



**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION**

**NOTICE
N 8400.89**

Effective Date:
3/28/06

Cancellation Date:
3/28/07

SUBJ: ACCESS TO FLIGHT DECK FOR IOSA AUDITS

1. PURPOSE. This notice provides Flight Standards (AFS) principal operations inspectors (POI) with policy guidance for requesting approval for access to the jump seat for audits conducted under the International Air Transport Association (IATA) Operational Safety Audit (IOSA) Program.

2. DISTRIBUTION. This notice is distributed to the division level in the Flight Standards Service in headquarters; to the branch level in the regional Flight Standards Divisions; to the Flight Standards District Offices; to the International Field Offices; and to the Regulatory Standards Division at the Mike Monroney Aeronautical Center. This notice is also distributed electronically to the division level in the Flight Standards Service in Washington headquarters and to all regional Flight Standards divisions and district offices. This information is also available on the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) Web site at: http://www.faa.gov/library/manuals/examiners_inspectors/8400/notices/.

3. BACKGROUND.

a. The FAA is working with the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and other civil aviation authorities to improve safety oversight through the implementation of international standards. One of the key players in this effort is the IATA. IATA has developed IOSA as an internationally recognized audit system to help airlines maintain a high level of safety and reliability. IOSA saves the airlines' resources by creating cost-efficient, harmonized, internal audit standards. IOSA focuses on the management and control systems of an air carrier. Conformity with IOSA standards is determined through the collection and analysis of evidence that indicates whether the operator's processes and procedures are properly documented and implemented.

b. The FAA has determined that IOSA may be used as one of the methods to meet the Department of Transportation's (DOT) and the FAA's Code-Share Safety Program guidelines requirements, provided IOSA is part of the U.S. air carrier's FAA-accepted Code-Share Audit Program. The FAA has worked closely with IATA on this initiative and, since the objectives of IOSA are consistent with those of the DOT/FAA Code-Share Safety Program, in terms of operations and safety, the FAA encourage air carriers to participate, as appropriate.

c. One very important activity associated with the audit under IOSA is observing line operations from the flight deck jump seat. This particular activity significantly enhances the effectiveness of the audit by verifying firsthand that the operator's procedures are properly implemented during actual line operations.

d. The IOSA program provides specific, high-level qualification standards for the auditors who will assess line and simulator operations. These auditors are familiar with flight deck operations, understand applicable procedures and protocols, and have extensive experience either as a pilot in airline flight operations or as a flight operations air carrier inspector for a regulatory authority. All IOSA auditors must meet rigid qualification requirements in accordance with the IOSA Programme Manual (IPM). The IPM is available in its entirety to POIs on the IOSA Web site: <http://www.iata.org/ps/services/iosa.htm>.

4. ACTION. U.S. carriers seeking initial or recurrent IOSA registration in accordance with their FAA-accepted Code-Share Audit Program must contact their POI regarding jump seat access for an IOSA auditor. Such requests for access to the flight deck are in accordance with Title 14 of the Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR) part 121, section 121.547(a)(4). POIs will take the following action before requesting the Air Transportation Division's (AFS-200) approval for requests by airlines for IOSA auditors:

a. POIs must confirm that U.S. operators request only an approved IOSA flight operations auditor, employed by an audit organization that has undergone accreditation by IATA, and who is qualified to conduct line assessments during audits under the IOSA program. Audit organizations are listed at: <http://www.iata.org/ps/services/iosa/accreditation.htm>.

b. POIs must confirm that each IOSA auditor who conducts line assessments during an audit of a U.S. air carrier has undergone a security check and been approved by the Transport Security Administration (TSA). The results of the security check are available at the International Programs and Policy Division, AFS-50, at the management level and through the code-share program manager's office at (202) 385-8070. This security validation database is designed for coordination and verification by POIs. Also available from AFS-50 is information relative to auditor's qualifications.

c. U.S. carriers must forward all requests for IOSA auditors to observe line operations to the appropriate certificate-holding district office (CHDO). Upon receiving the request, the CHDO will determine if the request is justified under the IOSA program, if the audit organization is formally accredited by IOSA, and if the auditor is approved to conduct line observations on U.S. operators by the TSA. Requests must be received by the CHDO at least 45 days in advance of the planned observation. POIs must contact AFS-50 for information on how to access the IOSA Web site (<http://www.iata.org/ps/services/iosa.htm>).

d. POIs will forward the request for jump seat access and their recommendation for approval to AFS-200. AFS-200 will review the request and issue FAA Form 8430-6, Admission to Flight Deck.

e. FAA aviation safety inspectors (ASI) have statutory requirements to conduct inspections from the flight deck jump seat in the course of their official duties. Therefore, the FAA ASI has statutory priority in the performance of his or her duties.

5. DISPOSITION. This notice will not be incorporated into Order 8400.10, Air Transportation Operations Inspector's Handbook. Direct any questions concerning this notice to AFS-50 at (202) 385-8070 or the Air Carrier Operations Branch, AFS-220, at (202) 267-8166.

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY
JOHN M. ALLEN (for)

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