



**RWANDA**

**CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY**

**ADVISORY CIRCULAR  
RCAA-AC-GEN- ATS 005**

## **GUIDANCE ON DETERMINATION OF AERODROME OPERATING MINIMA**

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### **1.0 PURPOSE**

1.1 The purpose of this Advisory Circular is to provide methods to be adopted by operators in determining aerodrome operating minima for the safe conduct of the operations in adverse weather conditions.

1.2 The implementation of this Circular will ensure safe and efficient operations at the aerodrome for the movement of an aircraft from the landing runway to the parking position on the apron and back again to the take-off runway, as well as other movement on the aerodrome surface.

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## 2.0 REFERENCES

Applicable Standards and Guidance Material for establishing aerodrome operating minima in compliance with the provisions of the following documents:

- 2.1 Part 21- Aeronautical Telecommunication
- 2.2 Part 22- Air Traffic Services
- 2.3 Part 23- Instrument flight procedures
- 2.4 Part 24- Aeronautical Meteorological
- 2.5 Part 25- Aeronautical Information Service
- 2.6 Part 30- Safety Management
- 2.7 Part 31- Aeronautical Charts
- 2.8 Part 38- Units of Measurements
- 2.9 Part 26- Aerodrome operations
- 2.9 ICAO Doc 8168 – OPS/611 Procedure for Air Navigation Service - Aircraft Operations;
- 2.10 ICAO Doc 9365 - Manual Of All-Weather Operations
- 2.11 ICAO Doc 9734 - Safety Oversight Manual
- 2.12 Related Rwanda Civil Aviation Technical Standards

## 3.0 GUIDANCE AND PROCEDURE

**3.1** Aerodrome operator may declare aerodrome operating minima expressed as a minimum Visibility or Runway Visual Range [RVR].

**3.2** Aerodrome operator shall determine the aerodrome operating minima based on combination of visual aids, non-visual aids, procedures and services available at the aerodrome based on the specifications contained in this Circular.

**3.3** The aerodrome operator shall prohibit the commencement or continuation of aerodrome operations when the minimum Visibility or RVR is less than the specified aerodrome operating minima.

**3.4** Aerodrome[s] that do not meet the visual aids, non-visual aids, procedures and services specified in this Circular shall fly the VMC unit in visual contact with ground.

**3.5** Notwithstanding all of the above, the following shall be observed –

- i. that aircraft landing and taking-off at an aerodrome shall be governed by ICAO Annexes and the Civil Aviation Regulations any amendments thereof;
- ii. that aircraft operating under Visual Flight Rules [VFR] landing and taking off at an aerodrome shall be governed by rules as published in the Rwanda Aeronautical Publication Information [AIP]; and

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iii. That the Low Visibility Procedure [LVP] established at any aerodrome shall be executed at visibility condition[s] as specified in those procedure.

#### **4. 0 TAKE-OFF**

4.1 Take-off minima are usually stated as visibility or RVR limits. Where there is a specific need to see and avoid obstacles on departure, take-off minima may, in cases, include cloud base limits. Where avoidance of such obstacles may be accomplished by alternate procedural means, such as use of climb gradients or specific departure paths, cloud base restrictions need not be applied. Take-off minima typically account for factors such as terrain and obstacle avoidance, aircraft controllability and performance, visual aids available, runway characteristics, navigation and guidance available, non-normal conditions such as engine failure, and adverse weather, such as runway contamination or winds.

4.2 Take-off minima concern the take-off manoeuvre itself. For flight initiation, departure weather minima at an aerodrome should not be less than the applicable minima for landing at that aerodrome unless a suitable take-off alternate aerodrome is available. The take-off alternate aerodrome should have weather conditions and facilities suitable for landing the aeroplane in normal and non-normal configurations pertinent to the operation. In addition, in the non-normal configuration the aeroplane must be capable of climbing to and maintaining altitudes which provide suitable obstacle clearance and navigation signals en route to a take-off alternate aerodrome which should be located

within the following distance from the aerodrome of departure:

- a. aeroplanes having two power-units not more than a distance equivalent to a flight time of one hour at single-engine cruise speed;
- b. aeroplanes having three or more power-units not more than a distance equivalent to a flight time of two hours at the one-engine inoperative cruise speed.

## Take-off Minima

*Commercial transport aeroplanes (multi-engine aeroplanes)*

| Facilities   | RVR/VIS |
|--|---------|
| Runway edge lights, runway center line lights, center line markings, and touchdown, mid-point and stop-end | 175 m   |
| Runway edge lights and either center line lights or center line markings                                   | 500 m   |

## 5. APPROACH AND LANDING

### 5.1 Non-precision Approach Minima

*Commercial transport aeroplanes (multi-engine aeroplanes)*

#### Relationship between MDH and visibility minima

*MDH of 100 m (320 ft) and higher for*

|         |                    | Visibility or RVR (metres) |          |          |          |
|---------|--------------------|----------------------------|----------|----------|----------|
| MDH     | Aeroplane Category |                            |          |          |          |
|         | <u>metres</u>      | <u>feet</u>                | <u>A</u> | <u>B</u> | <u>C</u> |
| 100-120 | 320-390            | 1600                       | 1600     | 1600     | 2000     |
| 121-140 | 391-460            | 1600                       | 1600     | 2000     | 2400     |
| 141-160 | 461-530            | 1600                       | 1600     | 2000     | 2800     |
| 161-180 | 531-600            | 1600                       | 1600     | 2400     | 2800     |
| 181-205 | 601-670            | 1600                       | 1600     | 2800     | 3200     |
| 206-225 | 671-740            | 1600                       | 1600     | 3200     | 3600     |
| 226-250 | 741-810            | 1600                       | 2000     | 3600     | 4000     |
| 251-270 | 811-880            | 1600                       | 2000     | 4000     | 4400     |

**Relationship between visual aids and visibility minima**

*for*

**MDH between 75 m and 100 m (250 ft – 320 ft)**

|                         | Visibility or RVR (m) |      |      |        |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|------|------|--------|
|                         | A                     | B    | C    | D      |
| Aeroplane Category      | A                     | B    | C    | D      |
| Full Facilities         | 800*                  | 800* | 800* | 1600** |
| Intermediate Facilities | 1200                  | 1200 | 1200 | 1600   |
| Basic Facilities        | 1600                  | 1600 | 1600 | 1600   |

\* 1200 m visibility/RVR for NDB.

\*\* 1200 m visibility/RVR for localizer with final approach fix (FAF) and middle marker (MM).

**Full facilities** Cat I lighting system (precision approach), runway edge lights, threshold lights, end lights and runway markings.

**Intermediate Facilities** High intensity simple approach lighting system, runway edge lights, threshold lights, end lights and runway markings.

**Basic Facilities** Low intensity simple approach lighting system, runway edge lights, threshold lights, end lights and runway markings.

**5.2 Circling Minima**

**Commercial transport aeroplanes (multi-engine aeroplanes)**

| Aeroplane Category | A                 | B                 | C                | D                 |
|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| MDH                | 120 m<br>(400 ft) | 150 m<br>(500 ft) | 180m<br>(600 ft) | 210 m<br>(700 ft) |
| Visibility         | 1600 m            | 1600 m            | 2400 m           | 3600 m            |

**5.3 Precision Approach Category I Minima**

## Commercial transport aeroplanes (multi-engine aeroplanes)

|            |                 | Intermediate  |                  |
|------------|-----------------|---------------|------------------|
|            | Full Facilities | Facilities    | Basic Facilities |
| DH*        | 60 m (200 ft)   | 60 m (200 ft) | 60 m (200 ft)    |
| RVR        | 550 m           | 800 m         | 1200 m           |
| Visibility | 800 m           | 800 m         | 1200 m           |

\* DH is 60 m (200 ft) or OCH whichever is higher DH may be increased for approaches made with one engine inoperative

\*\* Increases in DH will require an appropriate increase in RVR/visibility

### 5.4 Precision Approach Category II Minima

#### Commercial transport aeroplanes (multi-engine aeroplanes)

|                      | Basic Cat II minima | Restricted Cat II* |
|----------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Decision Height (DH) | 30 m (100 ft)       | 45 m (150 ft)      |
| RVR**                | 350 m               | 500 m              |

\* Restricted Category II minima are generally used for operational evaluation phases prior to authorization of Basic Category II minima.

\*\* Increases in DH may require an appropriate increase in RVR.

Certain facility outages may require increases of RVR for a specific decision height.

### 5.5 Precision Approach Category III Minima

#### Commercial transport aeroplanes (multi-engine aeroplanes)

|  | Category IIIA |                  | Category IIIB |
|--|---------------|------------------|---------------|
|  | Fail Passive  | Fail Operational |               |
|  |               |                  |               |

|             |               |                  |                  |
|-------------|---------------|------------------|------------------|
| Decision    | Not less than | Less than 15 m   | Less than 15 m   |
| Height (DH) | 15 m (50 ft)  | (50 ft) or no DH | (50 ft) or no DH |
|             |               |                  | required         |
| RVR         | 300 m*        | 300 m**          | 100 m**          |

\* Minima for fail-passive operations lower than 300 m but not less than 200 m RVR are restricted to operations conducted in accordance with specific criteria for these operations such as those specified in ECAC Doc 17

\*\* For airborne equipment combinations acceptable for Category III operations

## 6. AIRBORNE EQUIPMENT

6.1 Minimum equipment combinations acceptable for Category I operations

### Commercial transport aeroplanes (multi-engine aeroplanes)

- Equipment type/specification
- ILS or MLS receiver
- ILS or MLS raw data display
- 75 MHz marker beacon receiver and indicator (certain MLS operations require DME)
- Flight director – single with single display, or

Automatic flight control system with ILS/MLS couples approach mode

6.2 Minimum equipment combinations for Category II operations

### Commercial transport aeroplanes (multi-engine aeroplanes)

|                               |  | <u>Cat II Operations</u> |           |
|-------------------------------|--|--------------------------|-----------|
| Equipment Type/Specifications |  | Manual                   | Automatic |
|                               |  | Mode                     | Mode      |
| Raw data display              |  | x                        | x         |
| ILS receiver                  |  |                          |           |
| -                             | Dual with displays                       | x                        | x         |
| -                             | Excess deviation warning                 | x                        | x         |
| Radio altimeters              |  |                          |           |
| -                             | Single self-monitored with dual displays | x                        | x         |
| Flight director systems (FDS) |  |                          |           |
| -                             | Single self-monitored with dual displays | -                        | x*        |
| -                             | Dual with dual displays                  | X *                      | -         |

|                                      |                           |   |   |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|---|---|
| -                                    | Go-around mode            | x | x |
| Automatic flight control system with |                           |   |   |
|                                      | ILS coupled approach mode | - | x |
|                                      | Auto throttle             | x | x |
|                                      |                           |   |   |

\* A head-up display approach and landing guidance system may be substituted for one of the two FDS for manual operation or for the single FDS acceptable for automatic operations.

6.3

**Minimum equipment combinations for Category III operations**

**Commercial transport aeroplanes (multi-engine aeroplanes)**

|                               |  | <u>Cat IIIA Operations</u>    |  | <u>Cat IIIB Operations</u> |
|-------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|--|----------------------------|
|                               |  | DH 15 m<br>(50 ft)<br>Or more | DH less than<br>15 m (50 ft)<br>or no DH |                            |
|                               | Raw data display                                 | x                             | x  | x                          |
|                               | ILS receiver                                     |                               |  |                            |
| -                             | Dual with dual display                           | x                             | x  | x                          |
| -                             | Excess deviation warning                         | x                             | x  | x                          |
| Radio altimeters              |  |                               |  |                            |
| -                             | Dual with dual displays                          | x                             | x  | x                          |
| Flight director systems (FDS) |  |                               |  |                            |
| -                             | Dual with dual displays                          | x                             | x  | x                          |
| -                             | Go-around mode                                   | x                             | x  | x                          |
| Automatic landing system      |  |                               |  |                            |
| -                             | Fail passive                                     | x                             | -  | -                          |
| -                             | Fail operational                                 | -                             | X*                                       | -                          |
| -                             | Fail operational with automatic<br>roll out mode | -                             | -  | X **                       |
|                               | Automatic go-around mode                         | -                             | x  | X***                       |
|                               | Auto-throttle mode                               | x                             | x  | x                          |



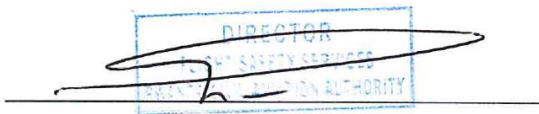
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\* A fail operational hybrid system with head-up display as a secondary independent guidance system may be substituted for a fail operational automatic landing system.

\*\* A fail operational hybrid system with head-up display as the secondary independent guidance system with roll-out guidance from either head-up display or automatic system may be substituted for a fail operational automatic landing system with automatic roll-out mode.

\*\*\* A fail-passive automatic system supplemented by dual FDS with computed goaround mode acceptable.



Director Flight Safety Services  
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