



REPUBLIC of SAN MARINO

CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY

Information Circular No. 42 Issue 02

Portable Satellite Communication Devices on Board Aircraft (e.g. Starlink Mini and similar portable satellite internet terminals)

1. Purpose

This Information Circular is issued to provide clarification regarding the carriage and use of portable satellite communication devices by passengers and crew on board aircraft registered in the Republic of San Marino.

2. Background

Portable satellite internet terminals are increasingly available commercially and are capable of transmitting broadband data directly to satellite constellations. Such devices incorporate lithium-ion batteries and operate as active radio transmitters.

Recent enquiries have highlighted uncertainty regarding their permissibility on board aircraft.

3. Carriage

Portable satellite terminals containing lithium-ion batteries not exceeding 100 Wh may be carried in cabin baggage in accordance with:

- ICAO Technical Instructions; and
- IATA Dangerous Goods Regulations.
- Spare lithium batteries must not be carried in checked baggage.
- Devices must be switched off and protected against accidental activation.

4. Use in Flight

Portable satellite terminals are transmitting devices.

Unless specifically certified and approved as part of the aircraft's configuration (e.g. via STC and AFM amendment), their operation in flight is prohibited.

Unauthorised operation may:

- Interfere with aircraft avionics and communication systems;
- Compromise certification assumptions;
- Breach telecommunications regulations of States overflown;
- Expose the operator to regulatory enforcement action.



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The Pilot-in-Command retains final authority over all electronic device use on board.

5. Operator Action

Operators should:

- Review Operations Manuals to ensure clarity on transmitting PEDs;
- Brief flight crew accordingly;
- Include reference to satellite devices in passenger announcements where appropriate;
- Record any non-compliance under the Safety Management System (SMS).

6. Applicability

This Bulletin applies to all owners and operators of San Marino registered aircraft operating under CAR OPS 2A Part II, CAR OPS 1 & 3.

For any enquiry about this process please send an email to info@caa-mna.sm

Yours faithfully,

Digitally signed by:
MARCO CONTI
Date: 20/04/2026
08:57:55

Eng. Marco Conti
Director General

20th April 2026