

Aircraft Accident Investigation Responsibilities for Form 4 Holders

This summary outlines the responsibilities and expectations for Form 4 Holders in a new engine maintenance organisation based in India seeking dual approval under EASA Part 145 and DGCA CAR-145. It aligns with ICAO Annex 13 principles and relevant guidance from AAIB, DGCA, and EASA.

1. Regulatory Framework

Authority	Applicable Regulations
ICAO	Annex 13 – Aircraft Accident and Incident Investigation
EASA	Part 145.A.55, Regulation (EU) 996/2010
DGCA India	CAR-145 & Aircraft (Investigation of Accidents and Incidents) Rules, 2017

2. Summary of Responsibilities for Form 4 Holders

Form 4 Holders, particularly the Accountable Manager and Postholders, must ensure:

- Timely notification of accidents/incidents.
- Preservation of evidence including maintenance records and physical components.
- Support for investigative authorities (DGCA, AAIB, EASA NAA).
- Full cooperation during site inspections and provision of personnel and documentation.
- Prompt response to safety recommendations and internal corrective actions.

3. Specific Role-Based Responsibilities

Role	Key Responsibilities
Accountable Manager	Liaison with authorities, policy enforcement, resource allocation.
Maintenance Manager	Technical records retrieval, support physical examination of engines/components.
Quality Manager	Secure records, support root cause investigation, ensure evidence chain of custody.
Safety Manager	Coordinate SMS data, notify regulators, follow up on Safety Recommendations.

4. Immediate Actions in Case of an Accident

- Notify DGCA and EASA promptly.
- Secure and preserve wreckage and associated documentation.
- Provide investigators access to facilities, records, and staff.
- Nominate a focal point to liaise with the Investigator-in-Charge (IIC).

5. Essential Documentation to Retain

- Engine maintenance and overhaul records
- CRS (EASA Form 1) and maintenance logbooks
- MEL/CDL status and deferred defect history
- AD and SB compliance status
- Vibration analysis, condition monitoring data
- Contractor and sub-contract maintenance reports

6. Summary

Compliance with ICAO Annex 13, EASA, and DGCA expectations is critical for engine maintenance organisations. Form 4 Holders must ensure regulatory readiness, documentation integrity, and transparent cooperation with investigating bodies to support the ultimate objective of accident prevention.