

CIVIL AVIATION DIRECTORATE

Transport Malta, Malta Transport Centre, Pantar Road, Lija LJA 2021 Malta. Tel: +356 2555 5000 cadpel.tm@transport.gov.mt www.transport.gov.mt

Note: 2023/203 references and key persons are applicable from 22/02/2026

0.0 PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT

This policy document is designed to ensure commonality and transparency by TMCAD assessors in the evaluation of nominees for key positions with a Training Organisation within the oversight of TMCAD Personnel Licensing.

The following is an explanatory list of terms used in this policy:

- TMCAD - The competent authority in Malta.
- Organisation - The ATO holder or an entity that is in the process of applying for an ATO.
- Sponsor - The organisation nominating a candidate for acceptance in a key position by TMCAD.
- Assessor(s) - TMCAD personnel conducting assessments for the purpose evaluating the suitability of nominees for key posts.
- Nominee/Candidate - A person, sponsored by an organisation for acceptance by TMCAD in a key position within the organisation.
- Key Position/Person - One or a combination of incumbencies within the organisation and includes:
 - Accountable Manager (AM)
 - Head of Training (HT) *referring to the person responsible for training at the TO*
 - Chief Training Instructor (CTI)
 - Safety Manager (SM)
 - Compliance Monitoring Manager (CMM)
 - Common Responsible Person (CRP)

1.0 INTRODUCTION

To achieve an adequate level of safety, both the TMCAD and the organisations holding ATO certificates must work in a consistent manner towards a common goal. To ensure compliance with the regulation, TMCAD must establish means to oversee standards expected from the organisation. The assessment of the standard and competence of the organisation's personnel in key positions falls within the remit of the TMCAD. Although the responsibility for the induction of personnel in key positions rests with the organisation, the regulation obliges the competent authority to oversee that the required acceptance standards are met. This policy is embedded in the PEL Manual and outlines the process to be applied to ensure transparency and consistency in the assessment/acceptance by TMCAD, of persons in key positions sponsored by an organisation. Essentially, nominees for key positions will be expected to satisfy to TMCAD that they possess the experience and qualification required for them to be able to fulfil their role within the management organisation of their sponsor and to ensure compliance with the regulation.

Nominated Persons Policy Document - ATCO

Reference: Commission Regulation (EU) 2015/340, as amended.

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2.0 ACCEPTANCE PRE-REQUISITES (ATCO.OR.C.010)

Personnel requirements in accordance with ATCO.OR.C.210 (and its AMCs) and IS.I.OR.240 shall be expected to possess the experience and meet the provisions that are listed hereunder.

2.1 Head of Training (HT)

The person fulfilling this function will be the person responsible for training. The ideal candidate would have extensive experience in instructing for all types of ATC training and possess sound managerial capability. Furthermore s/he will have overall responsibility for ensuring satisfactory integration of all training provided and for supervising the progress of the persons undertaking training. The Head of Training is also the person responsible for coordinating and delegating the contact to the competent authority in training-related issues. Such person or persons are ultimately responsible to the accountable manager.

Note: The amount of experience shall be determined by the Organisation, considering not only years but training hours.

2.2 Chief Training Instructor (CTI)

Training organisations shall have sufficient qualified personnel for the planned tasks and activities to be performed in accordance with the applicable requirements. In line with this, a Training Organisation may sponsor person/s subordinated to the Head of Training in the role of Chief Training Instructor(s).

The ideal candidate for this role should have extensive experience in instructing for all types of ATC training and possess sound managerial capability. S/he is to be capable of carrying the responsibility of ensuring that satisfactory training is being delivered. Furthermore, the selected candidate is expected to supervise the progress of the persons undertaking training in the areas that have been delegated by the person responsible for training. Chief Training Instructor/s are to report to the person responsible for training.

Note: The amount of experience shall be determined by the Organisation, considering not only years but training hours.

The recommendation from TMCAD is 24 months of active experience.

2.3 Accountable Manager (AM)

The Accountable Manager is responsible for establishing and maintaining an effective management system, ensuring also that all activities can be financed and carried out in accordance with the appropriate requirements. The post holder shall have a proven track record in same or similar post.

2.4 Compliance Monitoring Manager (CMM)

The Compliance Monitoring Manager shall undertake the function to monitor compliance of the organisation with the relevant requirements.

The recommendation from TMCAD is that the key person has a proven track record of audit planning and 24 months experience as auditor or 12 months CMM experience.

2.5 Common Responsible Person (CRP)

The accountable manager or the common responsible person, shall have corporate authority to establish and maintain the organisational structures, policies, processes and procedures necessary to implement point IS.I.OR.200.

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2.6 Safety Manager (SM)

The Safety Manager is responsible to coordinate the safety management system of the organisation.

The recommendation from TMCAD is that the key person has a proven track record of safety and knowledge of safety risk assessment and qualified in incident investigation and follow-up, with 24 months experience working in the Safety unit or 12 months experience as a SM.

3.0 PROCESS FOR THE NOMINATION OF PERSON IN KEY POSITION(S)

In the case of, Accountable, Head of Training (person responsible for training), Chief Training Instructor, Safety Manager or Compliance Manager, the sponsoring organisation shall submit, not less than ten (10) working days prior to the proposed date of assessment:

- i. A formal application of proposal for nomination;
- ii. Completed TMCAD Form 297;
- iii. Manpower Plan;
- iv. Management of Change (if this is a change of key person)

The application shall be accompanied by the following documents:

- i. Curriculum Vitae;
- ii. Relevant Qualifications

4.0 PROCESS FOR ASSESSMENT

- The assessment will be conducted at the offices of TMCAD. It is expected that the candidate has the company manual suite available with them.
- Assessors shall be Personnel Licensing Inspectors or Inspecting Officers (when the assessment team includes one of the preceding grades).
- Two assessors will be present during the session.
- The decision on the outcome of the assessment by the TMCAD assessors must be unanimous.
- In the event that the candidate is not accepted by the TMCAD, he shall not be permitted to reapply for the same post with the sponsoring organisation for a minimum period of 12 months.
- A list of topics (not exhaustive) for discussion can be found in Appendix A of this document.

For the avoidance of doubt, previous employment of a Key Person in a similar position with another organisation will not result in automatic acceptance by the TMCAD within the new organisation. The decision of the TMCAD assessors will be final and not subject to appeal.

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5.0 PROVISIONAL ACCEPTANCE

TMCAD can provisionally accept sponsored nominees under one of two circumstances:

- In the event that the nominees are sponsored by an organisation that is in the process of attaining a Training Organisation (TO), then a full assessment of the nominees' knowledge of the organisation's processes would be limited, particularly since the documentation phase of the TO application would be thereto incomplete. Under such circumstances, the TMCAD assessors may provisionally accept the sponsored nominees in their proposed incumbencies for the purpose of assisting with the establishment of the organisation's management system in pursuit of attaining a Training Organisation.

Notwithstanding, at this initial stage of TO attainment, the HT, and CTI must be in possession of qualifications relevant and adequate for the positions being recommended for. A provisional acceptance under this arrangement will be subject to a follow-up assessment after 3-6 months, by which time the provisionally accepted key personnel would have become familiar with the organisation's processes.

- If a candidate is proposed for a key position by an organisation already holding a TO and during the TMCAD assessment the nominee reveals that he does not possess adequate qualification, he may be provisionally accepted, without prejudice to the statutory qualification requirements for HT and CTI. In this case, the assessors will invariably require the candidate to attend specific courses to meet established criteria.

Under such circumstances, the provisional acceptance shall be for a period not greater than 6 months, until the required qualification criteria are met. This period may be extended for a further period of 6 months if proof has been provided that the qualifying courses have not been available within this period. If within this 12-month period, the nominee has not qualified in the assessed criteria, the TMCAD provisional acceptance will lapse and a new assessment by TMCAD will be required.

It will be the responsibility of the organisation's Accountable Manager to notify TMCAD that his organisation is in default of the requirements of this policy. The Accountable Manager shall advise the TMCAD on how the functions of the post will be fulfilled by the organisation.

6.0 ACCEPTANCE, NOTIFICATION AND CHANGES TO TRAINING ORGANISATION

The outcome of the assessment will be notified to the nominee's sponsor. In the event that the nominee is acceptable to the TMCAD, the sponsor will also be advised in writing if the acceptance is provisional and whether the contracted hours of employment are adequate. Written notification of acceptance (of the nominee) to the organisation shall include the proviso that should the operational situation of the organisation change from the circumstances at the time of acceptance of the nominee, the TMCAD reserves the right to review the acceptance criteria of the nominee.

Case in point, in organisations where one person holds multiple key positions, erstwhile permissible due to the size and nature of the operation. If the organisation's size and scope of operation varies the TMCAD may also determine that a multiple key position holder relinquish one or more incumbency.

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7.0 COMBINATION OF ROLES

The acceptability of one person holding more than one key role will be dependent on the size and scope of the operation.

If the key person holds multiple roles, the candidate must fulfil all requirements for all nominations that the organisation applies for, and no credits shall be given for concurrent roles.

Each organisation must declare the minimum working hours for each position. Working hours shall be dependent upon the scale of the operation but limited to the applicable Working Time Directive.

The complexity of the organisation may prevent, or limit, combinations of nominations that may be acceptable in other circumstances.

7.1 Persons Holding Key Positions with Different TO's

A person appointed as a nominated person by the holder of a TO must not be appointed as a nominated person by the holder of any other TO, unless acceptable and approved by TMCAD.

Holding a Nomination in more than one TO is acceptable under the following conditions:

- i. The organisation must make arrangements to ensure continuity of supervision in the absence of nominated persons and thus have a declared deputy.
- ii. Nominated persons must be contracted to work sufficient hours to fulfil the management functions associated with the scale and scope of the operation.

A person shall not occupy a key position with more than 2 TO holders.

8.0 DEPUTIES

Nomination of deputies has the same process as key persons. Deputies shall meet the same requirements of the key persons since they will be assuming responsibilities and duties of the concerned function.

9.0 WITHDRAWAL OF ACCEPTANCE

It must be understood that TMCAD acceptance of a nominee may be withdrawn at any time even after the nominee has embarked on substantive employment with the organisation. This process will only be initiated if a valid reason exists. Reasons for such a withdrawal of acceptance include, but are not limited to:

- i. Inadequate appropriate interaction with the TMCAD;
- ii. Persistent delays in closing audit findings;
- iii. Lack of qualification as a consequence of change management in size and scope;
- iv. Culpable infringement of regulations;
- v. Criminal/fraudulent activity.

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Appendix A

Assessors have the obligation to ensure that the nominated person/s being interviewed are correctly identified and adequately meet the requirements established by the regulation by means of their qualifications and experience. In this respect below are guidelines TMCAD Personnel Licensing officials will use during the assessment, however questions might not be limited to the below in order to ensure a thorough assessment.

A.1 Head of Training (HT)/Chief Training Instructor (CTI) Nominated Person

Requirements:

The nominated Head of Training (HT)

- shall have experience in training as an instructor for professional pilot licences and associated ratings or certificates
- should have extensive experience in instructing for all types of ATC training and possess sound managerial capability;
- the Head of Training has overall responsibility to ensure training is in compliance with the appropriate regulations
- have the capability to execute overall responsibility ensuring satisfactory integration of all training provided and supervising the progress of the persons undertaking training;
- have the ability to coordinate and delegate as well as be the contact to the competent authority in training-related issues;
- the Head of training must supervise the progress of individual students

Furthermore,

Prerequisites, typical functions and responsibilities of the Chief Training Instructor(s)/unit responsible training officer(s) shall be:

- extensive experience in instructing for all types of ATC training and possess sound managerial capability;
- capable of carrying the responsibility of ensuring that satisfactory training is provided;
- capable of supervising the progress of the persons undertaking training in the areas that have been delegated by the person responsible for training; and
- reports to the person responsible for training referred to above as Head of Training.

Assessment:

- Assess the nominee's knowledge of current regulations that prescribe training requirements.
- Assess the nominee's knowledge of the elements of the Safety Management System, the principles of the Compliance Monitoring System of the company
- Assess the nominee's knowledge of EU regulations governing TOs
- Assess the nominee's knowledge of the role the position he is being nominated for has in Safety Management and Compliance Monitoring
- Assess the nominee's knowledge of TO manuals.
- Assess the nominee's knowledge of Regulation Part-FCL
- Assess the nominee's vision in lieu of the current training effectiveness of the TO and possible way forward
- Assess the nominee's hours of employment in relation to the scope of the TO
- Assess the nominee's general attitude towards the regulations and TMCAD

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Guidance on Training Requirements for the Position

- Requirements of ATCO.OR.C.010
- Basic Safety Management System Course
- EU Regulation No. 2015/340 Training Course

A.2 Accountable Manager (AM)

Requirements:

- The Accountable Manager is responsible for establishing and maintaining an effective management system, ensuring also that all activities can be financed and carried out in accordance with the appropriate requirements.
- The Accountable Manager must have direct safety accountability for the TO and remains ultimately responsible that the TO remains in compliance with the applicable regulations
- The Accountable Manager shall be responsible that the TO has sufficient qualified personnel, that the TO maintains the appropriate staff and that personnel are aware of the rules and procedures to conduct their duties.

Assessment:

- Assess the nominee's knowledge of the elements of the Safety Management System, the principles of the Compliance Monitoring System of the company
- Assess the nominee's knowledge of EU regulations governing TOs
- Assess the nominee's knowledge of his responsibilities as an Accountable Manager
- Assess the nominee's knowledge of the role the position he is being nominated for has in Safety Management and Compliance Monitoring
- Assess the nominee's management experience and capabilities
- Assess the nominee's knowledge of TO manuals.
- Assess the nominee's knowledge of Regulation Part-ATCO
- Assess the nominee's general attitude towards the regulations and TMCAD

Guidance on Training Requirements for the Position

- EU Regulation No. 2015/340 Training Course
- Basic Safety Management System Course
- Accountable Manager / Nominated Persons Course
- Briefing on Part-IS

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A.3 Common Responsible Person (CRP)

The accountable manager or the common responsible person, shall have corporate authority to establish and maintain the organisational structures, policies, processes and procedures necessary to implement point IS.I.OR.200.

Requirements:

- The CRP should be given the appropriate delegation that is necessary to implement the provisions of IS.I.OR.200, including the authority and the financial means to mobilise and control the resources across the organisations, or parts of the organisation involved.
- The common responsible person has direct access to the accountable manager;
- The CRP is expected to have information security competencies.

Assessment:

- Assess the nominee's knowledge of the elements of the Information security management manual
- Assess the nominee's knowledge of EU regulations governing ATOs
- Assess the nominee's knowledge of his responsibilities as CRP
- Assess the nominee's management experience and capabilities
- Assess the nominee's knowledge of Regulation Part-FCL
- Assess the nominee's general attitude towards the regulations and TMCAD

Guidance on Training Requirements for the Position

- Briefing on EU Regulation No. 1178/2011
- Appropriate knowledge in Information security management systems (ISMS) (e.g., ISO/IEC 27001 frameworks or similar)
- Appropriate knowledge in Cybersecurity threats and risk management

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A.4 Compliance Monitoring Manager (CMM) Nominated Person

Requirements:

The organisation shall be responsible to nominate a person or group of persons with the responsibility of ensuring that the organisation remains in compliance with the applicable requirements.

- The Compliance Monitoring Manager shall be responsible for ensuring that the compliance monitoring programme is properly implemented, maintained and continually reviewed and improved
- The Compliance Monitoring Manager shall have direct access to the Accountable Manager
- The Compliance Monitoring Manager shall have access to all parts of the TO and, as necessary, the contracted organisations

Assessment:

- Assess the nominee's qualifications and experience
- Assess the nominee's knowledge of the principles of the Compliance Monitoring system in the organisation.
- Assess the nominee's knowledge of EU regulations governing TOs
- Assess the nominee's knowledge of the elements of the Safety Management System, the principles of the Compliance Monitoring System of the company
- Assess the nominee's knowledge of the role the position he is being nominated for has in Safety Management and Compliance Monitoring
- Assess the nominee's knowledge in Audit Planning and from where this requirement is derived from the regulation
- Assess the nominee's administrative skills with regard to findings and their safety impact on operations
- Assess the nominee's knowledge about regulation requirements that deal with Mandatory Occurrence Reporting.
- Assess the nominee's knowledge of a Compliance Monitoring Programme.
- Assess the nominee's hours of employment in relation to the scope of the TO
- Assess the nominee's general attitude towards the regulations and TMCAD

Guidance on Training Requirements for the Position

- EU Regulation No. 2015/340 Training Course
- Basic and/or Advanced Safety Management System Course
- Instruction Techniques
- Basic and/or Advanced Auditing Techniques Course
- Root Cause Analysis Course

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A.5 Safety Manager (SM) Nominated Person

Requirements:

The organisation shall identify a person who fulfils the role of Safety Manager and who is responsible for coordinating the Safety Management System of the organisation.

- The safety manager is responsible for coordinating the safety management system.

Assessment:

- Assess the nominee's qualifications and experience
- Assess the nominee's knowledge of the elements of the Safety Management System, the principles of the Compliance Monitoring System of the company
- Assess the nominee's knowledge of EU regulations governing TOs
- Assess the nominee's knowledge of the role the position he is being nominated for has in Safety Management and Compliance Monitoring
- Assess the nominee's knowledge of TO manuals.
- Assess the nominee's knowledge of ICAO Annexes dictating the requirements of Safety Management System
- Assess the nominee's knowledge of the EU regulation that governs Safety Management System
- Assess the nominee's knowledge on the components of Safety Management System, purpose of the Safety Review Board, the HIRA process of the organisation, the SSP
- Assess the nominee's knowledge on the regulation that applies in case of an accident
- Assess the nominee's knowledge on the levels of risk severity and probability applicable in the organisation, identification of hazards and mitigation of associated risks
- Assess the nominee's hours of employment in relation to the scope of the TO
- Assess the nominee's general attitude towards the regulations and TMCAD

Guidance on Training Requirements for the Position

- EU Regulation No. 2015/340 Training Course
- Basic and/or Advanced Safety Management System Course
- Investigation Techniques

PERSONNEL LICENSING SECTION