



Terms of reference

for a rulemaking task

Maintaining the Certification Specifications for airborne communications, navigation and surveillance (CS-ACNS)

RMT.0519 — ISSUE 2 — 12.9.2016

Applicability		Process map	
Affected regulations and decisions:	ED Decision 2013/031/R (CS-ACNS)	Concept paper:	No
Affected stakeholders:	Aircraft operators; equipment manufacturers/design organisation approval (DOA); competent authorities	Rulemaking group:	No
Driver/origin:	Efficiency/proportionality	RIA type:	TBD
Reference:	N/A	Technical consultation during NPA drafting:	TBD
		Publication date of the NPA:	PBN: 2016/Q4, for others as needed.
		Duration of NPA consultation:	TBD
		Review group:	No
		Focused consultation:	TBD
		Publication date of the opinion:	N/A
		Publication date of the decision:	PBN: 2017/Q4, for others as needed.



1. Issue and reasoning for regulatory change

The European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) is facing a growing number of subjects that qualify as amendments to the Certification Specifications (CS), and especially to the CS and Acceptable Means of Compliance (AMC) for Airborne Communications, Navigation and Surveillance (CS-ACNS), primarily in support of the air traffic management (ATM) operations. Such subjects vary in nature and complexity. Some of them may be directly driven by safety issues, while others may be driven by other factors such as new technologies not yet addressed in the CS.

In order to increase efficiency in updating the subject CS-ACNS, subjects that are considered non-complex, non-controversial, and mature will be grouped together and a notice of proposed amendment (NPA) will be issued, subsequently leading to Executive Director (ED) decisions. This approach will decrease the administrative burden following the concept introduced in the revised EASA Management Board Decision No 18-2015 of 15 December 2015¹ (see Article 3.5. on 'systematic tasks'). As detailed in the same decision, to further increase the efficiency of the rulemaking process, in certain cases the NPA public consultation may be replaced by a focused consultation, or direct publication of the amendments to CS-ACNS may be chosen as long as the draft decision undergoes a consultation by the Advisory Bodies.

Furthermore, on a regular basis, EASA will review the availability of such eligible subjects and will issue NPAs proposing amendments to CS-ACNS.

Note: Issue 1 of these Terms of Reference (ToR) (RMT.0519 & RMT.0520) focused on performance-based navigation (PBN)-related changes, to support global PBN operations. As already reflected in RMP 2016-2020², RMT.0519 now focuses on capturing various changes to CS-ACNS, including the PBN-related changes previously envisioned by Issue 1 of these ToR. As such, at Issue 2, these ToR reflect the scope change. Examples of other changes affecting CS-ACNS and within the scope of RMT.0519, are provided in RMP 2016-2020.

2. Objectives

This rulemaking task is intended to regularly amend CS-ACNS in order to reflect the state of the art and best practices. It will, therefore, propose amendments to CS-ACNS based on the selection of non-complex, non-controversial, and mature subjects. The ultimate goal is to increase efficiency/proportionality, safety, and to ensure a level playing field.

Because of the generic nature of this rulemaking task, these ToR remain open and have no end date. Each individual NPA will, however, provide the specific planning and publication dates of the ED decisions to be issued.

3. Activities

On a regular basis:

- select subjects meeting the criteria of the objectives above;

¹ [Management Board Decision No 18-2015 of 15 December 2015 replacing Decision 01/2012 concerning the procedure to be applied by the Agency for the issuing of opinions, certification specifications, acceptable means of compliance and guidance material \('Rulemaking Procedure'\).](#)

² [Rulemaking Programme 2016-2020](#)



- whenever enough subjects are available, publish an NPA proposing amendments to CS-ACNS;
- prepare a comment-response document (CRD); and
- publish the CRD together with the ED decision amending CS-ACNS.

4. Deliverables

- an NPA describing the subjects selected and proposing amendments to CS-ACNS;
- a CRD to the above-mentioned NPA; and
- an ED decision amending CS-ACNS.

5. Annex I: Reference documents

5.1. Affected regulations

N/A

5.2. Affected decisions

Decision 2013/031/R of the Executive Director of the Agency of 17 December 2013 adopting Certification Specifications for Airborne Communications, Navigation and Surveillance (CS-ACNS)

5.3. Reference documents

N/A

