

Circular No. 1-026

# Requirements for Installing Supplemental White Strobe Lights on Rotorcraft

September 16, 2015      First issue (KOKU-KU-KI-459)

Airworthiness Division, Aviation Safety and Security Department  
Japan Civil Aviation Bureau  
Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism

(Translated on April 8, 2016)

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JCAB Circular

Director, Airworthiness Division  
Aviation Safety and Security Department  
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Subject: Requirements for Installing Supplemental White Strobe Lights on Rotorcraft

1. Purpose

This JCAB Circular aims to stipulate the requirements for applicants who seek a Type Certificate (including approval for Change to Type Design), approval for Supplemental Type Design (including approval for Change to Supplemental Type Design), Airworthiness Certificate, Inspection of Repair or Alteration, etc. for rotorcraft when installing white strobe lights to their rotorcraft with the purpose of improving visibility from other aircraft in addition to anti-collision lights equipped in accordance with the Ordinance for Enforcement of the Civil Aeronautics Act and the Airworthiness Inspection Manual. The requirements stipulated in this JCAB Circular shall be handled as special requirements of Japan.

2. Requirements, etc.

The white strobe lights described above are regarded as equipment that is effective in preventing accidental midair contact or collision of aircraft due to their large effect of enhancing aircraft visibility. However, lamp light generated by white strobe lights can also hinder the pilot's vision or dazzle the pilot.

Therefore, it is necessary to stipulate technical requirements for the installation of white strobe lights to rotorcraft and also to attain the effect of white strobe lights without causing the visibility interference, etc. described above.

2-1) Handling under the Ordinance for Enforcement of the Civil Aeronautics Act and the Airworthiness Inspection Manual

Since the white strobe lights specified in this JCAB Circular are supplemental lights that are equipped optionally, these are not aircraft lights, such as anti-collision lights, etc. stipulated in

Article 154 of the Ordinance for Enforcement of the Civil Aeronautics Act and the Airworthiness Inspection Manual.

#### 2-2) Equipment Requirements

- (i) The light emitted must not hinder the pilot's vision or dazzle the pilot.
- (ii) White strobe lights must not impair the visual intelligibility of anti-collision lights and navigation lights.
- (iii) The color of strobe lights must be white.
- (iv) White strobe lights must be able to be turned off independently.
- (v) White strobe lights must meet other relevant requirements stipulated in the Airworthiness Inspection Manual.

#### 2-3) Flight Manual

Matters of limitations must be stipulated in the Basic Flight Manual or the Supplemental Flight Manual, and necessary placards must be displayed, so that white strobe lights do not hinder the pilot's vision or dazzle the pilot.

Examples of the limitations include the indications listed below; indications other than the following may be described additionally if it is deemed necessary.

“Strobe lights must be turned off in the following cases.

- When taxiing near other aircraft
- When entering into fog or a cloud”

#### Supplementary Provisions

This JCAB Circular shall apply from December 16, 2015. However, this JCAB Circular does not apply to the aircraft that are equipped with white strobe lights and have the Airworthiness Certificate issued in Japan as of December 16, 2015.

Contact the following for inquiries, opinions, etc. concerning this JCAB Circular.

Airworthiness Engineer

Airworthiness Division

Aviation Safety and Security Department

Japan Civil Aviation Bureau

Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism

Kasumigaseki 2-1-3, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8918

Tel.: 03-5253-8735

Fax: 03-5253-1661