



Australian Government
Civil Aviation Safety Authority

5 June 2014

Dear AOC holder,

Colour Vision Deficiency

I am writing to inform you of actions the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) has taken in relation to pilots with a recognised colour vision deficiency (CVD) in the light of recent medical research involving the assessment of CVD, and the possible implications of these developments for affected pilots and the operators who employ them.

A number of pilots have had their medical certificates issued subject to a limiting condition because they do not meet the applicable medical standard for colour perception specified in the *Civil Aviation Safety Regulations 1998* (CASR). You may employ one or more pilots whose medical certificates are subject to such a condition.

Recent medical research indicates that the safety-related implications of an individual's CVD may be more significant than they were initially considered to be, and the possibility exists that your pilots' CVD may be of a type and/or severity that could adversely affect aviation safety to a degree greater than was believed to be the case when the medical certificates were issued. CASA is reviewing the situation and will consider what further action, if any, may need to be taken on the basis of that review, at which time affected medical certificate holders will be notified accordingly.

In the meantime, CASA has written to all potentially affected pilots advising them to consider whether it is safe for them to continue to exercise their flight crew privileges subject only to the existing CVD-related condition, and encouraging them to seek the advice of their personal physician or Designated Aviation Medical Examiner about any adjustments that should be made to their flying practices, pending the outcome of CASA's review.

As I told recipients of that advice I would be doing, I write to you now, as the holder of an Air Operator's Certificate (AOC) who may employ one or more affected pilots, to encourage you to consider whether it is safe to allow those pilots to continue to exercise flight crew privileges under your AOC, subject only to the existing condition, and what adjustments to those arrangements you may consider to be appropriate, in the interests of safety, pending CASA's further determination of the matter.

For more information visit CASA's website at:

http://www.casa.gov.au/scripts/nc.dll?WCMS:STANDARD::pc=PC_91593.

For further details, please contact Dr Pooshan Navathe, Principal Medical Officer, on 131 757.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Fereday', with a long, sweeping underline.

Peter Fereday
Executive Manager, Industry Permissions