REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS

AIC

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Aeronautical Information

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Installation of Ballistic Rescue Systems on light aircraft

1. Applicability

This AIC is applicable to owners of aircraft that have been or will be equipped with, or similar to, a Ballistic Rescue System (BRS) as well as aircraft maintenance organizations installing these systems.

2. Purpose

The purpose of this AIC is to highlight the potential danger to Search and Rescue personnel posed by the installation of BRS systems and the need to inform the Joint Rescue Coordination Center (JRCC) and the Department of Civil Aviation in case such systems are installed. The scope is for the JRCC to have all the necessary information to relay to the rescue teams, thus avoiding any severe injuries to personnel relative to BRS activation

3. Reference documents

International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Annex 6: Operation of Aircraft - Part I: International Commercial Air Transport - Aeroplanes

4. General information

The Ballistic Rescue System (parachute) is increasingly being installed on certain types of light aircraft throughout the world. The parachute is launched by pulling a trigger that fires a rocket from the aircraft. The installation of a BRS is, in most cases, unknown to the rescue personnel and this poses enormous danger to them. While the total firing period is only one second, someone in the path of an escaping rocket could be seriously injured or killed. Also, the indication of an installed BRS should be visible on stickers on the aircraft, but in reality, this is not always the case and sometimes the condition of the aircraft makes these no longer visible to the rescue personnel.

5. Recommendations

In the case where such a system is installed on an aircraft (either during manufacturing or at a later stage in the aircraft's life), the aircraft owner or operator should inform the Department of Civil Aviation AND the Joint Rescue Coordination Center, by phone and email at the contacts given below.

Additionally, the presence of such a system should be mentioned in the submitted Flight Plan in the "OTHER INFORMATION" section with the wording "BRS"

Finally, care shall be taken so that all relevant placards and markings signaling the presence of the BRS are properly installed at the correct locations on the aircraft, as per the manufacturer's instructions, are in good condition and legible.

6. Further information

For reporting the installation of Ballistic Rescue Systems (BRS) on small aircraft, or further inquiries, please contact:

Joint Rescue Coordination Center (JRCC):

Phone: +357 24643005

Email: info@jrcc.org.cy

Department of Civil Aviation:

Email:airworthiness@dca.mcw.gov.cy

Phone: +357 22404124