



2nd April 2026

SUNSETTING THE HELIDECK LIMITATION LIST (HLL) FOR HELIDECK CERTIFICATION OF AERODROMES

1 Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this advisory is to advise all aerodrome operators and stakeholders of the Civil Aviation Authority Malaysia's (CAAM) policy on the Helideck Limitation List (HLL) for Certification of Aerodrome (Helideck). This policy is aligned with international safety standards and CAAM's commitment to enhancing aviation safety through full compliance with design and operational requirements.

2 Background

- 2.1 The issuance of a Certificate of Aerodrome (CoA) to an aerodrome operator is pursuant to the Civil Aviation (Aerodrome Operations) Regulations 2016, which authorises the operator to operate and maintain the aerodrome. Additionally, the aerodrome operator is obliged to ensure that the specification of the aerodrome complies with the standards as may be determined by the Chief Executive Officer. This ensures that aerodrome facilities, equipment and operational procedures comply with the applicable standards necessary to support safe aircraft operations.
- 2.2 Pursuant to that, CAAM has published Civil Aviation Directive (CAD) 14 Volume II – Heliports and CAD 1406 – Helideck Standards and Requirements which contain the standards and requirements specifically for design and operation of the helidecks. However, HLL has been used as a long-term safety measure, allowing helideck operations to continue under specific operational limitations where full compliance with design standards is not achieved. Prolonged reliance on HLL has led to:
- a) Normalisation of non-compliance;
 - b) Increased complexity in safety oversight;
 - c) Inconsistencies in safety levels across certified helidecks.
- 2.3 In line with the applicable regulations and directives, CAAM is committed to ensuring that all certified helidecks operate based on full compliance with design and operational requirements, rather than relying on exception-based limitations.



3 CAAM Direction on the HLL

3.1 Effective 1 January 2030, CAAM will no longer accept the use of HLL as a primary mitigation mechanism for helidecks with design or operational non-compliances. All helidecks must comply with the following:

- a) Existing certificate holders: Must achieve full compliance with CAD 14 Volume II and CAD 1406 by 1 January 2030. Failure to do so will result in modification, operational downgrading or certificate revocation.
- b) New applications: Must demonstrate full compliance with CAD 14 Volume II and CAD 1406 at the time of application. No certificate shall be issued where any HLL is identified.

3.2 This direction aims to:

- a) Strengthen the integrity of the aerodrome certification process;
- b) Promote a culture of compliance by design and operation;
- c) Ensure consistent safety standards across all certified helidecks.

4 Transition Period

4.1 To facilitate a smooth transition, CAAM will implement a phased approach as follows:

Phase	Period	Key Actions
Phase 1	Current	HLL is permitted only for existing helidecks, subject to safety justification and strict monitoring.
Phase 2	2027 – 2029	Gradual reduction in HLL dependency. Operators must submit upgrading plans or operational rationalisation. Priority shall be given to addressing HLLs with high criticality that directly impact flight safety
Phase 3	2030 onwards	Complete termination of HLL for aerodrome certification purposes. All helidecks must be fully compliant.



- 4.2 Aerodrome operators are expected to:
- a) Review current HLLs – Identify and classify existing HLLs based on criticality, prioritising those that directly impact flight safety.
 - b) Develop upgrading plans – For HLLs arising from design or environmental constraints, aerodrome operators shall prepare and submit a comprehensive upgrading plan with clear timelines to CAAM.
 - c) Consider asset lifecycle – Evaluate the remaining operational life of helideck assets and plan upgrades or decommissioning accordingly.
 - d) Engage with CAAM – Maintain regular engagement with CAAM regarding upgrading plans or operational rationalisation to ensure alignment with regulatory expectations.

5 CAAM Support Initiatives

- 5.1 CAAM is committed to supporting the industry throughout this transition. The following initiatives will be implemented:
- a) Industry engagement sessions – Townhall and workshops to explain the safety rationale, HLL classification framework (critical vs non-critical) and transition expectations.
 - b) HLL transition plan template – A standardised template will be provided to assist aerodrome operators in developing and submitting their upgrade or rationalisation plans.
 - c) Regulatory alignment – The policy on termination of HLL will be incorporated into the relevant CAD specifically CAD 14 Volume II and CAD 1406.

6 Conclusions

- 6.1 The termination of HLL by 2030 marks a significant milestone in CAAM's commitment to enhancing aviation safety in Malaysia. This initiative aligns Malaysia with international best practices and ensures that all certified helidecks operate on the fundamental principle of compliance by design and operation, rather than relying on exception-based limitations.



CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY OF MALAYSIA ADVISORY INFORMATION 04/2026

- 6.2 CAAM is committed to working collaboratively with all aerodrome operators throughout this transition. All aerodrome operators are urged to take immediate action by reviewing their current HLLs, developing their transition plans and engaging with CAAM at the earliest opportunity. Together, we will continue to enhance aviation safety and support a sustainable aviation industry.



DATO' CAPTAIN NORAZMAN BIN MAHMUD
Chief Executive Officer
for Civil Aviation Authority of Malaysia
2 April 2026