



**NOTICE OF PROPOSED AMENDMENT  
(NPA 14/2026)**

**CAR 21**

**CERTIFICATION OF AIRCRAFT**

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Gibraltar Civil Aviation Authority (GCAA) continues to ensure that it has the most up to date aviation regulatory system by developing operating regulations under the Civil Aviation Act, Section 34(1), which are easy for the aviation industry to understand and navigate.

1.2 A Notice of Proposed Amendment (**NPA**) is a public notice that is issued when the GCAA wishes to add, remove, or change operating regulations as part of the rulemaking process. The following is a description of a new edition, any major change, (apart from minor editorial corrections) that were made to these regulations;

(a) CAR 21 Certification of Aircraft is amended.

1.3 The purpose of this NPA is to:

(a) introduce formal public consultation on the proposed CAR amendment;

(b) ensure the adequacy of legislation governing operations of Gibraltar registered aircraft in accordance with ICAO SARPS and international best regulatory practices; and

(c) determine the effect on the aircraft operators/organisations of the proposed legislation.

1.4 The GCAA now seeks comments on this NPA from the aviation industry and the concerned parties before proceeding further.

1.5 Abbreviations

GCAA	Gibraltar Civil Aviation Authority
CARs	Civil Aviation Regulations
NPA	Notice of Proposed Amendment
SARPS	ICAO Standards and Recommended Practices

## 2. OBJECTIVE

2.1 The objective of this NPA is to advise all concerned parties of the proposed changes and to obtain comments regarding these changes. A number of regulatory criteria have been identified to guide the development of these changes. The criteria require that the new legislation/regulations should:

(a) be clear, concise and unambiguous;

(b) be consistent with the GCAA's international obligations;

(c) be harmonised with ICAO SARPS and international standards, unless unique GCAA circumstances require otherwise; and

(d) be enforceable.

## 3. EFFECT OF CHANGES

- 3.1 Changes are required to align CAR AIR 21 with the ICAO SARPs that will come into force on 26 November 2026. These amendments incorporate remotely piloted aircraft systems into the existing regulatory framework.

Changes are also proposed to the way that the GCAA evaluates aircraft design changes and repair data. Implementation of these changes will reduce GCAA workload, provide greater legal certainty and reduce GCAA exposure to technical risk by avoiding involvement in technical decision making in areas that would ordinarily require the expertise of an Aircraft Engineering Department. The proposal recognises the approvals granted by the FAA, EASA, TCCA, ANAC and the UK CAA who all have the requisite expertise.

- 3.2 The effective date for the amended CAR 21 is planned for **01 July 2026**.

#### **4. PRESENTATION**

- 4.1 Once promulgated, the new regulation will be available in electronic format on the GCAA website under "CARs".

#### **5. HOW TO SUBMIT COMMENTS ON THIS NPA**

All submissions must be received by 28 June, 2026 and will be evaluated and assessed with a view to incorporating any necessary changes to the regulations prior to their formal promulgation. In order to simplify collation and summarising of comments, the GCAA will accept an email or letter together with the Response Sheet (refer to page 4/5) and any additional comments attached as necessary. Responses may be sent to;

Email: [info@gcaa.gi](mailto:info@gcaa.gi)

Address: GCAA, Suite 975, Europort, Gibraltar, GX11 1AA

The GCAA may contact persons in respect to submissions in order to clarify issues but is not obliged to individually acknowledge or respond to comments or submissions.

If no response is received by the due date it will be considered as "acceptable without comment" from the recipient of the NPA.

Your review of these regulations is very much appreciated.

Christopher Charles Purkiss  
Director General

Date: 01 June, 2026

**RESPONSE SHEET****CAR AIR 21 Rev 02**

Please submit this response sheet as soon as possible prior to **28 June, 2026**. Please indicate your acceptance or otherwise of the proposal by ticking [ü] in the appropriate box below. Any additional constructive comments, suggested amendments or alternative action will be welcome and may be provided on this response sheet or by separate correspondence.

- The proposals are **acceptable but would be improved if the following changes were made:** (Please provide explanatory comment).

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- The proposals are **not acceptable but would be acceptable if the following changes were made:** (Please provide explanatory comment).

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- The proposals are **not acceptable under any circumstances.** (Please provide explanatory comment).

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Name.....Organisation:.....

Address/Contact No:.....Email.....

Signed: .....Date: .....

*Add further details below:*