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## SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

### 13 CFR Parts 125 and 126

RIN 3245-AH68

#### HUBZone Program Updates and Clarifications, and Clarifications to Other Small Business Programs; Correction

**AGENCY:** U.S. Small Business Administration.

**ACTION:** Correcting amendments.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) is correcting a final rule that was published in the **Federal Register** on December 17, 2024. The rule clarified and improved policies surrounding a comprehensive revision to the HUBZone Program regulations published in 2019, among other changes. This document is making several technical corrections to the final regulations.

**DATES:** Effective June 4, 2025.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Alison Amann, Office of General Counsel, (202) 205-6841, [alison.amann@sba.gov](mailto:alison.amann@sba.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On December 17, 2024, SBA published a final rule amending the regulations pertaining to the HUBZone program and SBA's other small business contracting programs to reduce unnecessary or excessive burdens on small businesses, clarify certain policies, and make the regulations governing SBA's contracting programs more consistent. 89 FR 102448. This is the second set of corrections. The first set of corrections was published in the **Federal Register** on February 18, 2025. 90 FR 9673. This document augments those corrections.

The final rule made several amendments to § 121.103. While making those changes, SBA intended to make a corresponding amendment to the citation cross-referenced in SBA's joint venture regulations at § 125.8(a) but that corresponding amendment was

inadvertently omitted from the final rule. Currently, § 125.8(a) references exceptions to affiliation for SBA-approved mentor-protégé agreements at § 121.103(h)(4). This correction fixes that citation so that § 125.8(a) references § 121.103(b).

The final rule created new § 125.12, addressing size recertification and small business program status recertification. This correction fixes the numbering of the subparagraphs in paragraph (g) of § 125.12.

The final rule amended § 126.103 by revising the definition of "Employee." In the proposed rule preceding the final rule, SBA had proposed to require an employee to work at least 80 hours per month. Based on the comments received, SBA did not implement this proposal. Instead, the final rule provided that an employee was an individual who worked at least 10 hours per week during the relevant four-week period. However, in the final rule, two subparagraphs in the definition of "Employee" inadvertently retained the proposed 80-hour standard instead of the 10-hour-per-week standard. This correction fixes that error.

The final rule amended § 126.200 by revising paragraph (d)(3), which addresses "Legacy HUBZone Employees." The final rule inadvertently retained references to annual recertification, which was eliminated in the final rule. This correction removes the references to annual recertification and replaces them with the term "HUBZone certification anniversary date."

The final rule amended the definition of "reside" in § 126.103 to remove voter registration cards from the listing of documents that SBA would accept as proof of HUBZone residency, since voter registration cards generally do not include issue dates. However, SBA inadvertently failed to make the corresponding change to § 126.304, which addresses the documents that a firm must submit to be certified as a HUBZone small business concern. This correction fixes that omission by removing the reference to voter registration cards from § 126.304.

#### List of Subjects

##### 13 CFR Part 125

Government contracts, Government procurement, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Small

businesses, Technical assistance, Veterans.

##### 13 CFR Part 126

Administrative practice and procedure, Government procurement, Penalties, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Small businesses.

Accordingly, 13 CFR parts 125 and 126 are corrected by making the following correcting amendments:

#### PART 125—GOVERNMENT CONTRACTING PROGRAMS

- 1. The authority citation for part 125 continues to read as follows:

**Authority:** 15 U.S.C. 632(p), (q), 634(b)(6), 637, 644, 657f, 657q, 657r, and 657s; 38 U.S.C. 501 and 8127.

##### § 125.8 [Amended]

- 2. Amend § 125.8, in paragraph (a), by removing "§ 121.103(h)(4)" and adding in its place "§ 121.103(b)".

##### § 125.12 [Amended]

- 3. Amend § 125.12 by redesignating paragraphs (g)(i) and (ii) as paragraphs (g)(1) and (2).

#### PART 126—HUBZONE PROGRAM

- 4. The authority citation for part 126 continues to read as follows:

**Authority:** 15 U.S.C. 632(a), 632(j), 632(p), 644 and 657a.

##### § 126.103 [Amended]

- 5. Amend § 126.103, in the definition of "Employee", by:
  - a. In paragraph (2)(ii), removing the text "80 hours or more" and adding in its place the text "at least 10 hours per week"; and
  - b. In paragraph (2)(iii), removing the text "80 hours" and adding in its place the text "10 hours per week".

##### § 126.200 [Amended]

- 6. Amend § 126.200 by:
  - a. In paragraph (d)(3)(i)(A), removing the text "(or recertification date)" and adding in its place the text "(or certification anniversary date)";
  - b. In paragraph (d)(3)(iii), removing the text "certification (or recertification)" and adding in its place "the firm's HUBZone certification date (or certification anniversary date)"; and
  - c. In paragraph (d)(3)(iv), removing the text "certification date or recertification date" and adding in its

place the text “HUBZone certification date (or certification anniversary date)”.

#### § 126.304 [Amended]

■ 7. Amend § 126.304, in paragraph (b)(2), by removing the text “and voter registration cards” and the text “accompanied by signed statements explaining why the alternative documentation is being provided”.

**Larry Stubblefield,**

*Deputy Associate Administrator, Government Contracting and Business Development.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Aviation Administration

#### 14 CFR Part 25

[Docket No. FAA–2025–0968; Special Conditions No. 25–879–SC]

#### Special Conditions: Delta Flight Products, Non-Rechargeable Lithium Batteries and Battery System Installations

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

**ACTION:** Final special conditions; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** These special conditions are issued for a supplemental type certificate (STC) to install non-rechargeable lithium batteries and battery systems on certain transport-category airplanes. These airplanes, as modified by Delta Flight Products, will have a novel or unusual design feature when compared to the state of technology envisioned in the airworthiness standards for transport-category airplanes. This design feature is non-rechargeable lithium batteries and battery system installed in emergency locator transmitters (ELTs). The applicable airworthiness regulations do not contain adequate or appropriate safety standards for this design feature. These special conditions contain the additional safety standards that the Administrator considers necessary to establish a level of safety equivalent to that established by the existing airworthiness standards.

**DATES:** This action is effective on Delta Flight Products on June 4, 2025. Send comments on or before July 21, 2025.

**ADDRESSES:** Send comments identified by Docket No. FAA–2025–0968 using any of the following methods:

- *Federal eRegulations Portal:* Go to [www.regulations.gov](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 (DOT), 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, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

- *Fax:* Fax comments to Docket Operations at 202–493–2251.

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

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Nazih Khaouly, Electrical Systems, AIR–626A, Technical Policy Branch, Policy and Standards Division, Aircraft Certification Service, Federal Aviation Administration, 2200 S 216th Street, Des Moines, Washington 98198; telephone and fax 206–231–3160; email [Nazih.Khaouly@faa.gov](mailto:Nazih.Khaouly@faa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The substance of these special conditions has been published in the **Federal Register** for public comment in several prior instances with no substantive comments received. Therefore, the FAA finds, pursuant to 14 CFR 11.38(b), that new comments are unlikely, and notice and comment prior to this publication are unnecessary.

#### Privacy

Except for Confidential Business Information (CBI) as described in the following paragraph, and other information as described in title 14, Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR) 11.35, the FAA will post all comments received without change to [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov), including any personal information you provide. The FAA will also post a report summarizing each substantive verbal contact received about these special conditions.

#### Confidential Business Information

Confidential Business Information (CBI) is commercial or financial information that is both customarily and actually treated as private by its owner. Under the Freedom of Information Act

(FOIA) (5 U.S.C. 552), CBI is exempt from public disclosure. If your comments responsive to these special conditions contain commercial or financial information that is customarily treated as private, that you actually treat as private, and that is relevant or responsive to these special conditions, it is important that you clearly designate the submitted comments as CBI. Please mark each page of your submission containing CBI as “PROPIN.” The FAA will treat such marked submissions as confidential under the FOIA, and the indicated comments will not be placed in the public docket of these special conditions. Send submissions containing CBI to the individual listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section above. Comments the FAA receives, which are not specifically designated as CBI, will be placed in the public docket for these proposed special conditions.

#### Comments Invited

The FAA invites interested people to take part in this rulemaking by sending written comments, data, or views. The most helpful comments reference a specific portion of the special conditions, explain the reason for any recommended change, and include supporting data.

The FAA will consider all comments received by the closing date for comments. The FAA may change these special conditions based on the comments received.

#### Background

On December 19, 2024, Delta Flight Products applied for a supplemental type certificate ST12026AT to install non-rechargeable lithium batteries and battery systems in ELTs. Delta Flight Products intends to apply this STC to multiple transport-category airplanes, and may periodically amend this STC to expand its applicability to include additional transport-category airplane makes and models.

#### Type Certification Basis

Under the provisions of title 14, Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR) 21.101, Delta Flight Products must show that the airplanes, for which they make application to modify by FAA STC ST12026AT, as changed, continue to meet the applicable provisions of the regulations listed in each airplane’s respective type certificate or the applicable regulations in effect on the date of application for the change except for earlier amendments as agreed upon by the FAA.

If the Administrator finds that the applicable airworthiness regulations