

CHAPTER 11 TEST FLIGHTS

Division 11.1 Circumstances in which an RPA or model aircraft may be operated for test flights without registration

11.01 Purpose

For subregulation 101.099B (1) of CASR, this Division prescribes the circumstances in which:

- (a) an RPA or a model aircraft that is not required to be registered under Division 47.C.1 of CASR, and is not registered under Division 47.C.2, may be operated for the purposes of a test flight; and

Note 1 For operations, all RPA are required to be registered, generally under Division 47.C.2, unless specifically excluded by CASA (see subregulation 47.015 (1B)) or unless conducting a test flight in accordance with this Chapter.

Note 2 In general terms, from a prescribed date, a model aircraft must be registered under Division 47.C.2 of CASR unless it is a glider; or it has a gross weight of no more than 250 g; or (c) it has a gross weight of more than 250 g, but is operated only indoors and/or in a prescribed area (see subregulation 101.374B (3)) or unless conducting a test flight in accordance with this Chapter.

- (b) an aircraft that is registered as a model aircraft under Division 47.C.2 (a **relevant model aircraft**) may be operated as an RPA for the purposes of a test flight.

11.02 Circumstances

- (1) For paragraph 11.01 (1) (a), the circumstances are when the RPA or a model aircraft (the **relevant aircraft**) is operated for any of the following purposes, provided that the operation is relevant to the development, manufacture, repair or maintenance of the relevant aircraft or its aircraft system (the **relevant system**), or of equipment associated with the relevant aircraft or its aircraft system (**relevant equipment**):
 - (a) a test flight conducted by, or at the request of, the manufacturer developing the relevant aircraft, system or equipment, and for the purpose of such development;
 - (b) a test flight, following the manufacture of the relevant aircraft, system or equipment, that is conducted:
 - (i) by, or at the request of, the manufacturer of the relevant aircraft, system or equipment; and
 - (ii) before it is provided to the initial purchaser of the relevant aircraft, system or equipment;
 - (c) a test flight following the fitting of relevant equipment to a relevant aircraft or system, that is conducted by, or at the request of, the person who fitted the equipment;
 - (d) a test flight before or after repair or maintenance of the relevant aircraft, system or equipment, that is conducted by, or at the request of, the person who carried out, or will carry out, the maintenance or repair.
- (2) For paragraph 11.01 (1) (b), the circumstances are when the relevant model aircraft is operated for any of the purposes mentioned in subsection (1).