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STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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**2021 No. 792**

**The Space Industry Regulations 2021**

**PART 10**

Spaceport safety

CHAPTER 8

Emergencies

**Emergency response plan requirement**

**165.**—(1) A spaceport licensee must have in place and maintain an emergency response plan for the spaceport.

(2) The emergency response plan must—

- (a) detail how the spaceport licensee will respond in an emergency;
- (b) be appropriate for the licensed activities and spaceflight activities to be conducted at the spaceport;
- (c) provide for coordination with the relevant local authority and emergency services in response to an emergency occurring at, or in the vicinity of, the spaceport;
- (d) provide for the coordination of the spaceport emergency response plan with—
  - (i) the spaceport safety management system,
  - (ii) the emergency response plan of any other organisation at the spaceport, and
  - (iii) the emergency response plans of those organisations with which the spaceport licensee must interact during the provision of the spaceport services.

(3) The spaceport licensee must, at suitable intervals not exceeding three years—

- (a) test the emergency response plan, and
- (b) review and, where necessary, revise the plan.

(4) The spaceport licensee must supply to the regulator before or immediately after they come into effect—

- (a) the results of any test of the emergency response plan conducted under paragraph (3)(a), and
- (b) details of the revisions, if any, it has made to the emergency response plan as a result of a review conducted under paragraph (3)(b).

(5) For the purposes of this regulation—

“relevant emergency services” means emergency services which are likely to be required to respond to an emergency at the spaceport;

“relevant local authority” means the local authority in whose administrative area the spaceport is situated.

### **Spaceport rescue and fire-fighting provision**

**166.**—(1) A spaceport licensee must ensure that rescue and firefighting personnel, facilities and equipment are provided at the spaceport in a timely manner.

(2) The level, type and timeliness of provision under paragraph (1) must be appropriate taking account of—

- (a) the licensed activities and spaceflight activities to be conducted at the spaceport, and
- (b) the assessment made in the spaceport licensee’s current safety case.

### **Powers of spaceport firefighters in an emergency**

**167.**—(1) A member of the Rescue and Fire Fighting Service at a spaceport may do anything at a spaceport that the member reasonably believes to be necessary—

- (a) if the member reasonably believes a fire to have broken out or to be about to break out, for the purpose of extinguishing or preventing the fire or protecting life or property,
- (b) if the member reasonably believes an accident to have occurred, for the purpose of rescuing people or protecting them from serious harm, or
- (c) for the purpose of preventing or limiting damage to property resulting from any action taken as mentioned in sub-paragraph (a) or (b).

(2) In particular, a member of the Rescue and Fire Fighting Service at a spaceport, when acting in accordance with paragraph (1), may at the spaceport—

- (a) enter a launch vehicle, by force if necessary, without the consent of the owner or spaceflight operator;
- (b) restrict the access of persons to a launch vehicle or a place.

(3) A person who without reasonable excuse obstructs or interferes with a member of the Rescue and Fire Fighting Service at a spaceport taking authorised action under this regulation commits an offence.

(4) A person who commits an offence under paragraph (3) is liable—

- (a) on summary conviction in England and Wales, to a fine;
- (b) on summary conviction in Scotland or Northern Ireland, to a fine not exceeding the statutory maximum;
- (c) on conviction on indictment, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years, or a fine, or both.