

European Commission releases Update to EU-ETS Directive 2003/87/EC

The European Commission approved and published an update to the EU-ETS Directive 2003/87/EC on June 21, 2012 to provide clarification and implement suggested changes to the program. Although the document covers all industries captured under the EU's Emissions Trading Scheme, there are some important elements for Aircraft Operators to take note of. The most notable change is raising the Small Emitter Thresholds from 10,000 t/Co2 annually to 25,000 t/Co2 annually. By raising the SME Threshold, the European Commission has allowed more commercial operators to be exempted from the program and more private operators the ability to use the Small Emitters Tool and ETS Support Facility, which ease their reporting requirements. In addition, the new directive reduces the calculation and verification complexities of Fuel Density measurements. These changes will not have much effect, if any, on the average Small Emitter, but the changes do show that the EC can respond with legislative changes to address industry concerns.

Please contact the Regulatory Services Team with any questions regarding the attached document:

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2012:181:0030:0104:EN:PDF>

Regards,

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