

AVIATION REGULATORY WATCH

COMPLIANCE CALENDAR

H2 2026 — SECOND HALF

Key regulatory deadlines for drone operators, airlines, MROs, and aviation compliance professionals across the US, UK, and global aviation landscape.

FAA	ICAO	EASA	IATA	UK CAA	CORSIA
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How to Use This Calendar

This reference document consolidates regulatory deadlines, compliance milestones, and significant effective dates across FAA, ICAO, EASA, UK CAA, IATA, and CORSIA for H2 2026. Entries are organised chronologically by month. Where exact dates are subject to regulatory confirmation, the anticipated window is noted.

Who This Is For

Drone operators preparing for BVLOS approvals, compliance officers at airlines and MROs, aviation attorneys tracking FAA rulemaking, training organisations navigating ICAO Annex 19, and UAM/eVTOL startups watching the certification pathway unfold.

Disclaimer

For informational purposes only. Not legal or regulatory compliance advice. Regulatory timelines can shift. Always verify deadlines directly with the relevant authority before making compliance decisions.

Contents at a Glance

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SEPTEMBER 2026	ICAO Annex 19 SMS · FAA BVLOS NPRM watch · EASA SAF reporting prep
OCTOBER 2026	FAA Reauthorization milestones · CORSIA Phase 2 prep · UK drone permits
NOVEMBER 2026	FAA winter ops SAFOs · ICAO GADSS Autonomous Distress Tracking
DECEMBER 2026	CORSIA Phase 2 hard deadline · Annual AD reviews · 2027 horizon brief

JULY 2026

3 DEADLINES

FAA

Remote ID — Full Enforcement Maturity

The FAA's Remote ID rule continues full enforcement. Operators flying drones over 0.55 lbs must broadcast Standard Remote ID or operate within an FAA-Recognised Identification Area (FRIA). Operators not yet compliant face escalating enforcement risk.

Action required: Verify your drone broadcasts Standard Remote ID, or confirm your FRIA status in writing.

EASA

Drone Operator Registration — Annual Renewal Cycle

EASA-registered drone operators in EU member states face annual registration renewal cycles. US operators conducting flights in European airspace must maintain valid registration throughout the period of operations.

Action required: Check your EASA registration expiry date if you operate or plan to operate in EU airspace.

CORSIA

2025 Emissions Monitoring Report Submission

Airlines covered under CORSIA Phase 1 (2024–2026) must submit verified emissions monitoring reports for the 2025 reporting year to their respective civil aviation authority. ICAO guidance under Annex 16, Volume IV applies.

Action required: Confirm your submission deadline with your national authority and verify all MRV documentation is complete and signed.

AUGUST 2026

3 DEADLINES

FAA

Advanced Air Mobility (AAM) — Regulatory Framework Consultations

The FAA's AAM implementation roadmap continues with expected publication of further guidance on vertiport standards and eVTOL type certification pathways. Industry comment periods on key dockets are anticipated.

Action required: Monitor FAA docket updates and submit comments if your operations intersect with UAM corridors or eVTOL certification pathways.

UK CAA

Airspace Modernisation Strategy — PBN Implementation Checkpoint

The UK CAA's Airspace Modernisation Strategy has phased milestones through 2026–2030. August marks a review checkpoint for Performance-Based Navigation (PBN) implementation at designated UK airports.

Action required: Airlines and operators serving UK airports should verify PBN compliance status with their operations teams immediately.

FAA

Part 135 On-Demand Charter — SAFO 180-Day Review Window

Safety Alerts for Operators (SAFOs) issued in Q1–Q2 2026 with 180-day recommended review windows reach their endpoint this month. Compliance with SAFO recommendations is assessed during FAA audits.

Action required: Review all outstanding SAFOs issued January–February 2026 that are applicable to your operation type and document your response.

SEPTEMBER 2026

3 DEADLINES

ICAO

Annex 19 SMS — ATO and MRO Implementation Checkpoint

ICAO Annex 19 Amendment 2 SMS requirements continue phased applicability. September is a critical checkpoint for smaller Approved Training Organisations (ATOs) and certain maintenance organisations newly brought into mandatory SMS scope.

Action required: ATOs and MROs should verify their Safety Management System documentation fully meets Annex 19 Amendment 2 standards before this date.

DRONE

FAA BVLOS Rulemaking — Pre-NPRM Guidance Watch

The FAA's BVLOS Aviation Rulemaking Committee recommendations are feeding into formal NPRM development. An NPRM is anticipated by late 2026. September is a key monitoring point for pre-NPRM guidance documents and interim waiver policy updates.

Action required: Track FAA docket FAA-2022-1144 actively. Begin preparing operational documentation for BVLOS waiver applications now.

EASA

ReFuelEU Aviation — SAF Documentation Preparation Deadline

Under ReFuelEU Aviation (EU 2023/2405), fuel suppliers and airport operators at qualifying EU airports must have SAF blending documentation in order ahead of 2027 mandate escalation. September is the practical preparation deadline.

Action required: US carriers operating into EU airports should verify supplier SAF documentation and confirm blending percentages meet incoming targets.

OCTOBER 2026

3 DEADLINES

FAA

FAA Reauthorization Act — 18-Month Implementation Review

The FAA Reauthorization Act of 2024 (Public Law 118-63) contains numerous mandated rulemaking and study deadlines through 2026–2028. Several provisions reach their 18-month implementation review point this month, including pilot training reforms and ATC workforce planning requirements.

Action required: Airlines and training organisations should review compliance status against all Reauthorization Act provisions relevant to their specific operations.

CORSIA

Phase 2 Final Preparation Window — Effective January 1, 2027

CORSIA Phase 2 begins January 1, 2027. October is the practical last window to finalise emissions unit procurement strategies, verify MRV systems, and engage with your national authority ahead of Phase 2 obligations commencing.

Action required: Urgent: Confirm offsetting unit strategy and MRV readiness. Do not defer this to December.

Non-compliance from day one carries significant regulatory and reputational risk.

UK CAA

Drone Operator Permit Renewals — Specific Category Authorisations

UK CAA Operational Authorisation renewals for drone operators in the Specific category follow annual cycles. October is a common renewal window for authorisations originally issued in Q4 of the prior year.

Action required: UK-authorized drone operators should check permit expiry dates and begin renewal applications at least 60 days in advance of expiry.

NOVEMBER 2026

2 DEADLINES

FAA

Winter Operations — Seasonal SAFO Publication and Crew Briefing

The FAA typically issues or reissues cold weather and winter operations guidance SAFOs each November. Coverage includes ground deicing procedures, cold-soak fuel requirements, and contaminated runway operations standards.

Action required: Airlines and Part 135 operators should brief crews, update winter operations procedures, and document SAFO compliance before December 1.

ICAO

GADSS Autonomous Distress Tracking (ADT) — Fleet Compliance Verification

ICAO's GADSS framework including ADT requirements under Annex 6 Amendment 43 has phased implementation. Airlines operating aircraft above 27,000 kg on international routes should verify ADT equipment compliance status this month.

Action required: Review fleet compliance with GADSS ADT requirements. Document non-compliant aircraft and remediation timelines. Engage your FSDO or national authority as needed.

DECEMBER 2026

3 DEADLINES

CORSIA

Phase 2 Hard Deadline — January 1, 2027 Compliance Goes Live

All CORSIA-covered airlines must have emissions monitoring, reporting systems, and carbon offsetting unit strategies fully operational before January 1, 2027. December is the final month to resolve any remaining gaps. There is no extension pathway.

Action required: This is a hard deadline. Complete all Phase 2 preparation this month. Confirm MRV system readiness, offsetting unit registry access, and national authority reporting channels.

FAA

Annual Airworthiness Directive (AD) Compliance Review

December is the standard period for annual airworthiness directive compliance audits across Part 121, Part 135, and Part 91 operations. Maintenance organisations and operators must ensure all open ADs are documented and resolved.

Action required: Complete AD compliance reviews and update records before December 31. Address any open items with your Flight Standards District Office if corrective action is required.

FAA

2027 Regulatory Horizon — Year-End Planning Brief

Key rules expected to enter NPRM or final rule stage in 2027: FAA BVLOS rulemaking, FAA vertiport standards, EASA U-Space full implementation, ICAO Annex 16 Volume IV CORSIA methodology updates, and FAA pilot training rule revisions.

Action required: Brief your compliance and operations teams on the 2027 regulatory pipeline in December. Subscribe to The Runway Briefing at aviationregwatch.com for weekly regulatory intelligence.

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