NZ Agricultural Aviation Association

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5.25 Where the discharge is from an aircraft:
(a) the discharge is be carried out by a person who holds a GROWSAFE® Pilots’ Agrichemical Rating Certificate and an aerial application organisation that is AIRCARE™ Accredited

5.23 For VTA use the clause above should be added
5.53 For fertiliser use the Report currently recommends:

3. The discharge is be carried out by a person who holds a GROWSAFE® Pilots’ Agrichemical Rating Certificate or an organisation that holds an AIRCARE™ Accreditation

This should be changed to read:

The discharge is be carried out by an organisation that is AIRCARE™ Accredited
NZAAA:

• Recognises the value of ground-based industries to the NZ Economy

• Recognises the threats to ground-based industries from other sectors that may be less informed. (UK & Europe)

• Proactively seeks to assure its continued services by always delivering best practice
Best practice:

• Neighbours notified

• Right product, right rate, right time, right place

• No adverse effects (no product off-target)

• Verification of task
What do Regional Councils want?

• Neighbours notified

• Right product, right rate, right time, right place

• No adverse effects (No product off-target)

• No hassles!
How do Councils achieve their goals?

• Require pilot competence

• There’s an assumption that if pilots are competent they will never cause adverse effects.............

• NZAAA promotes a different approach to give some assurance that Councils achieve their goals
An industry led best practice accreditation programme that is based on managing risk
The AIRCARE™ Programme has three elements

- Pilot Competence (GROWSAFE® Pilots Agrichemical Rating Certificate)
- Aerial company has to be able to demonstrate that its pilots comply with your rules every time they go to work
- Independent audit
Certification vs Accreditation

Are they the same?

Certification is a personal qualification

Accreditation is achieved by a business
 Confirmation that an organisation has demonstrated compliance with selected rules and standards

Certification retained

Accreditation can be removed
Key issues for aviation

Discharges to air, land and water

Noise abatement COP

Regional and District Plans

Guidance Notes

Plans require AIRCARE™ Accreditation as a Condition for permitted activity

• Consent if not AIRCARE™ accredited

Condition in contracts

DOC, Landcorp, NRFA, AHB
Benefits

• Councils can have much greater confidence that its requirements are being met

• Critics can be assured that the environment is protected

• The aerial Ag industry and its land-based customers have an assured future
Risks to Council

• AIRCARE™ is available to NZAAA members and non-members

• Cost of AIRCARE™ to companies may initially be $5K but with ongoing costs of $1200 per annum once operators are established in the programme
Precedent

The Auckland Unitary Draft Plan requires AIRCARE™ Accreditation as a condition of permitted activity to apply both agrichemicals and VTA by air.
QUESTIONS?
AIRCARE™ relies on partnerships with regulators/customers.