

Position description

Remote Aircraft Specialist



Position Summary

Position title	Remote Aircraft Specialist		
Career level	Lead coordinator/specialist	Position category	Full-time
Business unit	Emergency Management Capability and Response (EMCaR)	Location	Port Melbourne,
Reporting to	Manager – Specialist Services	Direct reports	Nil
General description	<p>The Remote Aircraft Specialist(RAS) provides guidance and technical authority for all Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS) within Life Saving Victoria (LSV) to ensure that RPAS operations are conducted safely, compliantly and effectively.</p> <p>The RAS delivers strategic direction, governance and operational oversight across the full scope of RPAS capability, including safety management, regulatory compliance, workforce capability, technology integration and operational deployment. Through expert leadership, the role enables reliable, high-quality aerial services that support training, emergency response, community safety initiatives and operational programs across LSV.</p>		

Who we are

Overview of LSV:	<p>Our purpose is to save lives and empower communities to safely enjoy water.</p> <p>This purpose statement reflects our commitment to making a difference in people's lives while fostering the safe and enjoyable use of water resources. It is linked to and consistent with the proud traditions and programs of our founding organisations, the Royal Life Saving Society – Australia and Surf Life Saving Australia.</p> <p>We want every person associated with our organisation to connect with this purpose statement and inspire our volunteers, members, colleagues and staff to continue our vital work, fuelling our passion and dedication towards our collective goals. Together, we will make a meaningful difference in the lives of individuals and communities.</p>
Our values	<p>At LSV our core values help us in our decision-making and guide the way we treat volunteers, our community and each other. They are the standard by which we and others will judge the actions of LSV.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• People – we put people at the centre of everything we do• Courage – we have the courage to act• Community – we are a united community• Trust – we are evidence led in our practice• Respect – we are stewards of our organisation, environments and communities

Position description

Remote Aircraft Specialist



Safeguarding children	It is the responsibility of everyone at LSV to understand and comply with LSV and SLSA's Safeguarding Children and Young People guidelines.
Risk and safety	We always take a risk-based approach, ensuring we are informed in our decision making. The safety of our staff, volunteers and the community is at the forefront of our decisions and activities.

Key responsibilities

Regulatory Compliance & Safety Leadership

- Provide organisational leadership for RPAS regulatory compliance, ensuring operations meet or exceed CASA Part 101 requirements and all conditions of LSV's Remotely Piloted Aircraft Operator's Certificate (ReOC)
- Maintain governance oversight of safety systems, standard operating procedures and the RPAS Operations Manual
- Lead aviation safety frameworks, including hazard identification, risk assessment, safety reporting and continuous improvement activities
- Conduct and oversee internal safety audits and assurance activities, ensuring readiness for external regulatory audits
- Provide expert advice on regulatory developments, emerging aviation standards and their operational implications for LSV

Operational Oversight & Flight Approvals

- Plan, approve and oversee all RPAS operations to ensure safety, compliance and operational effectiveness
- Approve and supervise training, internal and operational missions, including complex or specialised activities where permitted
- Ensure all operations meet defined safety, compliance and mission readiness requirements prior to deployment
- Integrate RPAS capability into emergency response, surge operations and incident management structures
- Provide technical guidance and decision support during complex or high-risk missions
- Monitor operational conditions, aircraft status and pilot availability to support successful mission outcomes

Governance & Program Management

- Contribute to strategic planning, governance and continuous improvement of LSV's RPAS program
- Provide data-driven insights on operational performance, workforce capability, fleet health and risk trends

Position description

Remote Aircraft Specialist



- Participate in and support RPAS committees, working groups and governance forums relating to operations, safety, training, technology and risk
- Influence long-term capability development, including innovation initiatives such as automation, livestreaming and advanced data analytics
- Ensure RPAS operations align with LSV's broader emergency management capability and response priorities

Workforce Capability & Training Oversight

- Oversee RPAS workforce capability, ensuring personnel remain competent, current and operationally ready
- Manage training pathways, accreditation and currency requirements for Remote Pilots and Senior Remote Pilots
- Lead or support competency assessments, skills maintenance and professional development activities
- Communicate performance expectations and ensure adherence to operational and safety standards
- Support leadership development and succession planning within the RPAS workforce

Technology, Data & Fleet Management

- Oversee fleet readiness, maintenance planning, defect management and serviceability of RPAS assets
- Support the application of cyber security standards across aircraft, controllers, software platforms and communication systems
- Ensure strong data governance practices, including secure data storage, privacy management, livestreaming protocols and data use
- Contribute to the evaluation and introduction of new aircraft platforms, sensors and technologies to enhance safety and operational capability

Liaison and key relationships

Internal	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• EMCaR team• LSV Staff• LSV Volunteers	External	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• LSV Clubs and Members• Other State Life Saving Organisations• Other Emergency Service Agencies.• Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA)
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Experience, qualification and physical requirements

Essential experience and qualifications	<p>To succeed in this role, you must possess the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Current Remote Pilot Licence (RePL) with appropriate endorsements.• Demonstrated experience in RPAS operations within emergency services, aviation, or similar operational environments.• Deep understanding of CASA Part 101, aviation safety and RPAS regulatory frameworks.• Proven operational decision-making skills in dynamic or high-pressure environments.• Demonstrated commitment to safety management, risk mitigation and compliance systems.• Strong communication, leadership and stakeholder-management skills
Desirable experience and qualifications	<p>While not mandatory, the following qualifications will enhance your success in this role:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Experience within lifesaving, surf lifesaving, or volunteer emergency services.• Experience delivering training, assessments, or aviation instruction.• Familiarity with RPAS fleet and data management systems, as well as emerging RPAS technologies.• Experience leading operational teams or contributing to emergency response.