Defence Aviation Safety Regulation (DASR)

Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) does not require UAS to operate within a fixed category from acquisition. Rather, any UAS that meets all the requirements of a given category may be operated in that category under command/group authorisation.

There are three categories of UAS operations under DASR UAS:

- **Certified category**
  - Intended for UAS operations where the UAS operator expects to operate in all airspaces and over all populous areas. Consequently robust initial, continuing and operational airworthiness regulation and Authority oversight is required to manage the safety risk to other parties. Authority approvals for initial and continuing airworthiness and operations are analogous to manned aircraft.

- **Specific category**
  - Intended for UAS operations where the UAS is not certified to robust airworthiness standards. Consequently, increased operational constraints and risk assessment provide justification for safe operation. UAS may operate either:
    - under an Authority-issued UAS Operating Permit, or
    - in accordance with an Authority-published Standard Scenario, without a discrete Authority approval.

- **Open category**
  - Intended for Unmanned Aircraft (UA) weighing less than 25 kg, and UAS operations within Authority-defined Standard Operating Conditions. UAS operations may proceed without a discrete Authority approval, under command/group authorisation.

**Risk controls for UAS operations**

Advisory Circular 001/2018 — Risk Controls for UAS Operations was released on 23 March 2018 to assist UAS Operating Permit applicants and command/group members who are responsible for authorising Defence UAS operations. The Advisory Circular explains their responsibilities under the Commonwealth Work Health and Safety (WHS) Act 2011 legislation in eliminating or otherwise minimising risks to health and safety so far as is reasonably practicable. Advisory Circular 001/2018 provides:

- a tool for identifying where risk controls might contribute to managing hazards presented by a particular UAS in a particular operating environment
- a non-exhaustive list of candidate risk controls.

A self-paced awareness module on UAS Regulation is available from the DASA website.