



26 August 2025

## **MAA/RI/2025/03 – Amendment to Regulatory Articles (RA) 2330(3): Low Flying – General; and RA 2335(3): Separation Distances, Minima and Restrictions**

### **References:**

- A. RA 2330 – Low Flying
- B. RA 2335 – Flying Displays, Display Flying, Display Parachuting, Role Demonstrations and Flypasts

### **Issue**

Recent feedback from the Regulated Community (RC) has identified the need to clarify the regulatory intent and means of compliance with respect to Flypasts over Congested Areas. Updates to individual Regulatory Articles will follow in due course; this RI allows immediate implementation of updated regulation.

### **Scope**

Regulatory requirements in respect of Flypasts over Congested Areas.

### **Aim**

This Regulatory Instruction (RI) is relevant to all operators in the Defence Air Environment (DAE).

### **Implementation**

This RI is effective immediately.

### **Background**

Flypasts are essential Defence Engagement activities for operators in the DAE and are scrutinised in both necessity and planned execution prior to being undertaken. They contain a level of societal concern that attracts additional processes to reach an As Low As Reasonably Practicable (ALARP) and Tolerable position. Feedback from the DAE has indicated that current Regulation in both RA 2330 and RA 2335 is open to individual interpretation, and by means of amendment there is a need to clarify both the intent and the method of regulatory compliance.

The amendments contained in this RI will retain the ability of the RC to conduct this essential activity, whilst also maintaining the ability of the MAA to conduct independent Assurance oversight.



## Corrective Action

RA 2330(3) AMC is amended as follows:

### Low Flying - General

25. **Low Flying over<sup>16</sup> Congested Areas or Public Assemblies<sup>17</sup> (excluding Flypasts over ► Congested Areas or ◀ Public Assemblies conducted iaw RA 2335<sup>18</sup>).** The minimum Height for Aircraft flying over Congested Areas of cities, towns and settlements<sup>19</sup> or Public Assemblies (excluding Flypasts over ► Congested Areas or ◀ Public Assemblies conducted iaw RA 2335) **should** be 2000 ft AGL (1000 ft AGL in the case of Light FW Aircraft and RW Aircraft). Furthermore, if required, this Height **should** be increased to permit a safe emergency landing or safe abandonment outside the Congested Area in the event of a power unit failure.

RA 2330 Footnote 18 is amended as follows:

<sup>18</sup> Refer to RA 2335 – Flying Displays, Display Flying, Display Parachuting, Role Demonstrations and Flypasts, Issue 13, para ►97 and◀ 108

RA 2335(3) AMC is amended as follows:

### Separation Distances, Minima and Restrictions

#### General

97. **Congested Areas and Public Assemblies<sup>31</sup>.** Display Flying, Practices, Role Demonstrations or Flypasts over Congested Areas and Public Assemblies **should** be conducted iaw the Height limits in RA 2330<sup>29</sup> and the UKMLFH. If Display Flying, Role Demonstration or Flypast over the Congested Area or Public Assembly at Heights below those minima specified in RA 2330<sup>29</sup> is considered appropriate, the ADH / AM(MF) is to conduct a Risk Assessment considering Spectators, Secondary Spectators and third parties, and **should** ensure the Participant's flight over the Congested Area or Public Assembly is ALARP and Tolerable. This **should** be recorded formally in the appropriate Risk Assessment. In addition:

- a. For Flypasts tasked over ► Congested Areas or ◀ Public Assemblies, ► at any other event (not as part of an Air Display) ◀ para 97 sub-para b to d do not apply; refer to para 108.
- b. **Military Regulated Events.** The HoE **should** seek a Waiver iaw MAA03<sup>21</sup> for Display Participants flying over the Congested Area or Public Assembly<sup>31</sup> at Heights less than those stipulated in RA 2330<sup>29</sup> para 25. Flight over the Congested Area or Public Assembly may be part of a Display Sequence, positioning for a Display Sequence, transition to the Display Area, conducting a Display Practice or conducting a Validation.
- c. **Civilian Regulated Events.** UK and foreign military Aircraft participating at a UK CAA regulated event are military regulated and **should** operate to the most restrictive of RA 2335 or CAP403. For flight over Congested Areas and Public Assemblies<sup>31</sup> RA 2335 is the most restrictive Regulation and Waivers **should** be sought as follows:

(1) **UK Military Participants.** In lieu of an HoE the ADH / AM(MF) **should** seek a Waiver iaw MAA03<sup>21</sup> for UK Display Participants flying over the Congested Area or Public Assembly<sup>31</sup> at Heights less than those stipulated in RA 2330<sup>29</sup> para 25. This



Waiver is required when conducting a Display Sequence, positioning for a Display Sequence, transition to the Display Area or conducting a Display Practice.

(2) **Foreign Military Display Participants.** Foreign military display participants do not operate under an ADH construct but are approved by the MAA. For flight over Congested Areas and Public Assemblies<sup>31</sup> at Heights less than those stipulated in RA 2330<sup>29</sup> para 25 the FDD **should** seek a Waiver iaw MAA03<sup>21</sup>. This Waiver is required when conducting a Display Sequence, positioning for a Display Sequence, transition to the Display Area, conducting a Display Practice or conducting a Validation.

d. **Events over Civilian Occupied Property involving only Military Display Items.** Where an event is held over civilian property involving only military Display Items the UK CAA will not issue an Article 86 Permission and the event will be military regulated. If the event is an Air Display the FDD **should** confirm that the ADH has conducted a Risk Assessment and obtained a Waiver iaw MAA03<sup>21</sup> for flight over the Congested Area or Public Assembly<sup>31</sup> at Heights less than those stipulated in RA 2330<sup>29</sup> para 25. If the event is a Role Demonstration ►◄ then the ADH, in addition to conducting their Risk Assessment, **should** obtain a Waiver for flight over the Congested Area or Public Assembly iaw MAA03<sup>21</sup>.

## Separation Distances, Minima and Restrictions

### Role Demonstrations and Flypasts

108. **Flypasts over ► Congested Areas or ◄ a Public Assembly<sup>31</sup>.** For Flypasts at any other event over ► Congested Areas or ◄ Public Assemblies at Heights lower than those specified in RA 2330<sup>29</sup> para 25, ADH / AM(MF) **should**:

- Conduct a Risk Assessment considering Spectators, Secondary Spectators and third parties, and satisfy themselves that the Risk associated with the Flypast is ALARP and Tolerable.
- Formally record and maintain an auditable record of this Risk Assessment.
- Notify the MAA via email to [DSA-MAA-Display@mod.gov.uk](mailto:DSA-MAA-Display@mod.gov.uk) with details of the Flypast at the earliest opportunity prior to the activity. ◄

## Validity

This RI will remain valid until the above amendments are incorporated into RA 2330 and RA 2335.

## Queries

Any observations or requests for further guidance on the content of this RI should be submitted by email to [DSA-MAA-MRPEnquiries@mod.gov.uk](mailto:DSA-MAA-MRPEnquiries@mod.gov.uk)

DSA-MAA-OpAssure-Hd



## **Copyright**

This document is protected by Crown copyright and the intellectual property rights of this publication belong exclusively to the Ministry of Defence.

## **Uncontrolled Copies**

All hard copies of this document are to be regarded as uncontrolled copies. To check the latest amendment status, reference should be made to current documents which may be viewed on GOV.UK or on the Defence Intranet.