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PROMULGATION OF BELIZE CIVIL AVIATION REGULATIONS

In realization of the forward-looking and comprehensive vision of the Government of Belize, the Minister responsible for Civil Aviation in exercise of the powers conferred upon him by sections 4,5,8,9, and 32 of the Civil Aviation Act, Chapter 239 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000-2003, on September 19, 2007 enabled Statutory Instrument No. 134 of 2007.

Statutory Instrument No. 134 of 2007 later gazetted December 15, 2007 enabled the Belize Civil Aviation Regulations 2007 and thusly repealed the Air Navigation (Overseas Territories) Order 1977 as well as the United Kingdom Legislation (Air Navigation and Transportation).

The Government of Belize has identified a need to incorporate global best practice. The regulations established promote the highest level of safety, security, environmental protection and all other commercial and operational aspects. They detail the responsibilities, activities, prohibitions, procedures and all relevant rules and obligations of personnel and entities working and involved in civil aviation.

The issuance of Statutory Instrument 134 of 2007 culminated in the promulgation of the Belize Civil Aviation Regulations (BCARs). The Belize Civil Aviation Regulations, Issue 0, dated 01.06.03, are to be considered the regulations in force. A subsequent revision, Issue 1, dated 01.07.08 will be will be promulgated and in force on July 7, 2008.

The Department, in the appreciation of the complexity of incorporating new aviation regulations and the time the industry may need to meet all applicable standards, has established a "phase-in period" for compliance.

The “phase-in period” will last for a period of one year and the date established for full compliance with the aforementioned regulations is July 1, 2009. All new applicants and operators will have their respective applications processed in accordance with the BCARs. Every certificate, license or other document issued under the Air Navigation (Overseas Territories) Order 1977 as well as the United Kingdom Legislation (Air Navigation and Transportation) shall continue in force as long as they continue to meet those requirements until the document expires or otherwise revoked , suspended or cancelled by the Department. All documents must be fully compliant with the BCARs prior to July 7, 2008.

The aviation public will be required to obtain a copy of the BCARs prior to July 7, 2008. Electronic copies of the Belize Civil Aviation Regulations can be acquired at the offices of the Belize Department of Civil Aviation on or after July 1, 2008.

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