
IRELAND

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AIC

Nr 08/14 29 May

EU Regulation 1079/2012

Voice channels spacing for the Single European Sky

1. Introduction

The purpose of this AIC is to provide guidance and/or awareness to stakeholders on the implementation of the 8.33 kHz channel spacing below FL 195 in the ICAO EUR Region.

Recipients are asked to ensure that this AIC is made available to all staff members who may have an interest in this information.

2. Applicability

This AIC is applicable to aerodrome licence holders, general aviation pilots, AOC holders and ANSP's.

3. Scope

3.1 EU Regulation 1079/2012 (as amended by EU Reg. 657/2013) applies to the following:

- All radios operating in the 118-137 MHz band ('the VHF band') allocated to the aeronautical mobile route service, including systems, their constituents and associated procedures;
- Flight data processing systems serving air traffic control units providing services to general air traffic, their constituents and associated procedures;
- All flights operating as general air traffic, within the airspace of the International Civil Aviation Organisation ('ICAO') EUR Region where Member States are responsible for the provision of air traffic services.

3.2 The conversion requirements do not apply to frequency assignments:

- a) that will remain in 25 kHz channel spacing on the following frequencies:
 - (i) the emergency frequency (121.5 MHz);

- (ii) the auxiliary frequency for search and rescue operations (123.1 MHz);
 - (iii) the VHF digital link (VDL) frequencies (136.725 MHz, 136.775 MHz, 136.825 MHz, 136.875 MHz, 136.925 MHz and 136.975 MHz);
 - (iv) the aircraft communications addressing and reporting system (ACARS) frequencies (131.525 MHz, 131.725 MHz and 131.825 MHz);
 - b) where offset carrier operation within a 25 kHz channel spacing is utilised.
- 3.3 Radios intended to operate exclusively in one or more frequency assignments that will remain in 25 kHz channel spacing will not be required to have the 8.33 kHz channel spacing capability.
- 3.4 Exemptions to particular requirements of the regulation are addressed in Article 14 of the Regulation.

4. Key Requirements of the Regulation.

This AIC does not fully reproduce the content of the EU Regulation 1079/2012, which contains detailed requirements for interoperability and performance, and places obligations on a wide range of organisations, including radio manufacturers, air navigation service providers and operators, including General Aviation aircraft owners and pilots. However, some key requirements of the Regulation are as follows:

- From the 17th of November 2013 all radios placed on the market must have 8.33 kHz capability as well as 25 kHz capability;
- From the 17th of November 2013 all radios put into service or upgraded must have 8.33 kHz capability as well as 25 kHz capability;
- From the 1st of January 2014 all aircraft flying under IFR in Class A, B or C airspace must have 8.33 kHz capability as well as 25 kHz capability;
- From the 1st of January 2015 all Operations Control (OPC) frequency assignments must be 8.33 kHz channel spacing assignments;
- From the 1st of January 2018 all aircraft radios must have 8.33 kHz capability as well as 25 kHz capability; and
- From the 31st of December 2018 at the latest all frequency assignments must be converted to 8.33 kHz channel spacing.

EU Regulation 1079/2012 can be accessed via the following link:

5. Further Information

- 5.1 Any queries or requests for further guidance required as a result of this AIC should be addressed to:

Aeronautical Services Department
Safety Regulation Division
Irish Aviation Authority
The Times Building
11–12 D'Olier Street
Dublin 2.
Email: ansdinfo@iaa.ie

- 5.2 An overview of the status of 8.33 kHz channel spacing above FL195 as well as information on the on-going initiative to apply 8.33 kHz channel spacing below FL195 is available at the following Eurocontrol Website:

<http://www.eurocontrol.int/articles/833-khz>

6. Cancellation

- 6.1 This Aeronautical Information Notice shall remain in force until 31 December 2018.