



National Communications Authority

- Press Release -

NCA AND GCAA SENSITISE FM AUTHORISATION HOLDERS ON AVIATION INTERFERENCE

Accra, 28th May, 2025: The National Communications Authority (NCA) in collaboration with the Ghana Civil Aviation Authority (GCAA), has held a stakeholder sensitisation workshop for FM Authorisation Holders to address critical issues related to radio frequency interference in aviation communication systems.

The workshop, held at the NCA Tower in Accra, formed part of a joint initiative between the two regulatory bodies aimed at educating FM broadcasters on the critical need of operating within their authorised frequency parameters to prevent harmful interference with aviation communication and navigation systems.



- *Mr. Bernard Amissah Ocran giving his welcome remarks*

Welcoming participants to the event, the Acting Director for Engineering at the NCA, Mr. Bernard Amissah Ocran, noted that the Authority has recently recorded a surge in aviation interference cases linked to FM broadcasting operations. He emphasised the urgent need for broadcasters to strictly adhere to their authorised technical parameters, highlighting that such interference poses a serious risk to lives and undermines national air safety.

The GCAA also raised concerns about the operational disruptions caused by frequency interference, particularly its impact on the ability of pilots to maintain communication with air traffic controllers during critical phases of flight such as take-offs and landings.

As part of the programme, Mr. Edward Sutherland, an Engineer with NCA and Mr. Daniel Doe, a Systems Engineer at GCAA took the Authorisation Holders through detailed technical presentations. The sessions covered key topics such as types, causes and impact of interference, and its legal implications.



- ***Mr. Edward Sutherland (left) and Mr. Daniel Doe (right) taking participants through presentations***

Participants were charged to ensure the installation of 3-stage cavity filters and avoid the use of non-compliant high-powered transmitters. They were again encouraged to engage the services of competent technicians and engineers to maintain proper transmission setups and ensure regulatory compliance.

Participants took the opportunity to ask questions and also expressed appreciation for the clarity and technical depth of the presentations.

The NCA and GCAA reaffirmed their commitment to stakeholder education, continuous monitoring and enforcement to ensure a safe spectrum environment for aeronautical services.



- ***A cross-section of participants***

Also present at the meeting was the Ghana Independent Broadcasters' Association represented by an Executive Council Member, Mr. Prince Hari Crystal.

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About NCA

The National Communications Authority, (NCA), was established by an Act of Parliament, Act 524 in December 1996, which has been repealed and replaced by the National Communications Authority Act, 2008 (Act 769). The Authority is the statutory body mandated to license and to regulate electronic communication activities.