



An Coimisiún um
Rialáil Cumarsáide
Commission for
Communications Regulation

Aircraft Station Guidelines

General Document

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Content

Section	Page
1 Introduction.....	4
2 Statutory Regulations	5
3 General Information	6
4 Licence Information.....	7
4.1 The Licensee.....	7
4.2 The Licence.....	7
4.3 Licence Duration	7
4.4 Licence Fees Payable.....	8
4.5 Amendments to a Licence.....	8
4.6 Transfer of a Licence	8
4.7 Cancellation of a Licence	9
4.8 Revocation of a Licence.....	9
5 Applying for a Licence	10
5.1 Aircraft Approvals.....	10
5.2 Description and Characteristics of Apparatus	11

1 Introduction

1. The licensing of radio equipment on-board Irish aircraft is governed by the Wireless Telegraphy (Aircraft Station Licence) Regulations, Statutory Instrument No. 193 of 2009 (“the Regulations”). The Regulations detail, amongst other things, the terms and conditions under which a licence is granted.
2. The Commission for Communications (ComReg) administers the issue of licences for radio equipment on-board Irish aircraft (“Aircraft Station”) under the Regulations. In doing so, ComReg liaises closely with the Irish Aviation Authority (IAA) which has overall responsibility for regulation of the aviation industry in Ireland.
3. This document sets out ComReg’s guidelines for persons wishing to apply for an Aircraft Station licence (“the Guidelines”).
4. ComReg encourages all potential applicants to read the Guidelines carefully if they are considering submitting an application.

Any queries regarding these guidelines or the licensing process can be directed to ComReg’s Licensing Operations Team:

Telephone: + 353 (0)1 804 9600
E-mail: licensing@comreg.ie

2 Statutory Regulations

5. A Wireless Telegraphy licence is required under section 3 of the Wireless Telegraphy Act 1926 to keep and operate apparatus for wireless telegraphy.
6. The specific regulation governing the issue of licences for Aircraft Stations is the Wireless Telegraphy (Aircraft Station Licence) Regulations, Statutory Instrument No 193 of 2009 which is contained on our website at www.comreg.ie/_fileupload/publications/SI193of2009.pdf - 2009-05-25
7. Applicants should be aware that any Aircraft Station Licence granted by ComReg is for the keeping and operation of apparatus for wireless telegraphy specified in the licence only. An Aircraft Station Licence does not absolve the licensee from complying with any other statutory obligations (e.g. airworthiness requirements)

3 General Information

8. An Aircraft Station Licence is required for the possession and operation of radio equipment on-board Irish aircraft. The term “Irish Aircraft” is defined in the Regulations and incorporates all types of aircraft, including balloons and gliders.
9. An Aircraft Station Licence is an international document which must be kept current at all times and any discrepancies in the document will render the Licence invalid.
10. As previously stated, regulation of the aviation industry in Ireland is the responsibility of the Irish Aviation Authority (IAA). In this regard, the IAA should be contacted directly in relation to such matters as aircraft registration, aircraft inspections and radio operator qualification. For further details please see the IAA website at www.iaa.ie
11. Details of the licence conditions attached to an Aircraft Station Licence are contained in Regulation 7 of the Regulations. Applicants are advised to familiarise themselves with these conditions as non-compliance with any of these conditions will render the Licensee liable to enforcement action by ComReg.

4 Licence Information

12. In accordance with Irish and International Obligations, all aircraft fitted with a radio must have an aircraft radio licence.
13. ComReg is subject to Irish and EU rules on the treatment and handling of confidential information, is a 'Public Body' for the purpose of the Freedom of Information Act 1997, and is bound by this Act in relation to the release of information.
14. Any personal information provided to ComReg will be treated in accordance with the Data Protection Acts, 1988 & 2003.

4.1 The Licensee

15. A Licensee must be the Registered Owner of the aircraft and be a legal entity i.e. an individual or a registered company.

4.2 The Licence

16. An Aircraft Station Licence does not confer any right of ownership of the frequency spectrum. It allows for the possession and use of Wireless Telegraphy equipment in accordance with the conditions of the Aircraft Station Licence.

4.3 Licence Duration

17. Aircraft Station Licences are issued for the lifetime of the aircraft specified in the licence.
18. It is the responsibility of the Licensee to ensure that their Licence details with ComReg remain valid and updated and, in this regard, Licensees are required to confirm to ComReg, via the eLicensing website, each and every 5 years that their licence details are still correct. Failure to do so may result in suspension or revocation of the licence.

4.4 Licence Fees Payable

19. The grant of an Aircraft Station Licence is subject to payment of the following prescribed fees: (licence fees must be paid at the time of submitting an application online).

- New Licence: €100
- Amendment or Transfer: €30

4.5 Amendments to a Licence

20. A licence amendment occurs when the details on the licence document are no longer correct and therefore need to be updated. For example, but not limited to, when:

- the radio equipment on-board the aircraft has been altered; and / or
- any other details indicated on the licence documentation requires amendment.

21. Under the Regulations, it is the responsibility of the Licensee to inform ComReg of any licence amendments as soon as they occur but in all circumstances no later than 28 days later. Failure to do so may result in suspension or revocation of the licence.

4.6 Transfer of a Licence

22. A Licensee may request that an Aircraft Station Licence be transferred to another party by logging on to elicensing.comreg.ie

- Make the relevant Aircraft Station Licence available to the aircraft purchaser within the eLicensing website.
- Enter the ComReg account code of the new owner
- For the execution of the transfer to be completed:
- The new owner must accept the Aircraft Station Licence by applying for the Aircraft Station Licence in the eLicensing website.
- The aircraft purchaser will need to be in possession of the ComReg account code of the aircraft vendor.

- Please ensure that you are in possession of the correct Account Codes as ComReg accepts no responsibility for any errors in licence transfers resulting from input of incorrect details.
- Transfer Offers Expire 7 days from the date specified if not executed. In this event the current Licensee remains responsible for the Aircraft Station licence in question.

4.7 Cancellation of a Licence

23. An Aircraft Station Licence should generally only be cancelled if an aircraft is being decommissioned or removed from the Irish Register.

24. An Aircraft Station Licence may be cancelled at the written request of the Licensee. However, there is no entitlement to any refund of Licence fees in the event of cancellation. Following cancellation, the licence documentation should be securely destroyed and removed from records as appropriate.

4.8 Revocation of a Licence

25. ComReg may suspend or revoke a licence where there is serious or repeated non-compliance by the Licensee with the conditions of the Aircraft Station Licence.

26. Wireless Telegraphy licence is required under section 3 of the Wireless Telegraphy Act

5 Applying for a Licence

27. All applications for new or amended Aircraft Station Licences or Transfer of Ownership must be made using the eLicensing website.

<https://www.elicensing.comreg.ie/>

5.1 . Aircraft Approvals

For Annex I Aircraft¹

28. ComReg requires the Registered Owner to submit their EASA Type Certification reference number as part of their application

For Annex II Aircraft ²

29. ComReg requires the Registered Owner to submit their Permit to Fly reference number as granted by the appropriate organisation, listed below.

- Irish Aviation Authority
- Irish Light Aviation Society
- National Microlight Association of Ireland, (NMAI)
- The Hibernia Autogyro Club

¹ Are aircraft that have been type certificated and qualify for the issue of a Certificate of Airworthiness

² Are aircraft that do not qualify for the issue of a Certificate of Airworthiness. EU Regulation 216/08 states it would not be appropriate to subject all aircraft to EASA rules, in particular aircraft that are of simple design or operate mainly on a local basis e.g. Microlight, Classic & Vintage, Gyrocopters and those that are home-built. Such aircraft should therefore remain under the regulatory control of the Member States. The four associations approved by the IAA and whom to apply to for specific Permits to Fly are; (For further details, access the IAA website at www.iaa.ie)

5.2 Description and Characteristics of Apparatus

The table below provides an example as to the correct information required for Part 2 of the licence. Part numbers of equipment should not be included only Make and Model.

Technical Conditions of Apparatus

5	6	7	8	9
Equipment	Make and Model	Power (ERP)	Class of Emission	Frequency or Bands
VHF Comms Transceiver	Honeywell RTA-44D	25 W	A3E	118.0 – 136.992 MHz

Any queries may be addressed to:

licensing@comreg.ie