CHANGES TO AIRWORTHINESS REGULATIONS

Defence Aviation Safety Regulations will be introduced from December 2016 to replace the Military, Operational and Technical Airworthiness Regulations. This will align Australian military aviation with an emerging convention for aviation safety already used extensively throughout Europe. Australian Defence Force aircraft have been kept safe for around twenty years, by adhering to a unique set of airworthiness regulations. This approach has been successful in terms of safety, but as times change it has become increasingly clear that there are better ways to regulate aviation safety. The Directorate General Technical Airworthiness (DGTA) – ADF and the Airworthiness Co-ordination and Policy Agency have investigated options, and are now moving to bring Australian military aviation into alignment with a regulation suite for aviation safety used by around 30 other nations. The suite includes airworthiness regulations that have already been militarised by the European Defence Agency.

WGCDR Jason Dean from DGTA-ADF explains:

‘Adopting regulations that are already used by other nations and their militaries allows the ADF to align with contemporary practice, simplify interoperability and reduce cost.

‘The regulations will use terminology that is familiar throughout Europe and an increasing number of other countries.’ WGCDR Dean went on to say that he believes the change is timely:

‘As a standalone set of regulations, our current system is embedded in a framework that has become difficult to maintain, update, contemporise and defend in a court of law.

‘The European model meets our needs and offers great scope for interoperability and cost savings’, he said.

An in depth assessment process revealed many benefits including enhanced interoperability, cost effectiveness, easier amendments, and a stronger legal basis. Defence Aviation Safety Regulations (DASR) will provide a better, more user friendly system, and will enhance opportunities for greater clarity in organisational responsibilities and accountability for key roles.

TECHO HUMOR

⇒ Two hydrogen atoms meet. One says, 'I've lost my electron.' The other says 'Are you sure?' The first replies, 'Yes, I'm positive'.