

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Process for testing small experimental aircraft made easier

At the Royal Aeronautical Society (RAeS) 'Light Aircraft Design' conference today, the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) announced new simple requirements for approving the initial testing of small experimental aircraft in the UK.

Commenting on the announcement, John Edgely, Chair of the RAeS General Aviation Group said: "We have a long-held view that the rules governing the testing of experimental aircraft should be made easier to trial new aircraft designs which would otherwise have remained on the shelf or created abroad. We are delighted the CAA have embraced the need for change and led the development of an initiative with the potential to deliver significant benefits for the aviation sector, including the renewal of a vibrant UK light aircraft industry."

ENDS

Notes to Editors:

1. The [Royal Aeronautical Society](http://www.aerosociety.com) (RAeS) is the world's only professional body dedicated to the entire aerospace community. The Society promotes the highest professional standards in all aerospace disciplines; provides specialist information; acts as a central forum for the exchange of ideas; and plays a leading role in influencing opinion on aerospace matters.
2. The RAeS [General Aviation Group](http://www.aerosociety.com) is concerned with the technical development of general aviation aircraft including aeroplanes, gliders, microlights and paragliders. Its special interests lie in good new design and construction, and rationalisation of airworthiness regulation. The Group achieves its purpose by arranging programmes of lectures, conferences, position papers, publications and visits. The Group also provides a forum through which organisations within the UK light aviation community can exchange views and ideas on 'neutral ground'.
3. In 2006 the RAeS General Aviation Group published a paper entitled [The Design, Development and Production of Light Aircraft in the UK](#), which first made the case for the regeneration of the UK light aircraft industry through regulatory change.
4. To coincide with the launch of the new CAA requirements, the RAeS has launched the first annual [General Aviation Design Competition](#) to stimulate interest in light aircraft design.
5. John Edgely is available for further comment and interview.



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