



31 May 2020**COVID-19 AVIATION TRAINING ORGANISATIONS GENERAL NOTICE****1. Applicability**

- 1.1. This notice is applicable to all Aviation Training Organisations and Aviation Security Training Organisations (ATOs) approved in terms of the Civil Aviation Regulations, 2011 (as amended).
- 1.2. This notice must be read in conjunction with the GENERAL NOTICE #PEL-2020/003 Revision 2 dated 07 May 2020.

2. Purpose of this General Notice

- 2.1 This General Notice serves to address the resumption of training conducted by all aviation training organisations approved in terms of the Civil Aviation Regulations, 2011 (as amended).

3. Background

- 3.1 On 15 March 2020, the President of the Republic of South Africa declared a National State of Disaster as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak. In this regard, the President put in place several measures including a national lockdown and a risk-based strategy with the intention of limiting exposure and the potential spread of the virus. On 24 May 2020, the President announced the easing of restrictions of the lockdown to Level 3 with effect from 01 June 2020, which would allow businesses to open and for employees to return to work. The objectives under Level 3 still means that employers must implement risk mitigation measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19, while allowing economic stimulating activity to resume.
- 3.2 ATOs may with effect from 01 June 2020, resume operations under Level 3 of the lockdown regulations. ATOs are to conduct individual risk assessments and put in place measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in line with all Regulations and Directions published by the Government.
- 3.3 These procedures must be submitted to the SACAA for approval before commencement of the training. These procedures shall be made available for compliance inspection by any government health inspector or SACAA inspector.
- 3.4 ATOs should as a minimum detail the measures contained in this notice as part of their COVID-19 Procedure.

4. “Virtual platform” as published in Government Gazette 43271

- 4.1 The Minister of Transport after considering the provisions of the regulations promulgated by the Minister of Corporate Governance and Traditional Affairs dated 28 May 2020, amended and published the Directions dated 30 May 2020.
- 4.2 Paragraph 8 of the Directions refer to “virtual platforms” training which is not defined. Virtual platforms in terms of Government Gazette 43271 refers to learning conducted on e-Learning and webinar platforms only. FSTDs are excluded.

5. Virtual Training

- 5.1 During April 2020, an interim approval was granted by the SACAA to some ATOs to conduct limited distance learning using the internet and whatever virtual platform they have available.
- 5.2 ATOs were notified in Rev 2 of the Notice dated 7 May 2020 that these interim approvals would automatically fall away once government approval was granted to commence with physical training.
- 5.3 In Rev 2 of the Notice dated 7 May 2020, the SACAA advised that where an ATO does not have the capability to deliver training via an approved e-Learning platform, then the SACAA grants interim approval to ATOs to conduct distance learning using virtual platforms such as Zoom and Microsoft Teams.
- 5.4 ATOs were required to submit a letter to PEL.Training@caa.co.za notifying the SACAA that they are deviating from their approved TPMs during the COVID-19 crisis in order to conduct virtual platform training.
- 5.5 The SACAA recognises a cost benefit for ATOs in the use of virtual training and therefore extends this interim approval to conduct virtual training until 30 November 2020.
- 5.6 This extension is granted to enable the SACAA and Industry time to develop guidelines to conduct virtual training until the country moves to Level 1.
- 5.7 Proposals for the development of virtual platform training regulations and guidelines can be submitted to the Manager Training at VorsterB@caa.co.za.

PLEASE REFER TO SECTIONS 2.4 – 8 IN THE MINISTERIAL GENERAL AVIATION GUIDELINES FOR MEASURES TO IMPLEMENT AT OPERATIONS DURING THE COVID-19 LOCKDOWN PERIOD.

END