Service d'État de l'Aviation Civile en Polynésie Française SEAC.PF



MINISTÈRE DE L'ÉCOLOGIE, DU DÉVELOPPEMENT DURABLE, ET DE L'ENERGIE



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- CONTEXT -

- In France as everywhere in the world, Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS) activities have been increasing in the last past years.
- To protect overflown populations and the other users of airspace, France implemented a regulation in April 2012.
- This regulation was also wished by the RPAS users.
- This regulation is dedicated to RPAS with low mass and size (usually less than 25 kg) and must not require heavy oversight from the Authority.

Regulation Principles

- RPAS is forbidden over 500 ft except in segregated airspace in order to segregate them from others airspace users.
- No aiworthiness certificate (for RPAS under 25 kg), no pilot licence, no airspace usage notification are required.
- 4 operational scenario are defined in the regulation depending on several criterea as operations in visual line of sight or no, distance between the pilot and the RASP...
- Cases which are not falling within the 4 scenario are dealt with on a case by case basis.

Our Feed back after 2 years implementation

- It's rather difficult to check the real application of the regulation.
- It's necessary to reinforce the information to the potential users on the existence of a regulation (most of non-compliance is not volontary).
- Soon, a booklet summarized the regulation will be systematically given with a use manual to the buyers of RASP.

Nevertheless, 25 infractions have led to legal procedures leading to fines up 500 €, RASP confiscations and even suspended prison sentence.