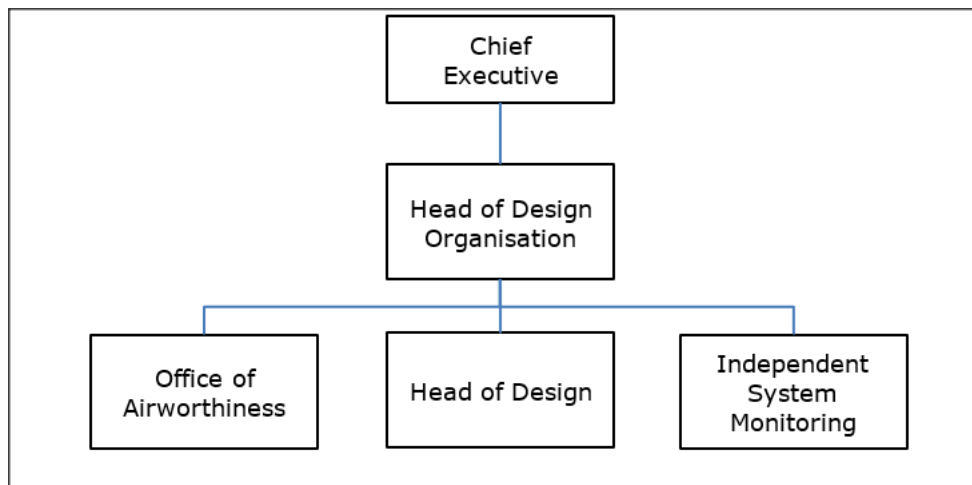


Introduction to the Role of EASA Part 21J Design Organisation and the Steps to Obtain Approval



The basis for an organisation approval according to EASA Part 21 / J is the achievement of the approval requirements specified in 21A.245

21.A.245 Resources Regulation (EU) 2022/201

- The organisation shall appoint a head of the design organisation with the authority to ensure that, within the organisation, all design activities are performed to the required standards and that the design organisation is continuously in compliance with the requirements of the design management system referred to in point 21.A.239 and the procedures specified in the handbook referred to in point 21.A.243.
- The head of the design organisation shall nominate and specify the extent of authority of:
 - a chief of the airworthiness function;
 - a chief of the independent monitoring function;
 - 3. depending on the size of the organisation and the nature and complexity of its activities, any other person or group of persons are required to ensure that the organisation complies with the requirements of this Annex.
- (c) By way of derogation from point 21.A.245(b)(1), the airworthiness function referred to in point 21.A.239(d)(1)(i) may be performed under the direct supervision of the head of the design organisation in either of the following cases:
 - where the scope of activities of/of work of the design organisation, as identified in the terms of approval issued under point 21.A.251, is limited to minor changes and/or minor repairs;
 - for a limited period of time when the design organisation does not have a nominated chief of the airworthiness function and the exercise of that function under the direct supervision

of the head of the design organisation is commensurate with the scope and level of the organisation's activities.

Quality System

The organisation must implement and maintain a quality system in general and a Design Assurance System in particular, to ensure the control and monitoring of all design activities.

A Design Organisation Approval is a recognition that a Design Organisation complies with the requirements of Part 21 Subpart J.

Supplementary implementation notes are given by the corresponding AMC and Guidance Material (GM). Regulatory monitoring of design organisations is carried out by EASA.

SMS in an EASA Part 21 Organisation

SMS - Since 07 March 2023 DOA holders must implement a Safety Management System. The safety management must be an element of the design management system.

21.A.239 Design management system

The design management system shall:

1. correspond to the size of the organisation and to the nature and complexity of its activities, taking into account the hazards and associated risks inherent in those activities;
2. be established, implemented and maintained under the accountability of a single manager appointed pursuant to point 21.A.245(a).

Terms of Approval

The approval includes terms of approval defining:

- The scope of approval: The type of design activities including fields of expertise
- Categories of products: The applicable products such as Large Aeroplanes, Engines, Small Rotorcraft, Sailplanes, etc.
- List of products: The list of products for which the DOA holder is Type Certificate applicant or holder (if applicable)

Privileges & Primary Activities of DOA Holder

The preparation of design documentation for aeronautical products or changes including repairs, in addition, to perform the following functions:

- a) Identification & interpretation of Certification Specification (CS) and environmental protection regulations;
- b) Verification that the design is safe and meets the airworthiness requirements of the Certification Specification;
- c) The preparation of Instruction for Continuing Airworthiness ICAW
- d) The preparation and application for official design approvals (Type Certification, Supplemental Type Certification or Repair Approvals).
- e) Design organizations provide Approved Production Data as well as Approved Maintenance Data.

NOTE – EASA issues Type Certificate and approvals for repair procedures based on the above activities.

A DOA holder can –

Perform design activities within the scope of approval

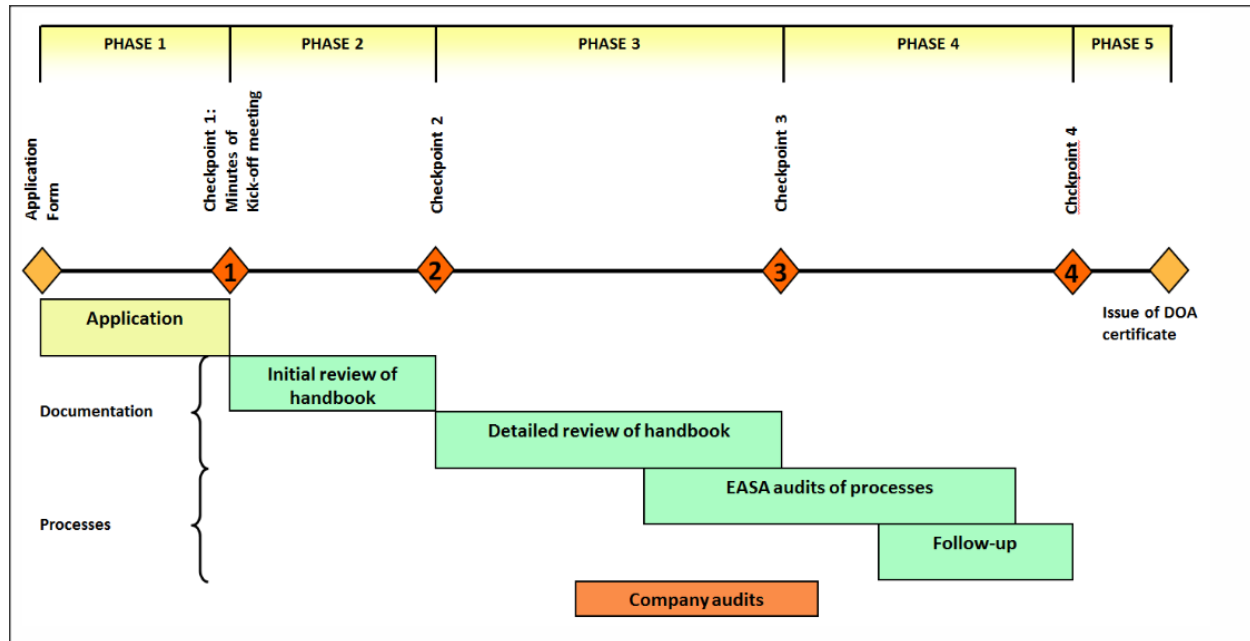
Have compliance documents accepted by the Agency without further verification

Perform activities independently from the Agency

Limitations: Any limitations on the above

DOA Obligations

- a) In accordance with EASA regulatory requirements product safety must be ensured by a comprehensive quality/design assurance system.
- b) The organisation must implement and maintain both a quality system and a Design Assurance System, to ensure the control and monitoring of all design activities.
- c) Concerning Manpower – The company must have sufficient personnel in terms of quantity and qualification to carry out the planned design activities.
- d) Facilities and equipment must enable the employees to carry out their work. Including admin & design offices, access to test and prototyping facilities required to demonstrate compliance.
- e) The organization must enable full and effective collaboration between and within the departments and interface with Production Organisation Approval Holder.
- f) To develop a handbook that defines and describes its structure, processes and responsibilities.



Application

A Design Organisation Approval can be applied for by submitting an application form FO.DOA.00080

Form 4 is required for:

Head of Design Organisation

Chief of the Office of Airworthiness

Chief of the Independent System Monitoring

Design Organisation Handbook and Procedures

After acceptance of an application, EASA will assign a DOA Team Leader to conduct the investigation.

Good Practices

EASA Good Practices intend to clarify specific items of implementing rules for design organisation approvals. They highlight a particular subject and, as non-binding material, provide additional technical explanations to current standards

EASA Good Practices are published for information purposes only and must not be regarded as formally adopted Acceptable Means of Compliance (AMC) or Guidance Material (GM).

- EASA Good Practices do not introduce new or modified rules and do not constitute any legal obligation or right for the Agency or the organisations.

A Design Organisation Approval is the recognition that a Design Organisation complies with the requirements of Part 21 Subpart J. The approval includes terms of approval defining:

Scope of approval: The type of design activities including fields of expertise

Categories of products: The applicable products such as Large Aeroplanes, Engines, Small Rotorcraft, Sailplanes, etc.

List of products: The list of products for which the DOA holder is Type Certificate applicant or holder (if applicable)

Privileges: A DOA holder can

Perform design activities within the scope of approval

Have compliance documents accepted by the Agency without further verification

Perform activities independently from the Agency

Limitations: Any limitations on the above

Relevant legislation

The following legislation is applicable to DOA:

Essential Requirements:

Regulation (EU) 2018/1139 - Basic Regulation

Implementing Rule:

Commission Regulation (EU) No 748/2012 - Initial Airworthiness Regulation, including Part 21

Relevant section of Regulation: Articles 1(h) & 8

Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 748/2012 - Part 21 - Certification of aircraft and related products, parts and appliances, and of design and production organisations

Relevant section of Part 21: Subpart J - Design Organisation Approval

Acceptable Means of Compliance (AMC) and Guidance material (GM) page.

ED Decision 2012/020/R - Acceptable Means of Compliance and Guidance Material

Relevant section of AMC & GM document: Subpart J - Design Organisation Approval.

This legislation is updated regularly by issuing amendments. A full overview can be found on the Regulations page.

Applications

A Design Organisation Approval can be applied for by submitting an application form to EASA (FO.DOA.00080 under “Downloads” on the right). In addition, the following information needs to be provided to EASA during the investigation process:

Design Organisation Handbook and Procedures

After acceptance of an application, EASA will assign a DOA Team Leader to conduct the investigation.

Next Steps

Please see www.sassofia.com or email team@sassofia.com.