

imbalance of scheduled arrivals and departures in certain periods has contributed to increased congestion and delays when the demand exceeds the arrival or departure rates. In particular, retiming a minimal number of arrivals in the early afternoon hours such as 1400 to instead be scheduled during the 1300 and 1200 hours could have significant delay reduction benefits, as early afternoon delays continue to impact operations into the evening hours.

Consistent with the WSG, carriers should be prepared to adjust schedules to meet the scheduling limits in order to minimize potential congestion and delay. Carriers are reminded that runway approval must be obtained from the FAA in addition to any requirements for approval from the airport terminal or other facilities prior to operating flights at the airport. As the FAA has previously stated, if voluntary schedule adjustments are not achievable, consideration may be given to whether a Level 3 designation is necessary and whether a schedule reduction meeting pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 41722 is necessary. If the FAA reinstates Level 3 at EWR, historic precedence would not be granted for any operation conducted without FAA approval under Level 2.

#### Southwest's EWR Station Closure

On July 25, 2019, Southwest Airlines (Southwest) announced that it will cease operations at EWR effective November 3, 2019.<sup>6</sup> The FAA has received numerous inquiries from various public and private entities concerning the effects of Southwest's plans, including multiple requests for approval of new operations to replace the operations previously conducted by Southwest.

On a peak summer weekday, Southwest operated up to 40 operations at EWR, a portion of which (approximately 16) were in the peak periods. As noted previously, several hours in the high demand periods at EWR are above the FAA's stated scheduling limits. In an effort to improve performance at EWR, the FAA has consistently stated in prior seasonal schedule submission notices that new operations will not be approved unless the period is below the FAA scheduling

limits.<sup>7</sup> Consistent with this approach, the FAA will not be approving new flights in peak hours for the Summer 2020 scheduling season if operations are at or above the applicable scheduling limits. The FAA plans to assess the impacts of the peak period Southwest reductions and other schedule changes at EWR on performance, as well as the impacts on competition in close coordination with the Office of the Secretary of Transportation, in the upcoming Winter 2019/2020 and Summer 2020 scheduling seasons. The FAA intends to publish additional information on the outcome of this assessment in future notices related to these airports. However, the FAA will not during that assessment period be replacing or "backfilling" the peak morning and afternoon/evening operations that Southwest conducted during Winter 2018/2019 and Summer 2019, to the extent the new operations would exceed the current scheduling limits. New operations are being approved by the FAA, subject to terminal and gate availability, in off-peak hours in which operations are below the scheduling limits, including any offsets for periods above the limits, consistent with established FAA policy and procedures as described in seasonal notices and the WSG.<sup>8</sup> In addition, the FAA is tracking unmet schedule requests at EWR for future consideration.

The FAA will continue to follow the established schedule facilitation process at EWR consistent with the IATA WSG and as described in prior schedule submission notices.<sup>9</sup> In periods with limited availability, new entrant carriers may be prioritized consistent with the IATA WSG, as appropriate. Carriers requesting new operations in off-peak periods with sufficient availability may be approved. The FAA will continue to closely monitor demand in each hour at EWR and, based on recent requests or inquiries for additional flights, the FAA expects availability to change in some off-peak periods.

#### EWR Runway 4R/22L Preliminary Construction Plans

The FAA is aware of preliminary plans by the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey (PANYNJ) to reconstruct

Runway 4R/22L at EWR. The FAA is closely monitoring the scope and timing of this project. Once the details of this project are available, the FAA plans to work with the PANYNJ and carriers to assess operational impacts and potential changes in delays and to develop mitigation strategies, as appropriate.

Issued in Washington, DC on September 27, 2019.

**Virginia Boyle,**

*Deputy Vice President, System Operations Services.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Aviation Administration

[Summary Notice No. FAA-2019-55]

#### Petition for Exemption; Summary of Petition Received; U.S. Aviation Academy

**AGENCY:** Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Department of Transportation (DOT).

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice contains a summary of a petition seeking relief from specified requirements of Federal Aviation Regulations. The purpose of this notice is to improve the public's awareness of, and participation in, the FAA's exemption process. Neither publication of this notice nor the inclusion or omission of information in the summary is intended to affect the legal status of the petition or its final disposition.

**DATES:** Comments on this petition must identify the petition docket number and must be received on or before October 22, 2019.

**ADDRESSES:** Send comments identified by docket number FAA-2019-0626 using any of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* Go to <http://www.regulations.gov> and follow the online instructions for sending your comments electronically.

- *Mail:* Send comments to Docket Operations, M-30; U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Room W12-140, West Building Ground Floor, Washington, DC 20590-0001.

- *Hand Delivery or Courier:* Take comments to Docket Operations in Room W12-140 of the West Building Ground Floor at 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590-0001, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

has rolled out reduced hourly scheduling limits from 81 per hour to 79 and applied additional half-hour and arrival and departure limits.

<sup>6</sup> Southwest Airlines Press Release <https://www.swamedia.com/releases/release-424146113c6f2a2eebe84fb61d59a4ff-southwest-reports-record-second-quarter-revenues-and-earnings-per-share>.

<sup>7</sup> See e.g., Notice of Submission Deadline for the Winter 2019/2020 Scheduling Season, 84 FR 18630 at 18632 (May 1, 2019); Notice of Submission Deadline for the Summer 2019 Scheduling Season, 83 FR 49155 at 49156-49157 (Sep. 28, 2018); and, Notice of Submission Deadline for the Winter 2018/2019 Scheduling Season, 83 FR 21335 at 21337-21338 (May 9, 2018).

<sup>8</sup> See *supra* note 7.

<sup>9</sup> See *supra* note 7.

• *Fax:* Fax comments to Docket Operations at (202) 493–2251.

*Privacy:* In accordance with 5 U.S.C. 553(c), DOT solicits comments from the public to better inform its rulemaking process. DOT posts these comments, without edit, including any personal information the commenter provides, to <http://www.regulations.gov>, as described in the system of records notice (DOT/ALL–14 FDMS), which can be reviewed at <http://www.dot.gov/privacy>.

*Docket:* Background documents or comments received may be read at <http://www.regulations.gov> at any time. Follow the online instructions for accessing the docket or go to the Docket Operations in Room W12–140 of the West Building Ground Floor at 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590–0001, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Alphonso Pendergrass (202) 267–4713, Office of Rulemaking, Federal Aviation Administration, 800 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20591.

This notice is published pursuant to 14 CFR 11.85.

Issued in Washington, DC, on September 24, 2019.

**Forest Rawls III,**

*Acting Deputy Executive Director, Office of Rulemaking.*

### Petition for Exemption

*Docket No.:* FAA–2019–0626.

*Petitioner:* U.S. Aviation Academy.

*Section(s) of 14 CFR Affected:*  
§ 141.37(b)(2).

*Description of Relief Sought:* To allow the U.S. Aviation Academy to create an FAA Part 141 special curriculum for check instructors which includes pre-requisites exceeding 141.37. Certified flight instructors who graduate this FAA-approved check instructor course would be automatically approved to act as check instructors without further action from the FAA.

[FR Doc. 2019–21449 Filed 10–1–19; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910–13–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Aviation Administration

[Docket No. FAA–2019–0362]

#### Agency Information Collection Activities: Requests for Comments; Clearance of a Renewed Approval of Information Collection: Maintenance, Preventive Maintenance, Rebuilding, and Alteration

**AGENCY:** Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, FAA invites public comments about our intention to request the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval to renew an information collection. The **Federal Register** Notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on the following collection of information was published on May 13, 2019. The information to be collected is necessary to insure the safety of the flying public. Documentation of maintenance repair actions record who, what, when, where and how of the task performed. This collection focuses on the Form 337 which is collected by the FAA. Other records for preventative maintenance, and logbook entries are not collected by the FAA serve as a responsibility of the owner to maintain in case of verification of airworthiness when seeking approvals or sale of the aircraft. This insures proper certification of personnel; proper tooling is utilized and accurate measures to insure safety. Total form 337s submitted in 2017 is 54,237. Total aircraft registrations on file is 289,490. It is estimated by the numbers collected one in every five aircraft have a 337 form submitted for major alteration and repairs performed. Each 337 takes approximately 1 hour.

**DATES:** Written comments should be submitted by November 1, 2019.

**ADDRESSES:** Interested persons are invited to submit written comments on the proposed information collection to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget. Comments should be addressed to the attention of the Desk Officer, Department of Transportation/FAA, and sent via electronic mail to [oira\\_submission@omb.eop.gov](mailto:oira_submission@omb.eop.gov), or faxed to (202) 395–6974, or mailed to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Docket Library, Room 10102, 725 17th Street NW, Washington, DC 20503.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jude Sellers by email at: [jude.n.sellers@faa.gov](mailto:jude.n.sellers@faa.gov) or by telephone at: (225) 788–1829.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*Public Comments Invited:* You are asked to comment on any aspect of this information collection, including (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for FAA's performance; (b) the accuracy of the estimated burden; (c) ways for FAA to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information collection; and (d) ways that the burden could be minimized without reducing the quality of the collected information. The agency will summarize and/or include your comments in the request for OMB's clearance of this information collection.

*OMB Control Number:* 2120–0020.

*Title:* Maintenance, Preventive Maintenance, Rebuilding, and Alteration.

*Form Numbers:* Aircraft maintenance logbooks and form 337.

*Type of Review:* Renewal of information collection.

*Background:* The **Federal Register** Notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on the following collection of information was published on May 13, 2019 (84 FR 20946). Title 14 CFR part 43 mandates information to be provided when an alteration or major repair is performed on an aircraft of United States registry. Submission of Form 337 is required for capture in the aircraft permanent records for current and future owners to substantiate the requirements of the regulations, prior to operation of the aircraft. Aircraft owners have the responsibility of documentation and submission of all maintenance records performed to their aircraft.

*Respondents:* 54,237 Aircraft owners.

*Frequency:* On occasion. When major repairs or alterations are accomplished on Aircraft bearing a “N” number.

*Estimated Average Burden per Response:* 1 hour.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden:* Industry Annual burden 54,237 man hours at an annual cost of \$1,193,214.

Issued in Washington, DC on September 26, 2019.

**Jude Sellers,**

*Aviation Safety Inspector, AFS–350 General Aviation Maintenance Branch.*

[FR Doc. 2019–21389 Filed 10–1–19; 8:45 am]

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