Transport Malta

CIVIL AVIATION DIRECTORATE - ANS & ADR Unit

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Commission Implementing Regulation No 1079/2012 of 16th November 2012 laying down requirements for voice channel spacing for the Single European Sky.

1. Scope

The purpose of this update is to inform aviation frequency users of the latest updates concerning Malta's implementation plan for the conversion to 8.33 kHz channel spacing.

2. Update – Exemption notification to the Commission

Pursuant to Article 14(2) and 14(3) of Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 1079/2012, Malta has notified the Commission of local measures granting exemptions from compliance with Articles 4(5), 5(4) and 6(10).

The main points related to these exemptions include the following:

a) Ground radios using frequencies indicated in paragraph 3 below will remain in 25 kHz channel spacing after December 2017.
b) Locally GA registered aircraft, including those used for local flying instruction and microlights, may continue to use non-8.33kHz channel spacing radios when transmitting on frequencies indicated in paragraph 3 after December 2017.
c) Frequencies listed in paragraph 3, will not be converted to 8.33 kHz channel spacing by December 2018.
d) Only 8.33 compliant radios may be used to transmit on frequencies/channels other than those listed in paragraph 3 after December 2017.
e) Malta has implemented a plan to become fully compliant with this Regulation by the end of December 2023.

While these exemptions should give more time to the local flying community to upgrade their airborne radios accordingly, operators are encouraged to upgrade their equipment as early as possible in view of periodic reviews of this exemption.

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3. Exempted Frequencies

Ground Primary	**121.600**
Ground Secondary	**121.825**
Tower Primary	**135.100**
Tower Secondary	**133.900**
Approach Primary	**128.150**
Approach Secondary	**118.350**
West Primary	**130.975**
West Secondary	**127.525**
East Primary (offset)	**123.625**
East Secondary (offset)	**122.775**
FIC West (FIC Primary)	**119.800**
ATIS	**127.400**
VOLMET	**126.800**
GA - Frequency	**131.900**
GA - Frequency	**131.850**
GA - Frequency	**131.600**
MDH	**131.800**
MATS	**118.000**
MATS	**121.700**
ADR - MIA	**131.550**

4. Ground Radios

It is important to note that ground radios, except those used for ATC purposes, using frequency assignments which are not included in paragraph 3, shall not be used after 31st December 2017 unless the ground radio is capable of 8.33 channel spacing.

5. Airborne Radios

All frequencies listed in paragraph 3, which also include frequencies used for ATC purposes, will remain in 25 kHz channel spacing. This measure will make it possible to GA operators, which are not yet compliant, to continue with their activity after December 2017. This delay in implementation should give more time to operators to

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upgrade their radios to the 8.33 kHz channel spacing requirement.

GA aircraft equipped with only 25 kHz channel spacing radios may therefore continue to use this equipment within the Maltese airspace:

I. on the assigned frequencies indicated in paragraph 3;

II. on frequencies exempted by this Regulation.

However an 8.33 compliant radio is required if:

I. installing an aircraft radio for the first time;

II. upgrading an aircraft radio (replacing one box with another box);

III. applying for an aircraft initial Certificate of Airworthiness or Flight Permit.

GA owners/operators are advised that the exemptions issued by Malta are only valid within the Maltese airspace and 8.33 kHz compliant radios may be required to operate beyond the boundary.

6. Application for new Channels

Users submitting applications for new channels within the aviation spectrum, or requiring a change to their assignment, shall inform the CAD accordingly by following the normal procedure. All new channels will, from now on, be assigned an 8.33 kHz channel spacing frequency.