



## EASA Safety Information Bulletin

**SIB No.:** 2014-14  
**Issued:** 23 May 2014

**Subject:** **Controller Pilot Data Link Communications over Very High Frequency Data Link Mode 2 (CPDLC over VDL Mode 2)**

**Ref. Publication:** Commission Regulation (EC) No [29/2009](#)

**Applicability:** All operators of aircraft equipped with CPDLC over VDL Mode 2 in European airspace.

**Description:** European Regulation (EC) No 29/2009 requires both aircraft operators and Air Traffic Service Providers to be capable of supporting CPDLC over VDL Mode 2. Some European Flight Information Regions (FIRs) started to provide such services at the beginning of 2013.

A high amount of interruptions of CPDLC over VDL Mode 2 sessions have been reported. The number of interruptions is higher than expected. These interruptions are also often referred to as “provider aborts”. The causes are varied and are being investigated. Attempts to repeatedly re-transmit failed messages may increase the workload of the aircrew. Additionally, it may contribute to further VDL mode 2 signal congestion and cause additional message time out delays and/or interruptions.

**Recommendation(s):** Operators should ensure that their operational procedures for interruptions of CPDLC over VDL Mode 2 sessions (also commonly referred to as “provider aborts”) prescribe reversion to voice radio communications only and reconnection of the CPDLC over VDL Mode 2 session only at the next regularly planned connection, which in many cases is at the next flight. Operators should base their operational procedures and training covering CPDLC VDL mode 2 operations on the Guidance provided in ICAO Global Operational Data Link Document (GOLD) 2nd Edition dated 26 April 2013.

Operators and Flight Crews should report all occurrences related to interruptions of CPDLC over VDL Mode 2 sessions via the reporting lines for occurrence reporting.

**Contact(s):** For further information contact the Safety Information Section, Executive Directorate, EASA. E-mail: [ADs@easa.europa.eu](mailto:ADs@easa.europa.eu).

This is information only. Recommendations are not mandatory.