

Safety Recommendation Number:	IRLD2021040
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Safety Recommendation Status:	Implemented, closed

Safety Recommendation:

EASA should carry out a safety promotion exercise, in parallel with the development of certification specifications for human factors in the design of rotorcraft cockpits, to provide operators of in-service helicopters with a best practice guide to mitigate the risks associated with human factors and pilot workload issues.

Response:

On 03 February 2022, EASA provided the following response to this Safety Recommendation:

"The European Plan for Aviation Safety (EPAS) 2021-2025 includes Safety Promotion Task SPT.0093 on the development of new safety promotion material on high-profile helicopter safety issues. In the context of this task human factors and pilot workload are addressed. The work is split into 3 areas:

-Being Ready: Specifically how a pilot should prepare in terms of skills, human factors knowledge and personal readiness.

-Transition to Operations: Being mentally ready for flight, visualising the mission ahead and the key decisions/ human factors aspects that a pilot might encounter.

-Operating Safely: Preventing different types of accident through good decision making and the application of human factors principles in different operational flight scenarios.

This work is carried out in a collaborative approach both at European Level through the European Safety Promotion Network – Rotorcraft as well as at global level in the Vertical Aviation Safety Team. The key goal is to address the relevant human factors topics in their different operational contexts.

In parallel, it is worth highlighting that the European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) has also launched Rulemaking Tasks RMT.0713 ("Human Factors in rotorcraft design") and RMT.0724 ("Improvement of operating information in Rotorcraft Flight Manuals"), showing the clear objective of addressing the intent of this Safety Recommendation from a wider design and operational perspective, in addition to the promotion of good safety practices as per the Safety Promotion Task SPT.0093 ("Development of new safety promotion material on high-profile helicopter issues").

RMT.0713 was completed on 16 June 2021 with the publication of the amendments of CS-27 and CS-29 (Executive Director Decision 2021/010/R) that introduce specific requirements (i.e. Certification Specifications CS 27/29.1302) to ensure that human

factors are systematically taken into account during the design and certification process of rotorcraft cockpits.

<https://www.easa.europa.eu/document-library/agency-decisions/ed-decision-2021010r>

RMT.0724 started on 12 March 2021 with the publication of its Terms of Reference.

<https://www.easa.europa.eu/document-library/terms-of-reference-and-group-compositions/tor-rmt0724>"

AAIU Comment:

The AAIU notes EASA's response of 03 February 2022.

The AAIU considers the status of this Safety Recommendation to be 'Implemented-Closed'.