



## Safety Information Bulletin

<b>CAAS SIB No.</b>	2016-03
<b>Issued</b>	10 August 2016
<b>Subject</b>	Operating under the influence of any Psychoactive Substance.
<b>Ref. Publications</b>	1) Singapore ANO 2) Singapore AOCR
<b>Purpose</b>	To remind all operators of their responsibility to ensure that no person whose function is critical to the safety of aviation shall undertake that function while under the influence of any psychoactive substance.
<b>Applicability</b>	All Singapore Air Operator Certificate (AOC) Holders
<b>Cancellation</b>	N/A
<b>Background</b>	<p>You may have read sometime in May this year that a pilot of an LCC in the US was arrested to appear in court in April of this year for allegedly operating whilst under the influence of alcohol. He failed a random breathalyzer test instituted by the FAA about a year ago.</p> <p>Recently, it was also reported that two pilots were arrested by the Canadian police when they reported for a flight from Glasgow to Toronto for allegedly turning up drunk.</p> <p>FAA reported that about 64 pilots breached alcohol and drug regulations between 2010 and 2015. Given that there are approximately 100, 000 pilots flying in the US, the percentage is small. However, FAA cautioned that the statistics equate to 1 pilot per month flying under the influence of alcohol and that is 12 pilots annually. Moreover, the Administration added that the “trend is stagnant with no indication of downturn.”</p>

**Regulatory  
Obligation**

The ICAO Annex 1, on licensing, forbids a pilot from exercising the privileges under his licence if he or she is under the influence of alcohol and other psychoactive substances.<sup>1</sup>

Our ANO, in the Eleventh Schedule, paragraph 2.5 on the problematic use of psychoactive substances states that “No person whose function is critical to the safety of aviation (safety-sensitive personnel) shall undertake that function while under the influence of any psychoactive substance, by reason of which human performance is impaired. No such person shall engage in any kind of problematic use of substances.”

Similarly, our AOCR requires that operators have clear instructions prohibiting crew from operating under the influence of alcohol.

The FAA, CASA and the NZ authorities conduct regular random breathalyzer tests on all personnel involved in aviation safety activities, including pilots through their agencies. Similarly, in the local context, the Airport Police are empowered to conduct these tests.

**Recommendation(s)**

CAAS would like to remind all its operators to strictly reinforce the relevant regulation on “operating under the influence of alcohol and psychoactive substances” to all its operational staff, especially its crew members.

**Contact(s)**

For further information, contact respective POIs or CAAS A/FO Division Infocenter at 6595 6764 or [CAAS\\_AFO\\_Infocenter@caas.gov.sg](mailto:CAAS_AFO_Infocenter@caas.gov.sg)

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<sup>1</sup> Psychoactive substances: Alcohol, opioids, cannabinoids, sedatives and hypnotics, cocaine, other psychostimulants, hallucinogens, and volatile solvents, whereas coffee and tobacco are excluded.