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To all Offshore Duty Holders/Vessel/MODU Operators:

7 August 2024

Further to the previous notice published 12 July 2024 - Following discussions with the UK CAA on the requirement of aeronautical radio licences on merchant vessels, clarification has been given on the requirement of the certification of vessel crew utilising airband radio telephony equipment when located in the UKCS.

CAA comments:

“Should radio equipment be installed on merchant vessels of another flag that comes into UK water on a temporary basis, the equipment would have to be registered with the state of registry of the vessel, and the operators operate to the same state of registry requirements. In this case there is no requirement for a ROCC.”

During a helideck inspection, HCA will seek confirmation that the vessel does hold registration for the radio equipment installed and that the operators have the appropriate operator’s licence from the same state of registry.

This gives clarity on what is required regarding aeronautical radio telephony certification. However, it must be emphasised that the GMDSS certificate is still not recognised as a suitable alternative means of compliance for aeronautical radio transmissions and is therefore not acceptable.

Regards

For and behalf of HCA

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Graham Wildgoose', written over a horizontal line.

Graham Wildgoose
Technical Director