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## New European IT application, to help automate aircraft safety oversight processes in Nepal

The European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) has welcomed the Civil Aviation Authority of Nepal (CAAN) to be part of the Safety Oversight Facilitated Integration Application (SOFIA), a new EASA IT application that will enable CAAN to reorganize its processes and streamline its technical tasks.

SOFIA in its initial version includes in full or part the safety oversight management as described in the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) annexes. The four different annexes—1,6,7 and 8 cover the safety concerns linked to personnel licensing, operation of aircraft, aircraft nationality and registration marks and airworthiness of aircraft.

A module for examination results, aircraft inspections and reporting, as well as an elaborate work flow system, alert and tracking system are also part of the SOFIA application.

SOFIA enables a feasible solution to support a partner Authority and/ or an Agency to streamline and automate its safety oversight processes, in order to become more effective and efficient.

Since its introduction SOFIA generated a lot of interest from various organisations from different parts of world. Indeed, it continues to be an appealing project for many authorities, as numerous new requests for information and wishes for implementation are continuously being received on a regular basis by EASA.

CAAN has recently joined the programme and belongs next to CAA Sri Lanka to one of the first South Asian civil aviation authorities that have entered into a close working relationship with the European Aviation Safety Agency to enable a successful implementation. An EASA team is performing the first kick-off mission during 25-27 April 2012. More implementation sessions will follow during the course of 2012.

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