

Any person may inspect the application in person at the FAA office listed above under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** and at the FAA regional Airports office located at: Federal Aviation Administration, Southwest Region, Airports Division, Planning and Programming Branch, ASW-610, 2601 Meacham Blvd., Fort Worth, Texas 76137-4298.

In addition, any person may, upon request, inspect the application, notice and other documents germane to the application in person at Monroe Regional Airport.

Issued in Fort Worth, Texas on December 10, 2002.

Naomi L. Saunders,

Manager, Airports Division.

[FR Doc. 02-31886 Filed 12-17-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-M

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

Approval Guidelines for Airborne Software

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of availability for public comment.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the availability of and requests comments on a proposed Order that guides the Aircraft Certification Service (AIR) field offices (that is, Aircraft Certification Offices and Manufacturing Inspection District or Satellite Offices) and Designated Engineering Representatives (DER) on how to apply RTCA/DO-17B, "Software Considerations in Airborne Systems and Equipment Certification," for approving airborne software. Advisory Circular (AC) 20-115B, RTCA, Inc. Document RTCA/DO-178B, recognizes RTCA/DO-178B as an acceptable means of compliance for securing the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) approval of software in airborne systems and equipment. The proposed Order establishes guidelines for approving software in compliance with RTCA/DO-178B. The guidelines are applicable to the approval of airborne systems and equipment and the software aspects of those systems related to type certificates (TC), supplemental type certificates (STC), amended type certificates (ATC), amended supplemental type certificates (ASTC), and technical standard order (TSO) authorizations.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before January 21, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Send all comments on the proposed Order to: Technical Programs & Continued Airworthiness Branch, AIR-120, Aircraft Engineering Division, Aircraft Certification Service, Federal Aviation Administration 800 Independence Avenue, SW., Room 835, Washington, DC 20591. Or deliver comments to: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Room 835, 800 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20591. Comments must identify the Order file number.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. John Lewis, Technical Programs & Continued Airworthiness Branch, AIR-120, Aircraft Engineering Division, Aircraft Certification Service, Federal Aviation Administration, 800 Independence Avenue, SW., Room 835, Washington, DC 20591; Telephone No. (202) 493-4841; FAX No. (202) 267-5340; E-mail address: John.Lewis@faa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Comments Invited

You are invited to comment on the proposed Order by submitting written data, views, or arguments to the above specified address. Comments received on the proposed Order may be examined, before and after the comment closing date, Room 835, FAA Headquarters Building (FOB-10A), 800 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20591, weekdays except Federal holidays, between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. The Director, Aircraft Certification Service will consider all communications received on or before the closing date for comments before issuing the final Order.

Background

Between 1998-2002, the FAA produced a number of software-related notices to provide guidelines for FAA Aviation Safety Engineers (ASE), Aviation Safety Inspectors (ASI), and DERs in various areas of software approval. The proposed Order combines those notices into a single document. On January 11, 1993, the FAA issued AC 20-115B which recognizes RTCA/DO-178B as a means of demonstrating compliance to regulations for the software aspects of airborne systems and equipment certification. The proposed Order assumes that RTCA/DO-178B is the means of compliance proposed by the applicant for software approval (except where previously developed software and legacy systems are addressed). If the applicant proposes other means, additional policy and FAA guidance may be needed on a project-by-project basis.

How To Obtain Copies

You may obtain a copy of the proposed Order via Internet (<http://av-info.faa.gov/software/drafts.htm>) or by inquiring at the office listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**. Copies of Document No. RTCA/DO-178B may be purchased from the RTCA Inc., 1828 L Street, NW., Suite 807, Washington, DC 20036 (Web-site: <http://www.rtca.org>).

You may inspect the RTCA document at the FAA office location listed under **ADDRESSES**. However, RTCA documents are copyrighted and may not be reproduced without the written consent of RTCA, Inc.

Issued in Washington, DC, on December 12, 2002.

Carol Martineau,

Acting Manager, Aircraft Engineering Division, Aircraft Certification Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Highway Administration

Federal Transit Administration

[FHWA Docket No. FHWA-2002-13290]

Draft Nationwide Section 4(f) Evaluation and Proposed Determination for Federal-Aid Transportation Projects That Have a Net Benefit to a Section 4(f) Property

AGENCIES: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Federal Transit Administration (FTA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The FHWA jointly with the FTA proposes a nationwide programmatic Section 4(f) evaluation (programmatic evaluation) for use in certain federally assisted or direct Federal transportation improvement projects where the use of land from a Section 4(f) park, recreation area, wildlife or waterfowl refuge, or historic property will result in a net benefit to the Section 4(f) property. The use of such a programmatic evaluation is intended to promote environmental stewardship and streamline the Section 4(f) process by reducing the time necessary to prepare an evaluation that satisfies Section 4(f) requirements. This programmatic evaluation would provide an additional procedural option for demonstrating compliance with the requirements of Section 4(f). It would supplement existing nationwide Section 4(f) evaluations all of which would