



## Safety recommendation no. 496

<b>Date of the publication</b>	22.04.2015
<b>Number of the final report</b>	2229
<b>Safety deficit</b>	<p>An aircraft was making a flight under instrument flight rules to Sion airport. The pilot wanted to conduct the final phase of the flight under visual flight rules. A flight plan indicating these intentions was filed. At the same time, an aircraft operating under instrument flight rules was taking off from Sion airport. The two traffic converged on the same region.</p> <p>The Geneva air traffic controller decided to let the aircraft heading for Sion enter into class E airspace, located below the controlled class C airspace, which was managed by a different air traffic control unit. In the course of the descent, the instrument rules flight plan was cancelled and the aircraft continued its flight under visual flight rules.</p> <p>The two aircraft crossed with minimum distances of 2.8 NM laterally and 650 ft vertically in the class C airspace.</p> <p>At the time of the airprox, the two aircraft were in radio contact with different air traffic control units. Visual contact was not established at any time. Both aircraft were equipped with a TCAS I system. No avoidance manoeuvre was carried out.</p> <p>There is no defined procedure governing the departure from Sion of IFR traffic conducted simultaneously with VFR traffic destination Sion flying in Swiss class C airspace or class D airspace over French territory.</p>
<b>Safety recommendation</b>	<p>The Federal Office of Civil Aviation should ensure the implementation of a specific procedure for Sion airport governing the departure of an IFR traffic subject to the arrival of a VFR traffic operating within Swiss class C airspace, class D airspace over French territory respectively.</p>
<b>Addressees</b>	BAZL Bundesamt für Zivilluftfahrt
<b>Stage of the implementation</b>	<p>Implemented. In accordance with the measures taken by Skyguide, the coordinator at Sion airfield has had radar imaging available to him since January 2014. The recommendation is considered to have been implemented, as Skyguide – coordinated with potential IFR take-offs from Sion – has already defined instructions for visual flight rule approaches to Sion.</p>
<b>Investigation report concerning the safety recommendation</b>	<p><a href="#">Rapport final</a> <a href="#">Final report</a></p>