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QUESTION

VFR flight with radio failure: which weather does it stay in?

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ANSWER

Visual meteorological conditions (VMC).

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QUESTION

VFR flight with radio failure: where does it land?

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ANSWER

At the nearest suitable aerodrome.

SERA.14083(c)(3)

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QUESTION

VFR flight with radio failure: how does it report its arrival?

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ANSWER

To the appropriate ATS unit, by the quickest means.

SERA.14083(c)(3)

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QUESTION

Radio failure: which channel does the crew try first?

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ANSWER

The previous channel, then another channel suitable for the route.

SERA.14083(a)

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QUESTION

Radio failure: whom does the crew try to reach after the channel attempts fail?

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ANSWER

The appropriate ATS unit, other ATS units or other aircraft, by every available means.

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QUESTION

Radio communication failure: which transponder code does the aircraft set?

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ANSWER

Code 7600, after the attempts to re-establish contact fail.

SERA.13005(a)(2); SERA.14083(c)(2); SERA.14083(c)(1), (c)(2), (g)

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QUESTION

Radio failure at a controlled aerodrome: what does the aircraft watch for?

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ANSWER

Visual (light) signals, when it is in the aerodrome traffic.

SERA.14083(c)(1), (c)(2), (g)

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QUESTION

Why is the radio failure procedure fixed?

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ANSWER

ATC gives other traffic its service on the premise that the aircraft follows the procedure.

SERA.14083(d); AMC1 SERA.14083(d)(b); GM1 SERA.14085

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QUESTION

Which transponder code shows an emergency?

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ANSWER

Code 7700, unless ATC has assigned a code. Even then, a pilot can select 7700 for a specific reason.

SERA.13005(a)(1); GM1 SERA.11001(a)(3); SERA.13005(a)(1)

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QUESTION

Which transponder code shows unlawful interference?

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ANSWER

Code 7500. Code 7700 can be used instead when circumstances warrant.

SERA.11005(aa); SERA.13005(a)(3)

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QUESTION

IFR flight with radio failure that continues in VMC: which Mode A code?

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ANSWER

Code 7601. ICAO has no code 7601.

SERA.14083(c)(6); SERA.14083(c)(6); Reg. (EU) 2024/404 Art. 2 and Annex point (15)

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QUESTION

What is the VHF emergency frequency?

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ANSWER

121.500 MHz (121.5 MHz), for genuine emergencies only.

SERA Art. 4a; SERA.14095(d); ATS.OR.405; SERA.14080; SERA Article 4a(1); SERA.14095(d); Reg. (EU) 2017/373 Article 3d; ATS.OR.405(a)

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QUESTION

Which aircraft must guard 121.5 MHz?

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ANSWER

Aircraft on long over-water flights and over areas where an ELT is required, except while the radio is busy on another channel or equipment or workload does not allow it. Also where the competent authority requires it.

SERA.14080(a)(1), (a)(2); AMC1 SERA.14080

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QUESTION

Distress message: which opening word, and how often is it spoken?

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ANSWER

MAYDAY, preferably three times.

SERA.14095(b)(1); SERA.11012(b); SERA.14095(a)(2), (b)(1), (c)(1)

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QUESTION

Urgency message: which opening word, and how often is it spoken?

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ANSWER

PAN PAN, preferably three times.

SERA.14095(c)(1); SERA.14095(a)(2), (b)(1), (c)(1)

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QUESTION

What is a distress condition?

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ANSWER

A serious and/or imminent threat that needs immediate assistance.

SERA.14095(a)(1)

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QUESTION

Distress or urgency: which traffic has absolute priority?

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ANSWER

Distress traffic. Urgency traffic comes next.

SERA.14095(b)(4), (c)(3)

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QUESTION

Blind transmission with no contact by any means: how is the message sent?

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ANSWER

Twice, preceded by TRANSMITTING BLIND.

SERA.14085(a)

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QUESTION

Receiver failure: what is the preamble of a blind transmission?

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ANSWER

TRANSMITTING BLIND DUE TO RECEIVER FAILURE, then the message and one complete repetition.

SERA.14085(b)(1); SERA.14085(b)

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QUESTION

IFR radio failure: for how long does the aircraft keep its last assigned speed and level?

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ANSWER

20 min, or the minimum flight altitude if higher. Counted from a missed required report or from squawking 7600 under surveillance.

SERA.14083(c)(4)(i); SERA.14083(c)(4), (c)(5)

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QUESTION

IFR radio failure: land within how long after the ETA or the last acknowledged EAT?

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ANSWER

Within 30 min after whichever is later: the ETA or the last acknowledged EAT.

SERA.14083(c)(4)(vi); SERA.14083(c)(4), (c)(5)

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QUESTION

Arrival unit suspended normal operations: after how long without a report does ATC inform operators?

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ANSWER

30 min after the latest of the pilot ETA, the ACC ETA or the last acknowledged EAT.

AMC1 SERA.14083(d)(e); AMC1 SERA.14083(d)(e); GM2 SERA.14083(d)

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QUESTION

ICAO only: how long does an IFR aircraft keep its last speed and level in surveillance airspace?

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ANSWER

7 min under ICAO. SERA uses 20 min, and the EU rule in force is 20 min.

ICAO Doc 4444, 15.3.3 b) 2); ICAO Doc 4444, 15.3.3 b) 2); SERA.14083(c)(4)(i)

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QUESTION

Emergency descent guidance over normal terrain: what clearance above obstacles?

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ANSWER

1 000 ft above the highest obstacle in the area. Do not go below the lowest published minimum altitude giving this clearance.

GM1 SERA.11001(b)

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QUESTION

Emergency descent guidance in designated mountainous terrain: what clearance above obstacles?

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ANSWER

2 000 ft above all obstacles in the area.

GM1 SERA.11001(b)

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QUESTION

Emergency separation where the 1 000 ft minimum applies: vertical separation?

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ANSWER

500 ft, half the vertical minimum, when horizontal separation cannot be kept.

AMC1 ATS.TR.210(c)(a); AMC1 ATS.TR.210(c)

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QUESTION

Emergency separation where the 2 000 ft minimum applies: vertical separation?

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ANSWER

1 000 ft, half the vertical minimum, when horizontal separation cannot be kept.

AMC1 ATS.TR.210(c)(a); AMC1 ATS.TR.210(c)

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QUESTION

Emergency in the air: what does ATS give the aircraft?

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ANSWER

As much consideration, help and priority over other traffic as the situation calls for.

SERA.11001(c)

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QUESTION

Emergency authority: when can the pilot-in-command depart from the rules of the air?

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ANSWER

When this is absolutely necessary for safety. The pilot then tells ATS afterwards.

SERA.2010(a); SERA.8020(a)

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QUESTION

Unlawful interference: what does the pilot tell ATS?

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ANSWER

Significant circumstances, and any departure from the flight plan.

SERA.11005(aa); SERA.13005(a)(3)

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QUESTION

Unlawful interference: does ATS mention the nature of the emergency on the radio first?

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ANSWER

No. It does so only when the aircraft mentions it first and ATS is sure this will not make things worse.

ATS.TR.425(b); SERA.10005(b); GM1 to AMC1 SERA.11005(a)(1)

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QUESTION

What is a strayed aircraft?

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ANSWER

An aircraft significantly off its intended track, or one that reports it is lost.

SERA Article 2(123), 2(137)

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QUESTION

Strayed aircraft: what does ATS give once it knows the position?

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ANSWER

Where the aircraft is and the corrective action to take, given at once if interception or another hazard is possible.

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QUESTION

ICAO only: how is a lost VFR pilot handled?

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ANSWER

As an emergency, without blame at that stage. The EU rules in SERA do not state this.

ICAO Doc 4444, 15.4.1.1

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