

uAvionix SkyEcho 2 Electronic Conspicuity Devices Cleared for Unrestricted Transmission in the UK



Bigfork, MT December 11, 2019

uAvionix Corporation today announced that its **SkyEcho** Electronic Conspicuity (EC) devices will shortly be cleared by the UK Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) to transmit ADS-B data on 1090MHz, when carried in an aircraft also operating a 1090MHz transponder, including Modes A, C, and S. The clearance will be publicised in an Air Information Circular (AIC) to be released on 19 December 2019.

SkyEcho is an approved EC device under the **CAA's CAP 1391**. CAP 1391 was produced as a result of a CAA led project to develop a new industry standard for low-cost devices for use on light aircraft, to make them conspicuous to other airspace users. Sky Echo 2 is a standalone, battery powered EC device, one of a limited number of such devices that fully meets the standard set by CAP 1391.

Aircraft transponders worldwide operate on the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) standard frequency of 1090 MHz. For the widest compatibility this is also the frequency employed by the SkyEchoEC for ADS-B reception and transmission. Sharing the 1090 MHz frequency with transponder systems required the UK CAA and NATS to undertake a series of tests on 1090 MHz based EC systems. This was to ensure that there would be no negative impact from operating the two technologies simultaneously in the same aircraft. Until that testing was complete there has, therefore, been a prohibition on 1090 MHz based EC devices transmitting their ADS-B data simultaneously with an operating transponder.

With testing now complete, the CAA has confirmed that there is no significant interference between 1090 MHz transmitting EC devices, such as SkyEcho, and non-ADS-B aircraft transponders. The EC device ADS-B transmission prohibition is therefore lifted when used in conjunction with non-ADS-B (aka Extended Squitter or ES) enabled transponders.

uAvionix President, Christian Ramsey, said, "This pragmatic decision by the UK CAA is very welcome. We have worked closely with the UK regulator in developing and testing this technology, and have adhered closely to the CAP 1391 standard because we believe ADS-B is the only truly credible solution for GA electronic conspicuity, as this gives the widest possible compatibility with commercial, military, and GA systems worldwide. Now that pilots can use their SkyEcho to transmit as well as receive ADS-B, they are making themselves visible to the vast majority of other airspace users. Flight safety will be greatly enhanced as a result and the risk of collisions will be significantly reduced. The UK CAA is to be congratulated for taking a positive stance on EC and we hope that other European regulators will follow suit when they see the benefits and lack of negative impact in the UK".

Background on CAP1391

CAP 1391 states; 'In uncontrolled airspace (Class G in UK) – where an air traffic control (ATC) service is not mandatory – pilots and other airspace users have long operated on a principle of *see and avoid*. In other words, it is their responsibility to look out for other airspace users and avoid them. Use of EC reduces the risk of mid-air collision (MAC) in Class G airspace'.

EC includes transponders, radios, and dedicated devices providing geospatial position. Some dedicated EC devices, such as SkyEcho, also receive signals from other compatible systems using Automatic Dependent Surveillance-Broadcast (ADS-B) technology or the FLARM system. This alerts pilots to the presence of other aircraft, which assists them in being able to visually acquire the aircraft and take avoiding action as necessary.

About uAvionix Corporation

uAvionix was founded in 2015 with the mission of bringing safety solutions to the unmanned aviation industry in order to aid in the integration of Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) into the National Airspace System (NAS). A fundamental principle of that mission is to provide solutions that allow all airspace users a common situational awareness of the airspace. Through the evolution of our company, we pioneered and now offer low SWaP TSO certified and uncertified ADS-B and GPS

solutions for General Aviation (GA), Airport Surface Vehicles and the UAS markets. Based in Bigfork, MT and Leesburg, VA, uAvionix consists of an unparalleled engineering and management team with a unique combination of experience within avionics, surveillance, airport services, UAS aircraft development, radio frequency (RF), and semiconductor industries. The entire leadership team consists of pilots of fixed wing, rotary wing, and UAS aircraft. uAvionix is backed by investors at [Playground Global](#) and [Airbus Ventures](#).

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uAvionix Media Contact:

squawk@uavionix.com

+1 (844) 827-2372 x215

December 11th, 2019

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CORPORATE OFFICE

uAvionix Corporation
300 Pine Needle Lane
Bigfork, MT 59911

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