



# Safety matters

Issue No: 03/18

## What is the purpose of this issue of Safety Matters?

The purpose of this issue is to provide guidance on how to conduct a briefing to increase passenger situational awareness and enhance any response to an emergency or abnormal event within the passenger-carrying environment.

This bulletin on its own does not change, create, amend or permit deviations from regulatory requirements, nor does it establish minimum standards. The content of this issue uses CASA Safety Bulletin 12 as its source, and the original document can be found [here](#).

## Background

Survivors of aircraft accidents have provided anecdotal evidence as to the importance of their recollection of information concerning the correct operation of aircraft equipment such as exits, the location of emergency equipment and how to adopt the brace position for impact. Adequately briefed passengers, who understand how to help themselves, will assist in the quick and successful evacuation of an aircraft.

## The Legislation

Article 48 of the Air Navigation (Isle of Man) Order 2015 requires the commander of an aircraft registered in the Isle of Man to:

- Ensure that before take-off on a flight, all passengers are made familiar with the position and method of use of:
  - ⇒ Emergency exits;
  - ⇒ Safety belts (with diagonal shoulder strap where required to be carried);
  - ⇒ Safety harnesses (if required to be carried);
  - ⇒ Oxygen equipment, lifejackets and the floor path lighting system (where required to be carried); and
  - ⇒ All other devices required by or under this Order and intended for use by passengers individually in the case of an emergency occurring to the aircraft.
- Take all reasonable steps to ensure that in an emergency during a flight, all passengers are instructed in the emergency action that they should take.

# Passenger Safety Briefings

## Conducting the Briefing

The briefing should be conducted each time passengers are carried.

Passengers should be orally briefed. The briefing can be presented verbally and/or via an audio-visual presentation.

Passengers with special needs may require an individual safety briefing. Examples of these passengers would include visually or hearing-impaired persons or those travelling with infants.

Safety briefings should explain where to locate and how to use the emergency equipment passengers may be required to operate. In an emergency, a well-briefed passenger will depend less on a crew member and optimise their chance of survival. This life-saving information should be conveyed to passengers in conjunction with a safety-briefing card featuring signs and placards specific to your aircraft.





## Section A – Aeroplanes

The pilot-in-command should conduct the passenger briefing prior to engine start, where possible. The type of operation dictates what sort of briefing will be conducted with suggested content as follows:

### Pre-flight Briefing

- Seat belt fastening, tightening, releasing procedures;
- Importance of using a shoulder harness where fitted;
- Location and operation of doors and emergency exits;
- Location and operation of emergency equipment such as the emergency locator transmitter, survival kit, first-aid kit, fire extinguisher and any other safety equipment;
- Location and use of life jackets, including fitment and when to inflate;
- No smoking;
- Oxygen-dispensing equipment;
- Remain in the seat unless given permission to move;
- Do not distract the pilot during take-off, manoeuvring or landing.

## In the event of an emergency

### Actions and precautions to take in the event of an emergency:

- ⇒ Follow instructions;
- ⇒ Do not distract the pilot;
- ⇒ Check that any loose equipment in the cabin is secured;
- ⇒ Brace position.

### Emergency landing on land:

- ⇒ When and how to exit the aeroplane;
- ⇒ Assist others to evacuate well clear of the aeroplane;
- ⇒ Remove first aid kit and other emergency equipment after no threat of fire.

### Emergency landing on water:

- ⇒ Establish your position in relation to the exit
- ⇒ Release the seat belt
- ⇒ Inflate life jacket and life raft when clear of the aeroplane.



## Section B – Helicopters

The pilot-in-command should conduct the passenger briefing prior to entering the helicopter and engine start. The type of operation dictates what sort of briefing will be conducted with suggested content as follows:

### Pre-flight Briefing

- Seat belt fastening, tightening, releasing procedures;
- Importance of using a shoulder harness where fitted;
- Location and operation of doors and emergency exits;
- Location and operation of emergency equipment such as the emergency locator transmitter, survival kit, first-aid kit, fire extinguisher and any other safety equipment;
- Location and use of life jackets, including fitment and when to inflate;
- No smoking;
- Remain in the seat unless given permission to move;
- Do not distract the pilot during take-off, manoeuvring or landing.

### In the event of an emergency

#### Actions and precautions to take in the event of an emergency:

- ⇒ Follow instructions;
- ⇒ Do not distract the pilot;
- ⇒ Check that any loose equipment in the cabin is secured;
- ⇒ Brace position.

#### Emergency landing on water:

- ⇒ Establish your position in relation to the exit;
- ⇒ Release the seat belt;
- ⇒ Inflate life jacket and life raft when clear of helicopter.



Safety procedures may vary slightly from one helicopter model to another, however, the following may be included in relevant passenger briefings:

- Wait for instructions to approach or leave the helicopter
- Stay well clear of the helipad when the helicopter is arriving or departing
- Approach and leave to the side or front in a crouched position; never by the rear of the helicopter
- If possible, wait until the rotors stop turning
- Carry tools horizontally, below waist level, never upright, over the shoulder or above the head
- Never throw items towards or out of a helicopter
- Hold firmly onto hats and loose articles
- Never reach up or dart after a hat or other object that might have blown off or away
- Protect eyes against blown dust and particles by shielding them with a hand or by wearing sunglasses, safety glasses or safety goggles
- If sudden blindness occurs due to dust or a blowing object, stop and crouch lower or sit down and wait for assistance
- Approach and leave by the downslope side for rotor clearance
- Never feel their way toward or away from the helicopter
- Protect hearing by wearing ear plugs or muffs.

The Registry welcomes your feedback, and should you wish to contact us regarding this, or any other topic you feel worthy of a 'Safety Matters' issue, please contact us at [aircraft@gov.im](mailto:aircraft@gov.im)