




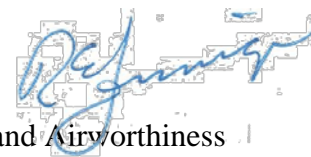
Federal Aviation Administration

Memorandum

Date: October 30, 2015

To: All Directorate Offices
All Aircraft Certification Offices
All Manufacturing Inspection District Offices

From:  Susan J. M. Cabler, Acting Manager, Design, Manufacturing, and Airworthiness Division, AIR-100



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Subject: Reciprocal Acceptance of Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Technical Standard Order (TSO) Articles, European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) European TSO (ETSO) Articles, and Transport Canada Civil Aviation (TCCA) Canadian TSO (CAN-TSO) Articles

Memo No.: AIR100-15-110-GM41

This memorandum highlights changes in Aircraft Certification Service (AIR) reciprocal acceptance processes found within two recently signed international agreements:

1. Revision 5 of the FAA and EASA Bilateral Aviation Safety Agreement's (BASA) Technical Implementation Procedures (TIP) contains criteria and guidance regarding the reciprocal acceptance of FAA TSO articles and EASA ETSO articles; and
2. Amendment 1 of the FAA and Transport Canada (TCCA) BASA's Implementation Procedures for Airworthiness (IPA) contains criteria and guidance regarding the reciprocal acceptance of FAA TSO articles and TCCA CAN-TSO articles.

Background

The globalization of aviation is creating complex business arrangements and challenging the FAA's traditional regulatory model. In response, our thinking must evolve to embrace both the tenets of our past regulatory direction and forward-thinking ideals. Using AIR: 2018 principles, we are leveraging our global partners to promote efficiency and facilitate the seamless transfer of products and approvals beyond the traditionally recognized borders. Strong partnerships are the key to establishing consistent safety standards around the world. Based on more than a decade of cooperation, the FAA, EASA, and TCCA have established the confidence in each other's regulatory systems necessary to ensure safety through the reciprocal acceptance of TSO, ETSO,

and CAN-TSO articles. Since early 2014, the FAA has worked closely with EASA and TCCA to establish the technical framework for TSO authorization (TSOA)/ETSO authorization (ETSOA) and TSOA/CAN-TSO authorization (CAN-TSOA) reciprocal acceptance processes.

Criteria Overview

Procedural information regarding the reciprocal acceptance processes can be found in the signed FAA/EASA TIP and FAA/TCCA IPA, available on the International Division's (AIR-400) "Bilateral Agreements" webpage at http://www.faa.gov/aircraft/air_cert/international/bilateral_agreements/baa_basa_listing/.

Reciprocal acceptance will allow the importing authority to accept the exporting authority's approval of a TSO article without further evaluation or validation. This means the FAA will accept an EASA ETSOA for an article from the European Union, or a TCCA CAN-TSOA for an article from Canada, without issuing a letter of TSO design approval as required by previous validation procedures. Likewise, EASA and TCCA will accept FAA TSOs for an article without issuing an ETSOA or CAN-TSOA, respectively. Reciprocal acceptance will eliminate duplicative processes, reduce costs, and save time for both industry and the authorities involved. Additionally, it will support the FAA's Global Leadership Strategic Initiative and AIR: 2018's Globalization key focus area. Lastly, it capitalizes on risk-based decision making to focus AIR resources on areas of higher risk. It is important to note that neither reciprocal acceptance process removes the regulatory requirements necessary to obtain product-level installation approvals.

If you require any additional information or clarification, please review the detailed FAQs on the AIR-400 website at http://www.faa.gov/aircraft/air_cert/international/media/TSOA-ETSOA-Reciprocal-Acceptance-FAQs.pdf.

If you require any additional information or clarification regarding this memorandum, please contact Robert Sprayberry, AIR-110, at (202) 267-1575 or robert.sprayberry@faa.gov.