



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
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Federal Office of Civil Aviation FOCA



Helicopters: Use of FSTD

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Current Policy for the OPS requirements



Annual Flight Training

- ME Helicopter → SIM only*
- SE Helicopter → SIM or ACFT possible (at the operator's discretion)

Operational Proficiency Check (OPC)

- ME Helicopter → SIM only or alternating between SIM and ACFT **mandatory***
- SE Helicopter → SIM only, ACFT only or alternating between SIM and ACFT

SIM = FFS or FTD (according certification)

* as long as the simulator is accessible and available (acc. EASA & FOCA definitions)



Development



- Extended FSTD options for SE helicopters (H125)





New Policy for the OPS requirements



Annual Flight Training

- ME Helicopter → SIM only*
- SE Helicopter → **SIM only*** (**New** from 01.06.2025)

Operational Proficiency Check (OPC)

- ME Helicopter → SIM only or alternating between SIM and ACFT mandatory*
- SE Helicopter
 - ↳ SIM only or alternating between SIM and ACFT **mandatory*** (**New** from 01.06.2025)

SIM = FFS or FTD (according certification)

* as long as the simulator is accessible and available (acc. EASA & FOCA definitions)



Updated EASA IR / Policy for FCL requirements



Licence Proficiency Check (LPC) and Skill Tests

- EASA IR will change (when implemented)
- Basic rule remains: available/accessible FFS must be used
- Derogations:
 1. Non-complex helicopters: FSTD and aircraft ok, even if FFS available/accessible
 2. Non-complex helicopters max. 5 seats: aircraft ok, even if FFS or FSTD available/accessible
- **Justified Exemptions to the above, from 01 June 2025:**
 - ↳ require prior FOCA SBFP approval (refer to GM/INFO Examination Guide chapter 1.22)

Combined OPC/LPC

- The most restrictive requirement of OPS respectively FCL applies
- Shall be described in the operator OM D



Manual updates



- For operators who have not yet implemented the use of FSTDs for SE helicopters, a **revision of manuals**, particularly **OM-D**, will be necessary.
- The operator must describe his **specific practice** when using the FSTD.
- The revised manuals must be **submitted in good time for approval**, so that the use of FSTD can be put into practice from 01.06.2025 at the latest.





FOCA

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