AC 00-57

Hazardous Mountain Winds

And Their Visual Indicators

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Federal Aviation Administration
Office of Communications, Navigation, and Surveillance Systems
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FOREWORD

This advisory circular (AC) contains information on hazardous mountain winds and their effects on flight operations near mountainous regions. The primary purpose of this AC is to assist pilots involved in aviation operations to diagnose the potential for severe wind events in the vicinity of mountainous areas and to provide information on pre-flight planning techniques and in-flight evaluation strategies for avoiding destructive turbulence and loss of aircraft control. Additionally, pilots and others who must deal with weather phenomena in aviation operations also will benefit from the information contained in this AC.

Pilots can review the photographs and section summaries to learn about and recognize common indicators of wind motion in the atmosphere. The photographs show physical processes and provide visual clues. The summaries cover the technical and "wonder" aspects of why certain things occur — what caused it? How does it affect pre-flight and in-flight decisions? The physical aspects are covered more in-depth through the text.

Comments regarding this publication should be directed to the Department of Transportation, Federal Aviation Administration, Flight Standards Service, Technical Programs Division, 800 Independence Avenue, S.W. Washington, DC 20591.

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Cover photo: over Boulder, Colorado,
winter 1988, © A.J. Bedard, Jr.

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