of an Accident, Incident or Significant Occurrence involving a UK Military Registered Air System.
 - (3) A major change to the DCFO's scope of UK Military Registered Air System operations.
 - e. Be readily available and auditable.
8. APCM plans **should** ensure:
- a. That appropriate capabilities to cover UK Military Registered Air System operations exist at permanent UK operating locations, on HM and RFA ships, and overseas deployed operating locations.
 - b. Organizations with an APCM responsibility⁵ complete a live exercise with civil emergency service representation every 2 years, with multi-agency table-top exercises in the intervening years⁶.
 - c. That live and table-top exercises include consideration of the full nature of the DCFO's scope of UK Military Registered Air System operations.
 - d. The DAIB is advised of exercise dates and exercise reports are submitted to the DAIB detailing lessons identified and / or learnt⁷.
 - e. That in the event of unusual aerial activity (eg air display) or if circumstances dictate, additional APCM training and / or exercises are carried out.
 - f. That appropriate platform-specific engineering personnel are rostered and that they are available to provide specialist guidance to EOD operators.
9. AM(MF)s **should** nominate SQEP personnel within the DCFO that will have lead responsibilities for APCM in the event of an Accident, Incident or Significant Occurrence involving a UK Military Registered Air System. Nominated personnel **should** be readily available throughout UK Military Registered Air System operations and have the APCM responsibility detailed within their post specification and responsibilities.
10. In order to facilitate APCM training and support the development of organizational APCM plans, AM(MF)s **should** apply for places on the APCMIO

¹² Contact details of the RAFRLO that covers a particular region can be obtained by contacting the following group email: Air-RAFRLOs@mod.gov.uk.

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Course for their personnel who have lead responsibilities for APCM; information on the process for applying for places on this Course can be accessed through RA 1440¹⁰ and the MAA website¹¹.

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1430(2)****Accountable Managers (Military Flying)**

11. Guidance on the capabilities required to conduct APCM and the content of APCM plans can be found within the MAA MAPCM. Guidance on Significant Occurrence Management can be found within the MAA MAPCM and RA 1410(1)⁸. AM(MF)s are encouraged to regularly engage with their RAFRLO in order to benefit from his APCM expertise and gain awareness of upcoming APCM events in their area.

12. Elements of APCM activity or a full APCM response may be required in response to a Significant Occurrence or serious Incident⁹, regardless of whether or not an Air System Accident / Incident has occurred.

13. Advice on APCM training can be sought from the DAIB and details of the APCMIO Course can be found in RA 1440¹⁰ and on the MAA website¹¹.

14. Organization specific training (including familiarisation with unit APCM plans and equipment) are required biennially in addition to the APCMIO Course.