

RA 5820 - Changes in Type Design (MRP Part 21 Subpart D)

Rationale

During the life of an Air System there will be changes in the Type Design. It is important that any such changes meet the appropriate Safety requirements to ensure the Airworthiness implications of the change are fully recognized. Such changes are subject to classification and approval prior to the implementation of the change.

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Regulation 5820(1)

Classification of Changes in Type Design (MRP Part 21.A.91)

5820(1) Any change in Type Design **shall** be classified as 'Minor' or 'Major' by the Type Airworthiness Authority (TAA) or an approved Design Organization (DO) within the scope of its privileges as recorded in its terms of approval¹.

Acceptable Means of Compliance 5820(1)

Classification of Changes in Type Design (MRP Part 21.A.91)

1. For Civilian-Owned and Civilian Operated Air Systems, the Air System Sponsor has the opportunity to split Type Airworthiness (TAW) responsibility, with regards to design changes, between the TAA and a Type Airworthiness Manager (TAM), the TAA **should** provide advice to the Sponsor on the most appropriate split of TAW design change responsibilities, noting that a TAM **should** only classify, not approve, Major Changes².
2. A Minor Change has no appreciable effect on the mass, balance, structural strength, reliability, operational characteristics, armament system or other characteristics affecting the Airworthiness of the Air System. All other changes **should** be Major Changes.
3. The classification decision and supporting justification of all changes to Type Design **should** be recorded. These records **should** be easily accessible for sample checking.
4. In case of any doubt over the classification of change, the TAA **should** seek advice from the MAA Certification Division. The MAA reserves the authority to re-classify a change if deemed appropriate to do so.

Guidance Material 5820(1)

Classification of Changes in Type Design (MRP Part 21.A.91)

5. Refer to the Manual of Military Air System Certification (MMAC)³ for related Guidance Material and other non-regulatory process.

Regulation 5820(2)

Application (MRP Part 21.A.93)

5820(2) An application for a proposed Major Change in Type Design **shall** be made by the TAA using MAA Form 30.

¹ The DO privilege is restricted to Minor Changes only. For the DO scope of privileges refer to RA 5850 – Military Design Approved Organization (MRP Part 21 Subpart J).

² Where the Air System is ►not UK MOD-owned, TAW management◄ regulatory responsibility by either the TAA or TAM needs to be agreed within the Sponsor's approved model ►◄; refer to RA 1162 – Air Safety Governance Arrangements for Civilian Operated (Development) and (In-Service) Air Systems or refer to RA 1163 – Air Safety Governance Arrangements for Special Case Flying Air Systems. Dependant on the agreed delegation of TAW responsibilities TAM may be read in place of TAA as appropriate throughout this RA.

³ Refer to MMAC Chapter 3: Changes to Type Design (MRP Part 21 Subpart D).

**Acceptable
Means of
Compliance
5820(2)**

Application (MRP Part 21.A.93)

6. The application **should** include:
- a. A description of the change, identifying:
 - (1) The configuration(s) of the Air System upon which the change is made (including the configuration of Programmable Elements (PE)).
 - (2) All areas of the Type Design, including the approved manuals, that are changed or affected by the change.
 - (3) The Certification Specifications with which the change is intended to comply in accordance with (iaw) RA 5820(5).
 - (4) Details of the aspects of the Type Design Change that are considered to be novel technology and for which existing Certification Specifications do not provide adequate standards.
 - (5) The intended standards which demonstrate compliance against any Type Design Change involving the introduction of new PE or modifications to existing PE.
 - (6) The intended standards which demonstrate compliance against any Type Design Change which is affected by Cyber Security for Airworthiness (CSA) requirements.
 - b. An explanation of which of the conditions listed in the MMAC³ has driven the classification to Major and whether this results in a Substantial, Significant or Not-Significant change.
 - c. Any reinvestigations necessary to demonstrate compliance of the change and areas affected by the change with the Type Certification Basis (TCB).
7. Where Operational Suitability Data (OSD)⁴ is available for the Air System, the application **should** include, or be supplemented after the initial application by, an assessment of the implications on the OSD resulting from military operation.
8. As the individual responsible for the Type Design of the Air System, only the TAA **should** apply for approval of a Major Change in Type Design. The TAA **should** propose, with justification⁵, whether the change will be assured by the MAA or TAA. The MAA will determine, upon review, whether MAA Certification Assurance is required or the Major Change can proceed under TAA Assurance with MAA Oversight.

**Guidance
Material
5820(2)**

Application (MRP Part 21.A.93)

9. Refer to the MMAC³ for related Guidance Material and other non-regulatory process.

**Regulation
5820(3)**

Approval of Minor Changes (MRP Part 21.A.95)

- 5820(3) Minor Changes in a Type Design **shall** be approved by the TAA or an approved DO within the scope of its privileges as recorded in its terms of approval when it has been demonstrated that the change and areas affected by the change complies with the requirements of the Military Air System Certification Process (MACP).

⁴ Refer to RA 5810(3): Application (MRP Part 21.A.15).

⁵ Refer to the GM of RA 5820(1) for advice on Assurance levels for Major Changes.

**Acceptable
Means of
Compliance
5820(3)**

Approval of Minor Changes (MRP Part 21.A.95)

10. A Minor Change to a Type Design **should** only be approved:
- When it has been demonstrated that the Type Design change and areas affected by the change comply with the Certification Specifications, as specified in RA 5820(5), through satisfactory completion of the MACP.
 - When compliance with the TCB has been declared and the justifications of compliance have been recorded in the compliance documents.
 - When any Airworthiness provisions not complied with are compensated for by controls, factors or mitigations that provide an Equivalent Level of Safety.
 - When no feature or characteristic has been identified that may make the product unsafe for the uses for which Certification is requested.
11. An approval of a Minor Change to a Type Design **should** be limited to the specific configuration(s) in the Type Design to which the change relates.
12. The DO **should** provide to the TAA the Instructions for Sustaining Type Airworthiness amendments for the Product, on which the change will be installed, prepared iaw the applicable TCB.
13. Where Operational Suitability Data is available for the Air System, the TAA **should** assess the implications on the Operational Suitability Data resulting from the change to Type Design.
14. The TAA or approved DO under privilege procedure **should** ensure that the proposed Minor Change has undergone a thorough evaluation process in line with the MACP⁶. The appropriate classification and approval of changes in Type Design will be subject to routine MAA Oversight activity.
15. When a Minor Change is approved by an approved DO under the privilege procedure¹ invoked by the TAA, the DO **should** inform the TAA to ensure that configuration control is maintained.

**Guidance
Material
5820(3)**

Approval of Minor Changes (MRP Part 21.A.95)

16. Refer to the MMAC³ for related Guidance Material and other non-regulatory process.

**Regulation
5820(4)**

Approval of Major Changes (MRP Part 21.A.97)

- 5820(4) A Major Change to a Type Design **shall** only be approved when it has been demonstrated that the change and areas affected by the change complies with the requirements of the MACP.

**Acceptable
Means of
Compliance
5820(4)**

Approval of Major Changes (MRP Part 21.A.97)

17. The TAA **should** demonstrate that the Type Design change and areas affected by the change comply with the Certification Specifications, as specified in RA 5820(5), through satisfactory completion of the MACP⁶.
18. For Major Changes where the MAA has determined that it will not carry out Certification Assurance, the TAA **should** notify the MAA when the MACP has been completed and, when applicable, a Release To Service Recommendation has been submitted. These changes in Type Design will be subject to routine MAA Oversight activity.

Impact on the Air System Safety Case (ASSC)

19. The TAA **should** inform the relevant Aviation Duty Holder / Accountable Manager (Military Flying) of the Major Changes to enable a review of the Air System Safety Case⁷.

⁶ Refer to RA 5810 – Military Type Certificate (MRP Part 21 Subpart B).

⁷ Refer to RA 1205(2): Ownership of the Air System Safety Case.

**Guidance
Material
5820(4)**

Approval of Major Changes (MRP Part 21.A.97)

20. Refer to the MMAC³ for related Guidance Material and other non-regulatory process.

**Regulation
5820(5)**

Designation of Applicable Certification Specifications for Airworthiness (MRP Part 21.A.101)

5820(5) The TAA **shall** ensure that the application for the change in Type Design complies with the Certification Specifications applicable to the changed product on the date of application for the change, unless: Certification Specifications of later amendments are chosen, or Certification Specifications of earlier amendments are agreed under the Changed Product Rule (CPR).

**Acceptable
Means of
Compliance
5820(5)**

Designation of Applicable Certification Specifications for Airworthiness (MRP Part 21.A.101)

CPR

21. Whilst a change to Type Design **should** comply with Certification Specifications applicable on the date of application, the TAA can comply with requirements from an earlier amendment of the Certification Specifications when one of the following applies:

- a. A change is Minor⁸.
- b. A change is Not Significant⁹.
- c. An area, System, Part or Appliance is not affected by the change.
- d. Compliance with the latest amendment for a Significant change does not contribute materially to the level of Safety.
- e. Compliance with the latest amendment would be impractical.

22. If the TAA chooses to use requirements from an earlier amendment of the Certification Specifications, they **should** show that the changed product complies with these requirements and any other requirement the MAA finds is directly related. However, the earlier amended Certification Specifications **should** be no earlier than the corresponding Certification Specifications of the original Type Design.

23. If the TAA elects to comply with requirements that are derived from an amendment to the Certification Specifications that is effective after the filing of the application for a change to a Type, the TAA **should** also comply with any other requirements that the MAA finds are directly related.

24. If the MAA finds that the Certification Specifications referenced in the TCB do not provide adequate standards with respect to the proposed change, the TAA **should** also comply with any special conditions, and amendments to those special conditions, prescribed under the provisions of RA 5810⁴, in order to provide a level of Safety equivalent to that established in the Certification Specifications in effect at the date of the application for the change.

**Guidance
Material
5820(5)**

Designation of Applicable Certification Specifications for Airworthiness (MRP Part 21.A.101)

25. Refer to the MMAC³ for related Guidance Material and other non-regulatory process.

⁸ Refer to RA 5820(1) paragraph 2.

⁹ A change is considered Not Significant if it is neither Significant nor Substantial.

**Regulation
5820(6)****Record Keeping (MRP Part 21.A.105)**

5820(6) The TAA **shall** ensure that all documents supporting Certification of changes are retained and are available to the MAA in order to provide an audit trail of evidence supporting Air Safety decision making.

**Acceptable
Means of
Compliance
5820(6)****Record Keeping (MRP Part 21.A.105)**

26. Record keeping procedures **should** be iaw RA 5810(16)¹⁰.

**Guidance
Material
5820(6)****Record Keeping (MRP Part 21.A.105)**

27. Record keeping procedures will be iaw RA 5810(16).

¹⁰ Refer to RA 5810(16): Record Keeping (MRP Part 21.A.105).

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