

06 December 2024



By email: Regulated Air Cargo Agents

Cc: comms@caa.govt.nz
ceo@cbaff.org.nz
katrina@jenners.co.nz

Dear Regulated Air Cargo Agent,

Air Certify and acceptable compliance with Civil Aviation Rule 109

As you are likely aware, the Customs Brokers and Freight Forwarders Federation of New Zealand (CBAFF) has been collaborating with OneReg and Independent Verification Services (IVS) on the development of the AirCertifyNZ programme. This follows findings made by the International Civil Aviation Organization following the security audit of New Zealand in 2022. CAA's email to industry of 14 June 2024 outlined the legislative requirement for RACA to meet, and continue to meet, all CAR 109 requirements. This includes full and immediate implementation of all known customer requirements.

The AirCertifyNZ programme is designed to support Regulated Air Cargo Agents (RACA) in meeting their obligations under civil aviation rule (CAR) 109, specifically related to the validation and oversight of 'known customers'. This initiative ensures that the security standards set out in CAR 109 continue to be met, providing sustained integrity of the civil aviation secure supply chain. Further information regarding AirCertifyNZ can be found [here](#).

The Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) has worked closely with CBAFF during the development of this industry-led initiative, which aims to promote compliance and generate positive security outcomes. Through this collaboration, it is our understanding that AirCertifyNZ supports RACA compliance by:

- Conducting confidential, in person monitoring activities to verify and support CAR 109 requirements
- Providing training and support for both RACA and known customers, including Air Cargo Security Awareness training
- Ensuring oversight of compliance by known customers to enable proactive monitoring and effective risk management

CAA's assessment is that AirCertifyNZ contributes to a standardised approach to the management and oversight of known customers. The professional verification and compliance services offered by this programme helps mitigate some risks that can contribute to shortfalls in compliance and performance. In turn, this can have a positive impact on system performance and security culture.

While the AirCertifyNZ programme will continue to evolve with ongoing input from CBAFF and the CAA, we are confident that it will be a valuable tool for supporting greater compliance and security within the industry.

It is important to note that RACA opting into the AirCertifyNZ programme remain ultimately responsible for compliance. You must ensure that the programme meets your needs, that people are trained, security-checked, and appropriately authorised. Furthermore, RACAs must demonstrate,

through their exposition, **how** they will continue to meet the required security outcomes via the AirCertifyNZ programme, not simply by engaging with it.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the CAA through security.regulation@caa.govt.nz.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'D. Willing', with a horizontal line underneath.

David Willing
Manager, Security Regulation
Civil Aviation Authority of New Zealand