

# **Impact of Non-Compliance with International SAR Standards**

The Importance of Adhering to Annex 12 for Global Aviation Safety

# Objectives



Overview of  
International SAR  
Standards (Annex 12)



Consequences of Non-  
Compliance: Aviation  
Safety



USOAP Audits:  
Identifying Deficiencies  
in RCC Operations



Risks of Non-  
Compliance: Legal  
Consequences



Risks of Non-  
Compliance:  
Reputational Damage



Ensuring Compliance:  
Best Practices for RCCs



Next Steps: Improving  
Compliance



Summary and Q&A

# **Douglas Samp**

**USCG Pacific Area Search and Rescue  
Program Manager**

**35 Years with the US Coast Guard**

**10 year on US Coast Guard Cutters  
(Caribbean, Hawaii, Antarctica)**

**25 Years managing and planning SAR  
operations**

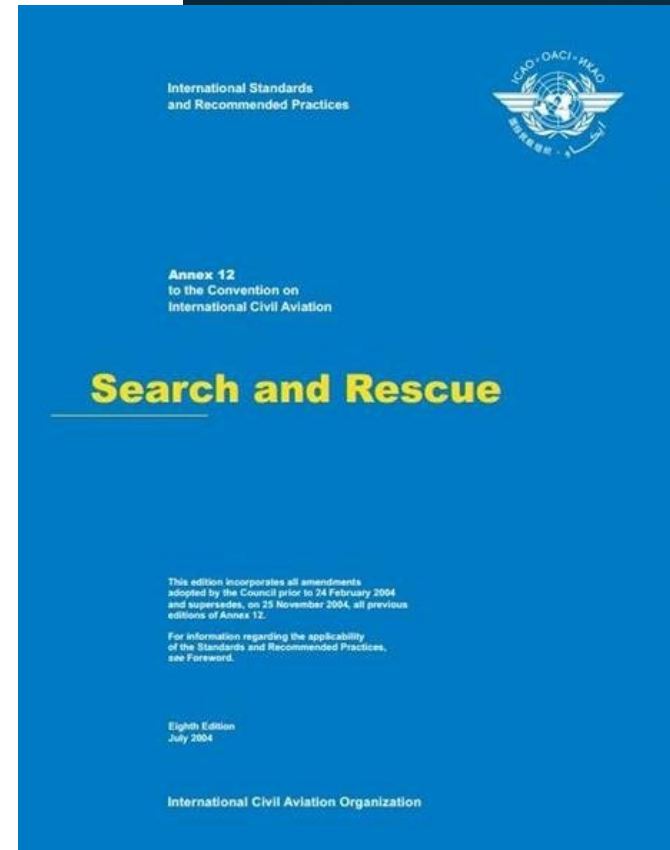
**San Diego, Guam, San Francisco, JRCC  
Alameda, and USCG Pacific Area**

**SAR Planner, SAR Mission Coordinator, &  
Official with ACTSUS Authority**



# Overview of ICAO Annex 12 and Its Relevance

- Emphasizes a global framework to ensure effective SAR services across international boundaries.
- Sets SAR responsibilities, including 24/7 operation of RCCs.
- Uniform global standard for cooperation.
- Aligns with IAMSAR Manuals.





## **Consequences of Non- Compliance: Aviation Safety**

- **Non-compliance can lead to delayed SAR responses, as seen in past aviation disasters like Malaysia Airlines MH370.**
- **Lack of operational RCCs results in fragmented SAR efforts, which increases risk to passengers and crew in distress situations.**
- **Inconsistent implementation of SARPs undermines international SAR efforts and puts aviation safety at risk.**



Universal Safety Oversight Audit Programme  
Continuous Monitoring Approach  
(USOAP CMA)



# USOAP Audits: Identifying Deficiencies in RCC Operations

- **ICAO Universal Safety Oversight Audit Program (USOAP)**
- **USOAP audits have consistently revealed deficiencies in RCC operations, such as lack of 24-hour staffing, inadequate communications systems, and poor coordination.**
- **Findings show that some States have dismantled or reduced RCC functions, assuming other agencies can handle SAR alerts, leading to gaps in response capability.**



## **Legal Consequences of Non- Compliance**

- **States are legally bound under the Convention on International Civil Aviation to provide SAR services. Non-compliance can result in legal actions, especially if negligence in SAR operations leads to loss of life.**
- **States may face sanctions from ICAO, reputational damage, and legal claims from airlines, passengers, or their families.**

# Reputational Risks and International Cooperation

Non-compliance can result in negative media attention, damage a country's reputation in the aviation industry, and erode trust among international partners.

States that fail to adhere to SAR standards may find it difficult to engage in effective international cooperation during joint SAR operations, reducing their standing in global aviation.



# The Role of Rescue Coordination Centers (RCCs) in SAR Compliance

- **Annex 12 requires States to establish RCCs, staff them 24/7, and ensure that RCCs have the necessary communication systems and trained personnel to manage SAR operations.**
- **Non-compliance results in delays in SAR missions, risking lives.**



# Best Practices for SAR Compliance

Regular training for RCC personnel.

Investment in state-of-the-art communication and monitoring technologies.

Joint SAR exercises with neighboring countries to ensure readiness and coordination.

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# Conclusion and Q&A



KEY THEMES



BENEFITS OF  
COMPLIANCE



COMMITMENT TO  
IMPROVEMENT



INTERNATIONAL  
COOPERATION AND  
COLLABORATION



CALL TO ACTION