



CHAPTER 6

HELICOPTER MAINTENANCE

Note 1.— For the purpose of this chapter “helicopter” includes: engines, power transmissions, rotors, components, accessories, instruments, equipment and apparatus including emergency equipment.

Note 2.— Reference is made throughout this chapter to the requirements of the State of Registry. When the State of the Operator is not the same as the State of Registry, it may be necessary to consider any additional requirements of the State of the Operator.

Note 3.— Guidance on continuing airworthiness requirements is contained in the Airworthiness Manual (Doc 9760).

6.1 OPERATOR’S MAINTENANCE RESPONSIBILITIES

6.1.1 Operators shall ensure that, in accordance with procedures acceptable to the State of Registry:

- a) each helicopter they operate is maintained in an airworthy condition;
- b) the operational and emergency equipment necessary for the intended flight is serviceable; and
- c) the certificate of airworthiness of the helicopter they operate remains valid.

6.1.2 An operator shall not operate a helicopter unless it is maintained and released to service by an organization approved in accordance with Annex 6, Part I, 8.7, or under an equivalent system, either of which shall be acceptable to the State of Registry.

6.1.3 When the State of Registry accepts an equivalent system, the person signing the maintenance release shall be licensed in accordance with Annex 1.

6.1.4 An operator shall employ a person or group of persons to ensure that all maintenance is carried out in accordance with the maintenance control manual.

6.1.5 The operator shall ensure that the maintenance of its helicopters is performed in accordance with the maintenance programme approved by the State of Registry.



6.2 OPERATOR'S MAINTENANCE CONTROL MANUAL

6.2.1 The operator shall provide, for the use and guidance of maintenance and operational personnel concerned, a maintenance control manual, acceptable to the State of Registry, in accordance with the requirements of 9.2. The design of the manual shall observe Human Factors principles.

Note.— Guidance material on the application of Human Factors principles can be found in the Human Factors Training Manual (Doc 9683).

6.2.2 The operator shall ensure that the maintenance control manual is amended as necessary to keep the information contained therein up to date.

6.2.3 Copies of all amendments to the operator's maintenance control manual shall be furnished promptly to all organizations or persons to whom the manual has been issued.

6.2.4 The operator shall provide the DG, CAAN and the State of Registry with a copy of the operator's maintenance control manual, together with all amendments and/or revisions to it and shall incorporate in it such mandatory material as the DG, CAAN or the State of Registry may require.

6.3 MAINTENANCE PROGRAMME

6.3.1 The operator shall provide, for the use and guidance of maintenance and operational personnel concerned, a maintenance programme, approved by the State of Registry, containing the information required by 9.3. The design and application of the operator's maintenance programme shall observe Human Factors principles.

Note.— Guidance material on the application of Human Factors principles can be found in the Human Factors Training Manual (Doc 9683).

6.3.2 Copies of all amendments to the maintenance programme shall be furnished promptly to all organizations or persons to whom the maintenance programme has been issued.

6.4 Maintenance records

6.4.1 An operator shall ensure that the following records are kept for the periods mentioned in 6.4.2:

- a) the total time in service (hours, calendar time and cycles, as appropriate) of the helicopter and all life-limited components;
- b) the current status of compliance with all mandatory continuing airworthiness information;
- c) appropriate details of modifications and repairs to the helicopter and its major components;
- d) the time in service (hours, calendar time and cycles, as appropriate) since last overhaul of the helicopter or its components subject to a mandatory overhaul life;
- e) the current status of the helicopter's compliance with the maintenance programme; and



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f) the detailed maintenance records to show that all requirements for a maintenance release have been met.

6.4.2 The records in 6.4.1 a) to e) shall be kept for a minimum period of 90 days after the unit to which they refer has been permanently withdrawn from service, and the records in 6.4.1 f) for a minimum period of one year after the signing of the maintenance release.

6.4.3 In the event of a temporary change of operator, the records shall be made available to the new operator. In the event of any permanent change of operator, the records shall be transferred to the new operator.

6.5 CONTINUING AIRWORTHINESS INFORMATION

6.5.1 The operator of a helicopter over 3 175 kg maximum mass shall monitor and assess maintenance and operational experience with respect to continuing airworthiness and provide the information as prescribed by the State of Registry and report through the system specified in Annex 8, Part II, 4.2.3 f) and 4.2.4.

6.5.2 The operator of a helicopter over 3 175 kg maximum mass shall obtain and assess continuing airworthiness information and recommendations available from the organization responsible for the type design and shall implement resulting actions considered necessary in accordance with a procedure acceptable to the State of Registry.

Note.— Guidance on interpretation of “the organization responsible for the type design” is contained in the Airworthiness Manual (Doc 9760).

6.6 MODIFICATIONS AND REPAIRS

All modifications and repairs shall comply with airworthiness requirements acceptable to the State of Registry. Procedures shall be established to ensure that the substantiating data supporting compliance with the airworthiness requirements are retained.

6.7 MAINTENANCE RELEASE

6.7.1 A maintenance release shall be completed and signed to certify that the maintenance work performed has been completed satisfactorily and in accordance with approved data and the procedures described in the maintenance organization’s procedures manual.

6.7.2 A maintenance release shall contain a certification including:

- a) basic details of the maintenance carried out including detailed reference of the approved data used;
- b) the date such maintenance was completed;
- c) when applicable, the identity of the approved maintenance organization; and
- d) the identity of the person or persons signing the release.



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6.8 RECORDS

6.8.1 An operator shall ensure that the following records are kept:

- a) in respect of the entire helicopter: the total time in service;
- b) in respect of the major components of the helicopter:
 - 1) the total time in service;
 - 2) the date of the last overhaul;
 - 3) the date of the last inspection;
- c) in respect of those instruments and equipment, the serviceability and operating life of which are determined by their time in service:
 - 1) such records of the time in service as are necessary to determine their serviceability or to compute their operating life;
 - 2) the date of the last inspection.

6.8.2 These records shall be kept for a period of 90 days after the end of the operating life of the unit to which they refer.