

Safety Recommendation Number:	IRLD2021042
AAIU Event Reference:	IRL00917016
AAIU Report Number:	2021-008
Date of Publication of Safety Recommendation:	5 November 2021
Safety Recommendation Status:	In process of implementation

Safety Recommendation:

CHCI should ensure that it has in place a Fatigue Risk Management System based on scientific principles, which takes advantage of modern techniques such as bio-mathematical analysis of roster patterns, is known to all its crew members, and that it encourages the reporting of fatigue related issues.

Response:

On 01 February 2022, and in subsequent engagement with the AAIU, the Operator provided the following response to this Safety Recommendation:

"An FRM manager has been appointed and internal FRMS instructors have been trained by a specialist provider.

FRM training continues to be undertaken which ensures that the principles and details of the system are known to all its crew members; this training also encourages the reporting of fatigue related issues which continues to be available via SQID.

As part of the project to introduce the FRMS, the Operator has engaged with an experienced 3rd party FRMS specialist who has undertaken bio-mathematical analysis of the roster, has chaired a number of Focus Groups and undertaken initial surveys with the operational crews. The output from this work is being used with work commenced with the IAA to assess whether a revised FTL is needed. This is a medium term project with an expected nine month timeframe bringing it to a conclusion in Dec 2022."

On 12 January 2023, the Operator provided the following update to the AAIU:

"As part of the FRMS project to introduce an FRMS program into CHCI, a comprehensive sleep study was conducted in Aug/Sept 2022. The purpose of this sleep study was to use scientific methods to measure sleep, sleep quality and fatigue using established sleep study methodology.

This Sleep study report was analysed in consultation with CHCI's 3rd party FRMS Specialists. This report and corresponding Safety Case were submitted to the IAA for review.

CHCI's FRMS manual is in the final stages of development following the result of this sleep study, expected completion of FRMS Manual by March 2023.

CHCI have introduced a new FRM training program in 2022 which actively encourages the reporting of fatigue related issues."

On 31 March 2023, the Operator provided the following update to the AAIU:

"CHCI are in the process of implementing an FRMS in consultation with the IAA. CHCI submitted an FRMS Manual and corresponding Safety Case in January 2023. CHCI are continuing to work with IAA to introduce FRMS Safely."

AAIU Comment:

The AAIU Notes the Operator's response of 01 February 2022.

The AAIU notes that, in relation to the Safety Recommendations made to the Operator, the IAA informed the Oireachtas Joint Committee on Transport and Communications that 'the IAA will track these recommendations and ensure that they are appropriately implemented.'

The AAIU also notes the IAA response to the related Safety Recommendation IRLD2021043.

The AAIU Notes the Operator's response of 12 January 2023.

The AAIU awaits further updates on the ongoing work which the Operator anticipates completing in March 2023.

The AAIU Notes the Operator's response of 31 March 2023.

The AAIU awaits further updates from the Operator on this ongoing work.

The AAIU considers the status of this Safety Recommendation to be 'In Process of Implementation'.