

► This RA has been substantially rewritten; for clarity, no change marks are presented – please read RA in its entirety ◀

RA 2102 – Aircrew Competence in Role

Rationale

Some Aircrew roles require additional training to operate their Air System safely in its role (other than skills and knowledge defined by initial Aircrew qualifications / Certificates of Qualification on Type (CQT)¹). Risk to Life is increased if such training and resultant Competencies are not defined and assessed. This Regulatory Article requires Aviation Duty Holders (ADH) and Accountable Managers (Military Flying) (AM(MF)) to ensure Aircrew are periodically assessed, including (where necessary) in their ability to operate the Air System safely in its role.

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Regulation

2102(1)

Certificate of Competence

2102(1) Aircrew **shall** possess a Certificate of Competence (CofC)² to operate UK military Air Systems in role.

Acceptable Means of Compliance

2102(1)

Certificate of Competence

1. ADH / AM(MF) **should** define in orders the criteria for the award of a CofC to reflect Aircrew ability to operate an Air System safely in role.
2. A CofC **should** be cancelled by the ADH / AM(MF) or delegated authority, if there is evidence that the Aircrew individual is no longer competent to hold the CofC.
3. Award or cancellation of a CofC **should** be documented in a Flying Logbook or auditable record.

Guidance Material

2102(1)

Certificate of Competence

4. ADH / AM(MF) may consider additional criteria beyond Safety of flight (such as using weapon systems). Award and retention of a CofC is at the discretion of ADH / AM(MF), even when published criteria are met.
5. Various CofC may be awarded for the same Air System, to reflect various levels of qualification (for example, 'Limited Combat Ready' or 'Combat Ready').

Regulation

2102(2)

Periodic Assessment of Competence

2102(2) Aircrew Competence **shall** be periodically assessed.

Acceptable Means of Compliance

2102(2)

Periodic Assessment of Competence

6. ADH / AM(MF) **should** define in orders criteria for Aircrew periodic assessment.
7. Aircrew Competence **should** be assessed at least annually. ADH / AM(MF) **should** stipulate in orders how and by whom the assessment will be conducted.
8. In addition to an annual assessment, ADH / AM(MF) **should** ensure that Aircrew Competence is assessed by an independent expert body. The ADH / AM(MF) **should** stipulate in orders the periodicity of independent Aircrew assessments.
9. Evidence of assessments of Competence **should** be documented in the Aircrew member's training record.

¹ Refer to RA 2101 – Aircrew Qualifications.

² Refer to MAA 02 – MAA Master Glossary.

**Guidance
Material
2102(2)****Periodic Assessment of Competence**

10. Annual (or interim) assessments of Competence may be conducted as defined by an ADH / AM(MF). This would normally comprise a practical assessment and theoretical knowledge check. It may also include an assessment of flying experience (including currency and continuation training³) since the last assessment of Competence.

11. An independent expert body needs to be sufficiently independent such that it is not unduly influenced by commercial, operational, peer or rank / status pressures. For example, Central Flying School (CFS) Exam Wing, CFS Agents, Air and Space Warfare Centre or UK Civil Aviation Authority / European Union Aviation Safety Agency Approved Training Organisations may be utilized.

³ Refer to RA 2103 – Currency and Continuation Training.