

SAFETY RECOMMENDATION (RE-ISSUE)

REQUIRES IMMEDIATE ACTION

ALERT # **SR-17-004**

ORIGINAL ALERT # **SI-17-000773**

TO: Capt. Charles Beneby - Director BCAA

CC: Hon. Dionisio D'Aguilar - Minister of Tourism & Aviation

DATE: February 20, 2017

PURPOSE: **Unapproved Recorders**

In accordance with Annex 13 to the Convention on International Civil Aviation, Aircraft Accident and Incident Investigation, International Standards and Recommended Practices, Chapter 6, Paragraph 6.8 and the Bahamas Civil Aviation (Investigations of Accident and incidents Investigations) Regulations 14 (3), *"At any stage of the investigation of an accident or incident, the accident or incident investigation authority of the State conducting the investigation shall recommend to the appropriate authorities, including those in other States, any preventive action that it considers necessary to be taken promptly to enhance aviation safety."*

In light of the above, the following has been uncovered during the investigation of the accident involving aircraft C6-HBW, which occurred on February 7th, 2017 at Freeport Grand Bahama, Bahamas.

Information uncovered:

Both recorders CVR and DFDR found installed in the accident aircraft C6-HBW do not comply with ICAO Annex 6 and CAGR Schedule 7.170 requirements as they are both magnetic strip and CVR is of 30 minute duration, which is no longer allowed.

As per ICAO Annex 6 Part 1, Amendment 34 dated 8 Nov. 2010 the following requirements were introduced:

CVR (Cockpit Voice recorder)

- **6.3.2.2 Discontinuation**
- **6.3.2.1.1** the use of magnetic tape and wire CVRs **shall** be discontinued by 1 January 2016.
- **6.3.2.3 Duration**
 - From 1 January 2016 all CVRs **shall** be capable of retaining the information recorded during at least the last two hours of their operation.

Bahamas Air Accident Investigation Department

FDR (Flight Data Recorder)

- **6.3.1.3.6** the use of magnetic tape FDRs **shall** be discontinued by 1 January 2016.

In accordance with CAGR Schedule 7, 7.170 Cockpit Voice Recorders & Audio Recording Systems

Retention of Recorded Information

- A CVR **shall** be capable of retaining the information recorded during at least the last—
 - 30 minutes of its operation; or
 - 2 hours, for—
 - Aeroplanes required to have a CVR; or
 - (ii) Helicopters that receive type certification after 1 January 2003; or
 - (iii) *After 1 January 2016*, all aircraft required to be equipped with a CVR.

Based on information uncovered, the following safety recommendation is being advanced:

- The BCAA should immediately ensure that all aircraft on Bahamas registry or operated by Bahamas Air Operators, if they are required to have an installed CVR or FDR, that they are in compliance with Annex 6 and CAGR Schedule 7 requirements.

Please note: In accordance with Civil Aviation (Investigations of Accident and Incidents) Regulations 14 (4) (a), (bi), (bii) and (c) An undertaking or authority to which a safety recommendation is communicated pursuant to paragraph (1) shall, without delay —

(a) take the safety recommendation into consideration and, where appropriate, act upon it;

(b) send to the Chief Investigator one of the following —

(i) full details of the measures, if any, it has taken or proposes to take to implement the recommendation without delay and, where it proposes to implement measures, the timetable for securing that implementation;

(ii) a full explanation as to why the recommendation is not to be the subject of measures to be taken to implement it; and

(c) give written notice to the Chief Investigator where at any time information provided to him pursuant to sub-paragraph (b)(i), concerning the measures it proposes to take or the timetable for securing their implementation, is rendered inaccurate by any change of circumstances.