



Australian Government

MEA718 Evaluate rotorcraft flight control systems

Release: 1

MEA718 Evaluate rotorcraft flight control systems

Modification History

Release 1 - New unit of competency

Application

This unit of competency applies to rotorcraft mechanical and powered flight control systems and their components, including the interface of powered systems and automatic flight control systems. It involves evaluation of systems and components for compliance with design and performance standards and with airworthiness regulatory requirements within both civil and military environments.

Also covered is documentation of the evaluation process within management systems, such as configuration management (CM) and integrated logistic support (ILS).

It is suitable for people working within aircraft design teams, within the engineering departments of aircraft maintenance organisations or employed within Continuing Airworthiness Management Organisations (CAMOs) and Approved Engineering Organisations (AEOs), and for those pursuing qualifications or careers in those fields.

This unit is used in workplaces that operate under the airworthiness regulatory systems of the Australian Defence Force (ADF) and the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA).

Pre-requisite Unit

MEA710	Apply aeronautical system design techniques
MEM23004A	Apply technical mathematics
MEM23007A	Apply calculus to engineering tasks

Competency Field

Aeronautical engineering

Unit Sector

Elements and Performance Criteria

Elements describe the essential outcomes.

Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.

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|----|---------------------|-----|--|
| 1. | Prepare to evaluate | 1.1 | Confirm and apply safe working practices relating to |
|----|---------------------|-----|--|

rotorcraft flight control system		aircraft pneumatic systems	
	1.2		Determine parameters and context of applications and purpose of evaluation
	1.3		Confirm personal functions and responsibilities, team and support functional group interdependencies and communications
	1.4		Confirm that tasks and responsibilities are appropriate to qualifications and delegations and that appropriate support, including technical and professional assistance, is available
	1.5		Determine chain of responsibility for the activity evaluation, reporting arrangements and timelines
	1.6		Identify work health and safety (WHS) and regulatory requirements with particular emphasis on safety, codes of practice, performance requirements and standards, including airworthiness regulatory requirements for rotorcraft flight control systems, risk management and organisational procedures
2.	Identify principles and techniques required for evaluation of rotorcraft flight control system applications	2.1	Identify features and functions of rotorcraft flight control systems and components
		2.2	Review rotorcraft flight control system design and layout requirements and techniques
		2.3	Identify system electrical power requirements and interfaces with avionic systems
3.	Evaluate rotorcraft flight control system	3.1	Evaluate proposed modifications to rotorcraft flight control systems and system components
		3.2	Evaluate rotorcraft flight control system and system component maintenance requirements
		3.3	Evaluate rotorcraft flight control system and system component reliability and defect history
		3.4	Evaluate proposed component substitutions
		3.5	Evaluate application for compliance with WHS Acts, regulations, codes, directives and standards/specifications, including those related to risk management
4.	Report results	4.1	Report results of scoping, principles and techniques

identification and evaluation of applications

- 4.2 Provide documentation, such as system schematics, wiring diagrams and data required by CM and/or ILS, and as required for compliance with airworthiness regulations

Foundation Skills

Foundation skills essential to performance are explicit in the performance criteria of this unit of competency.

Range of Conditions

This field allows for different work environments and conditions that may affect performance. Essential operating conditions that may be present (depending on the work situation, needs of the candidate, accessibility of the item, and local industry and regional contexts) are included.

Rotorcraft flight control systems include:

- Mechanical flight control (cyclic, collective and tail rotor)
- Powered flight control
- Trim
- Interfaces with engine fuel control unit or throttle/governor
- Interfaces with automatic flight control systems, electrical and instrument systems and engine power control

Rotorcraft flight control system components include:

- Cockpit controls
- Cable runs and hardware
- Mechanical linkages
- Hydraulic actuators and valves
- Electric actuators
- Hydraulic power supply, plumbing, valves and filters
- Trim actuators
- Mixer box
- Rotor swashplate
- Tail rotor pitch change mechanism
- Indicators, lights and switches

Standards and guidance material include:

- ADF AAP7001.054 Airworthiness Design Requirements Manual
- FAR Part 27 Airworthiness Standards for Rotorcraft in the Normal Category

- FAR Part 29 Airworthiness Standards for Rotorcraft in the Transport Category
 - EASA CS-27 Certification Specifications for Rotorcraft in the Normal Category
 - EASA CS-29 Certification Specifications for Rotorcraft in the Transport Category
 - CASA AC21.16(0) Approval of material, parts, processes and appliances
 - CASA AC21.145(0) Manufacture of parts during the course of maintenance
 - CASA AC21.601(0) Australian Technical Standards Order Authorisation
 - CASA CAAP35-7(0) Design approval of modifications and repairs
 - CASA AC 21-99 Aircraft Wiring and Bonding
 - FAA AC 43-13-1B Acceptable Methods, Techniques and Practices – Aircraft Inspection and Repair
- Configuration management (CM)**
- CM is a process for control and documentation of the design and development process and for the management of system, component and software throughout the service life
- Integrated logistic support (ILS)**
- ILS is an integrated approach to the management of logistic disciplines originally developed for the management of military systems from design concept to final disposal at life-of-type. It covers:
 - reliability engineering, maintainability engineering and maintenance planning
 - supply and support
 - support and test equipment
 - manpower and personnel
 - training and training support
 - technical data and publications
 - computer resources support
 - facilities
 - packaging, handling, storage and transportation
 - design interface
- Appropriate technical and professional assistance includes:**
- Assistance from individuals with CASA maintenance certification licenses or those with supervisory authorisations in the ADF regulatory system
 - Professional support from engineers employed within:
 - organisations with CASA continuing airworthiness management or maintenance approvals
 - approved engineering organisations under the ADF

- regulatory system
- WHS, regulatory requirements and enterprise procedures include:**
- Engineers employed within organisations recognised by overseas airworthiness organisations
 - WHS Acts and regulations
 - Relevant standards
 - Industry codes of practice
 - Risk assessments
 - Registration requirements
 - Safe work practices
 - Civil Aviation Safety Regulations (CASRs)
 - AAP7001.053 ADF Technical Airworthiness Management Manual
 - Overseas airworthiness authorities, where applicable, e.g. Federal Aviation Administration, Transport Canada, European Aviation Safety Agency

Unit Mapping Information

Release 1 – New unit based on MEM23097A Apply automated systems principles and techniques in aeronautical engineering situations – units not equivalent

Links

Companion Volume implementation guides are found in VETNet -

<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=ce216c9c-04d5-4b3b-9bcf-4e81d0950371>

Assessment Requirements for MEA718 Evaluate rotorcraft flight control systems

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Performance Evidence

Evidence required to demonstrate competency in this unit must be relevant to and satisfy all of the requirements of the elements and performance criteria under the specified conditions of assessment, and must include:

- identifying WHS, regulatory and electrical safety requirements, risk management procedures, features and functions of aircraft flight control systems and components, system design principles and techniques, including:
 - performance and operating environment
 - system control
 - indicating and circuit protection requirements
 - interface requirements between rotorcraft flight control systems and other systems, including automatic flight control systems and electrical power distribution
- determining and confirming:
 - parameters and context of tasks
 - chain of responsibility
 - personal functions and responsibilities
 - team and support functional group interdependencies and communications
 - appropriate qualifications and delegations
 - appropriate support, including technical and professional assistance
- investigating associated CM and ILS requirements and drafting required data
- identifying and drafting data required for compliance with airworthiness regulations
- assessing and applying:
 - basic rotorcraft flight control system performance analysis and design procedures
 - design standards
 - regulatory requirements
 - graphics skills and techniques
- evaluating system components and specifications against system design and operating criteria
- reporting and documenting results of scoping, principles and techniques identification and evaluation of applications.

Knowledge Evidence

Evidence required to demonstrate competency in this unit must be relevant to and satisfy all of the requirements of the elements and performance criteria and include knowledge of:

- features and layout of rotorcraft flight control systems, including control, indication and interface with other systems:
 - cyclic and collective flight control mechanical systems and components
 - cyclic and collective flight control powered systems - hydraulic actuators and irreversible valves
 - tail rotor control
 - interface with automatic flight control servo actuating devices and trim systems
 - interface with electrical power supply, instrument systems and engine power control system
- basic design principles for:
 - cyclic, collective and tail rotor flight controls
 - cyclic, collective and tail rotor flight control mechanical systems and components
 - powered flight control systems and components
 - trim systems and components
- interface with the aircraft electrical and instrument systems
- interface with automatic flight control systems
- wiring types, standards and specifications
- performance and operating environment effects
- airworthiness regulator design standards
- compliance requirements of the WHS Act and regulations, codes of practice, standards and risk assessment
- scope of trade, technical and professional support services required in aircraft flight control system applications
- management data interface with CM and ILS.

Assessment Conditions

- This unit may be assessed on the job, off the job or a combination of both on and off the job. Where assessment occurs off the job, that is, the candidate is not in productive work, then a simulated working environment must be used that reflects realistic workplace situations and conditions.
- The competencies covered by this unit would be demonstrated by an individual working alone or as part of a team.
- Where applicable, reasonable adjustment must be made to work environments and training situations to accommodate ethnicity, age, gender, demographics and disability.
- Assessment methods must be by direct observation of tasks and include questioning on underpinning knowledge to ensure its correct interpretation and application.
- Assessment may be applied under project-related conditions (real or simulated) and require evidence of process.

- Assessment must confirm a reasonable inference that competency is able not only to be satisfied under the particular circumstance, but is able to be transferred to other circumstances.
- Assessors must be satisfied that the candidate can competently and consistently:
 - identify and apply WHS, regulatory and risk management procedures
 - determine parameters and context of tasks, personal, team, technical and professional assistance and support, personnel functions and responsibilities, and chain of responsibility
 - investigate sustainability implications of rotorcraft flight control system applications as specified in CM and/or ILS requirements
 - assess and apply basic rotorcraft flight control system design and maintenance/repair requirements, and graphics skills and techniques
 - evaluate aircraft flight control systems and components for compliance with WHS and airworthiness regulatory requirements
 - report and document results including provision of CM and ILS input data.
- Assessment may be in conjunction with assessment of other units of competency where required.
- Assessors must satisfy the requirements of the National Vocational Education and Training Regulator (Australian Skills Quality Authority, or its successors).

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