



**A I C**  
**AERONAUTICAL INFORMATION CIRCULAR**  
**BELIZE, CENTRAL AMERICA**

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**C011/08**  
11<sup>th</sup> July, 2008

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**VFR NIGHT OPERATIONS**

**AERONAUTICAL INFORMATION CIRCULAR**

This Aeronautical Information Circular is designed to complement BCAR 02 and BCAR OPS 1, by providing additional information and guidance on how to meet the requirements and conditions for operating Visual Flight Rules at night within the country of Belize. The Belize Department of Civil Aviation hereby requires that all aircraft operators to adhere to the requirements and conditions stated in this AIC.

As only the Philip S.W. Goldson International Airport and San Pedro Airport are configured to accept night operations, all VFR night operations will be limited to the abovementioned aerodromes.

**Definitions:**

Night means the time between half an hour after sunset to half an hour before sunrise being determined at surface level.

VFR is the acronym used to designate the Visual Flight Rules.

**Applicability**

This AIC is applicable to flights operating VFR at night from the Philip S.W. Goldson International Airport to San Pedro Airport and flights departing prior to night from other domestic aerodromes to the Philip S.W. Goldson International Airport and / or San Pedro Airport.

**Requirements:**

**A. Instruments and Equipment**

- 1.) Airspeed indicator
- 2.) Altimeter
- 3.) Magnetic direction indicator
- 4.) Tachometer for each engine
- 5.) Oil pressure gauge for each engine using pressure system

- 6.) Temperature gauge for each liquid cooled
- 7.) Oil temperature gauge for each air-cooled engine
- 8.) Manifold pressure gauge for each engine
- 9.) Fuel gauge indicating the quality of fuel in each tank
- 10) An approved safety belt with an approved metal – to metal latching device for each occupant 2 years of age or older.
- 11) An approved shoulder harness for each front seat.
- 12) An emergency locator transmitter
- 13) Approved position lights
- 14) An approved aviation red or aviation white anti-collision light system on all registered civil aircraft.
- 15) If the aircraft is operated for hire, one landing light.
- 16) An adequate source of electrical energy for all installed electrical and radio equipment.
- 17) One spare set of fuses, or three spare fuses of each kind required, that are accessible to the pilot in flight.

## **B. Air Traffic Services**

- 1) Operators are required to request permission from the Belize Airports Authority to land at night and use of the runway in San Pedro
- 2) The Visual Flight Rules shall be complied during the aircraft's operations.
- 3) Visual Meteorological Conditions shall exist at both aerodromes of operation.
- 4) Runway lights shall be serviceable at the arrival aerodrome at all times.
- 5) The operators will be responsible to report the arrival time to Duty Air Traffic Control Officers as soon as possible.
- 6) Aircraft shall be equipped with Transponder, Mode C capabilities.

## **C. Equipment and Operating Information**

- 1) Flashlight
- 2) Cockpit checklist

## **D. Survival / Emergency Equipment**

- 1) Life jackets for each occupant on board with light
- 2) At least one pyrotechnic signaling device
- 3) A portable emergency radio
- 4) First aid kit
- 5) Fire Extinguisher

## **E. Radio Equipment**

- 1) Two way radio communication (communication between aircraft and Air Traffic Control)
- 2) Hand held radio (communication between aircraft and base)

## **F. Interior Lights / Signs**

- 1) Cabin lights - serviceable
- 2) Smoking sign light – serviceable
- 3) Seat Belt sign light – serviceable
- 4) Panel lights - serviceable

#### **G. Minimum Altitude**

An altitude of 1,000 feet ( 300 meters) above the highest obstacle within a horizontal distance of 4 nautical miles ( 7.5 kilometers) from the course to be flown.

#### **H. Single Pilot Operation**

- 1.) Air operators shall include in the Operations Manual a pilot's conversion and recurrent training program which includes the additional requirements for a single pilot operation.
- 2.) In particular, the cockpit procedures must include.
  - i. Engine management and emergency handling;
  - ii. Use of normal, abnormal and emergency checklists;
  - iii. ATC communication;
  - iv. Departure and approach procedures;
  - v. Autopilot management;
- 3.) Recurrent checks required shall be performed in the single pilot role on the type or class of aeroplane in an environment representative of the operation for night flying.
- 4.) The pilot shall have a minimum of 50 hours flight time on the specific type or class of aeroplane which 10 hours is as commander.

#### **I. Duty Time Limitations**

- 1) A pilot shall not be scheduled to serve for periods of duty time greater than 12 consecutive hours. Note: Time spent in deadhead transportation to or from duty assignment is not considered to be part of a rest period, but as duty time.

This Aeronautical Information Circular shall have effect from the date of publication.