



## Safety recommendation no. 516

<b>Date of the publication</b>	26.10.2016
<b>Safety deficit</b>	<p>The provision of search and rescue (SAR) services with their multi-layered and complex processes inevitably requires the collaboration of various specialists. These can often be found in existing organisations that specialise in providing certain services, which however inevitably leads to interfaces. Therefore, FOCA as the supervisory authority of the SAR and the Rescue Coordination Centre (RCC) as the coordination centre of an SAR mission have a critical task to complete: they must organise the interfaces appropriately and already be maintaining constant communication in preparation for a mission so that, in the event of an emergency, the required organisations and their expertise can be relied on immediately and without any friction.</p> <p>Interfaces inevitably lead to longer processes and always carry the risk of losing information or of misunderstandings. As the study showed, valuable time can be lost due to interface processes not being optimally defined.</p>
<b>Safety recommendation</b>	<p>The Federal Office of Civil Aviation (FOCA), together with the rescue coordination centre (RCC), should examine the extent to which the organisation of search and rescue (SAR) can be optimised regarding the interface issues between organisations.</p>
<b>Addressees</b>	BAZL Bundesamt für Zivilluftfahrt
<b>Stage of the implementation</b>	<p>Partially implemented. When the mandate for the operation of the RCC was transferred from the Swiss air rescue service to the cantonal police force in Zurich with effect from 1st January 2016, the existing interfaces were analysed and, where possible, optimised. In particular, interface coordination was introduced and the interface between the RCC and the Air Force was clarified and adjusted. The RCC mandate is scheduled to be transferred to the Air Force on 1st January 2020. A change such as this would allow another interface to be eliminated (alerting and searching within the same organisation) and the sovereign tasks within the federal administration to be integrated optimally with the pre-existing SAR tasks of the Air Force.</p>