



TECHNICAL STANDARDS – Issue version (2026)
NAMCATS: Part 171 – AERONAUTICAL
TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES (ATEL)

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Namibia Civil Aviation Authority -
Safety & Security Department

TECHNICAL STANDARDS
(NAMCATS)

Part 171: ATEL-Volume 0

1. General

- 1.1 Section 227 of the Civil Aviation Act, 2016 (Act no. 6 of 2016 – hereinafter “the Act”) empowers the Executive Director of Civil Aviation to issue technical standards for civil aviation “on such matters as may be prescribed”. Section 227(3) of the Act further empowers the Executive Director of Civil Aviation to incorporate into a technical standard any international aviation standard or any amendment without publishing the text of such standard or any amendment “by mere reference” to the title, number and year of issue of such standard or amendment or to any other particulars by which such standard or amendment is sufficiently identified.
- 1.2 By way of Government Notice 89/2020 published in Government Gazette 7157 dated 27th March 2020, NAMCARS (amendment 2020) provides for Part 171 – “ Aeronautical Telecommunications Service” (ATEL). This Part 171 provides for the issue of technical standards as NAM-CATS-RPAs. The Executive Director of Civil Aviation has, pursuant to the empowerment mentioned above, issued technical standards relating to NAMCAR Part 171 (Aeronautical Telecommunications Service) to be known as NAM-CATS-ATEL as further set out in the SCHEDULE herein.
- 1.3 NAM-CATS-ATEL comprises the standards, rules, requirements, methods, specifications, characteristics and procedures which are applicable in respect of the provision of Aeronautical Telecommunications Services to be used in all aspects of civil aviation air and ground operations.
- 1.4 To the extent possible, each reference to a technical standard in this document, is a reference to the corresponding regulation in the Namibian Civil Aviation Regulations.

Example: (1) Technical standard 171.02.1 refers to regulation Part 171 of Subpart 02 of the Part 171
(2) Technical standard 171.02.2 refers to either the whole, or more than one specific regulation, of Subpart 02 of Part 2.



- 1.5 Where there is any perceived disparity of meaning or inconsistency between these technical standards and the regulations, the provisions of the regulations will take precedence.
- 1.6 Where there is a difference between a standard and procedure prescribed in ICAO documents and the Civil Aviation Technical Standards (CATS), the CATS standard will prevail.

2. GUIDANCE MATERIAL

- 2.1 Guidelines and recommendations in support of any particular technical standard are contained in schedules or appendices to, and/or compliance notes inserted throughout, the technical standards. These guidelines, upon release, are intended to provide recommendations and guidance to illustrate a means, but not necessarily the only means of complying with the regulations and technical standards. They may explain certain regulatory requirements by providing interpretive and explanatory materials. It is expected that service providers will document internal actions in their own operational manuals, to put into effect those, or similarly adequate, practices.

3. AMENDMENTS TO THE TECHNICAL STANDARDS

- 3.1 The NCAA Safety (ANSSO) Division has responsibility for the technical content of this technical standard.
- 3.2 This technical standard is issued, and may only be amended, under the authority of the Executive Director of Civil Aviation.
- 3.3 Requests for changes to the content of this technical standard must be forwarded to the Executive Director and may come from:



- (a) technical areas within NCAA; or
- (b) aviation industry service providers or operators; or
- (c) pilots and ATC staff.

3.4 The need to change the content of this technical standard may arise for any of the following reasons:

- (a) to ensure safety;
- (b) to ensure standardisation;
- (c) to respond to changed NCAA regulations or standards;
- (d) to respond to changes initiated by ICAO;
- (e) to accommodate proposed initiatives or new technologies.


3.5 NCAA may approve trials of new procedures or technologies to develop appropriate standards.

4. INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS

4.1 Section 227 of the Civil Aviation Act, 2016 empowers the Executive Director of Civil Aviation to issue technical standard for civil aviation. Section 227 of the Civil Aviation Act, 2016 further empowers the Executive Director of Civil Aviation to incorporate into a technical standard any international aviation standard or any amendment without stating the text of such standard or amendment, “by mere reference” to the title, number and year of issue of such standard or amendment, or to any other particulars by which such standard or amendment is sufficiently identified.

4.2 International standards, recommended practices and procedures, as amended from time to time, (art 37 of the Chicago Convention) will be incorporated into the technical standards and its attached volumes contained in this document upon release.

- (a) ICAO Annex 10 Volumes I to V inclusive, and
- (b) ICAO Doc 8071 Volume I — Testing of Radio Navigation Systems – testing of Ground-based Systems; and

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(c) ICAO Doc 8071 Volume III - Testing of Radio Navigation Systems – Testing of Surveillance Radar Systems.

4.3 Differences from ICAO Standards, Recommended Practices and Procedures are published in the AIP.

Miscellaneous:

Volume 1: Radio navigation aids

Volume 2: Communication procedures including those with PANS status

Volume 3: Communication systems

Volume 4: Surveillance with collision avoidance systems

Volume 5: Aeronautical radio frequency spectrum utilisation

Volume 6: Communication systems and procedures relating to remotely piloted aircraft systems C2 Link

These Technical Standards apply with immediate effect.

Further access is available on NCAA website: <http://www.ncaa.com.na>

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