

SOARING SOCIETY OF NAMIBIA

EMERGENCY RESPONSE CHECKLIST

1.0 EVENT

DATE: 12.11.2024

TIME: 16:00

LOCATION: Bitterwasser Lodge & Flying Center

WEATHER: Sunny, wind 5 knots westerly direction

VISIBILITY: VFR conditions

AIRCRAFT MAKE: Schempp-Hirth, Arcus

AIRCRAFT REGISTRATION: D-KWYX

CREW: Dirk Skura (Flight Office), Samuel Göhring (Flight Office Assistance)

DESCRIPTION: A routine simulation exercise was conducted to assess the response protocol for an outlanding. In the scenario, the outlanding alarm was activated on the SPOT GPS tracker, which pilots are obliged to carry with them in order to track their location. The device sends a corresponding message to the flight office, which can track the pilots' permanent position via a shared page. As only one of the two pilots sent a warning and the GPS signal from the SPOT was moving at high speed and altitude, the flight office was able to diagnose a false alarm. Otherwise, a team would have been sent to recover the pilots and the aircraft. This specific emergency situation is regularly practised to ensure deadness in case of a real incident.

2.0 ACTIVATION

BASE EMERGENCY SERVICES ALERTED: YES

NATIONAL EMERGENCY SERVICES ALERTED: NO

ANS/ATC ALERTED: NO

NCAA NOTIFIED: NO

DAAII NOTIFIED: NO

NAMPOL NOTIFIED: NO

MEDIA LIAISON APPOINTED (NAME): NO

MEDIA STATEMENT COMPILED: NO

MEDIA NOTIFIED: NO

ACTIONS TAKEN:

After the outlanding alarm was received by the flight office. The positions of the crew were immediately determined via the shared pages of the spots. The links to the shared pages are documented for each pilot and can be viewed in lists. By regularly sending the position and speed of the SPOTS, it was quickly established that both pilots were still in the air and a false alarm could therefore be diagnosed. In the event of a real outlanding, a team would have been sent out with the geo-coordinates of the pilots to recover them as quickly as possible.

3.0 LIST OF RESPONDENTS:

CHIEF COORDINATOR: Dirk Skura

MEDICAL EMERGENCY COORDINATOR: Dirk Skura

EMERGENCY SERVICES NOTIFICATION COORDINATOR: Dirk Skura

MEDIA LIAISON:

FIRE-FIGHTING COORDINATOR: Dirk Skura

COUNSELLING SERVICE PROVIDER:

4.0 CONCLUSION AND COMMENTS

An outlanding in Namibia is a real danger, as there are only a few landable areas. Furthermore, as full network coverage is not guaranteed, GPS tracking is essential to enable a quick search and rescue. The exercise validates the effective use of the lists kept with the links to the pilots' shared position pages and how a false alarm can be diagnosed. The positions of the pilots could be determined within a few minutes and appropriate measures initiated.

SIGNATURE CHIEF COORDINATOR (BASE): _____



SIGNATURE SSN QASO: _____

NOTE: DEPENDING ON THE NATURE OF THE EMERGENCY, SOME OF THE ABOVE MENTIONED ACTIONS MAY NOT BE APPLICABLE.