



Federal Aviation Administration

Memorandum

Date: October 5, 2015

To: See Distribution List

From: *for* Susan J. M. Cabler, Acting Manager, Design, Manufacturing, &
Airworthiness Division, AIR-100

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Robert Ferrarese".

Prepared by: Robert Ferrarese, Airworthiness Certification Section, AIR-113

Subject: Deviation to Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Order 8130.2H,
Airworthiness Certification of Products and Articles, Chapter 4, Section 6,
Paragraph 435b(2), Regarding Light-Sport Category Airworthiness Certification
Document Review Requirements for Manufacturers With a Partnership for Safety
Plan (PSP)

Memo No.: AIR100-15-110-DM50

This deviation memorandum applies to all aviation safety inspectors (ASI) or properly authorized designees who are responsible for issuing special airworthiness certificates in the light-sport category. FAA Order 8130.2H, chapter 4, section 6, provides policy for special light-sport category (SLSA) airworthiness certification, and paragraph 435 of this section contains detailed procedures that cover document review and aircraft inspection requirements.

This memorandum allows an ASI or properly authorized designee to deviate from this policy and reduce the required aircraft document review when issuing a special airworthiness certificate in the light-sport category to a manufacturer with a PSP agreement with the FAA. A PSP is a voluntary agreement between an aircraft manufacturer and the FAA that defines the working relationship between the two entities.

Under this deviation, an ASI or properly authorized designee may accept the documents described in paragraph 435b(2) without performing a detailed review. This includes the following documents and forms: a Light-Sport Aircraft Statement of Compliance (FAA Form 8130-15); the aircraft operating instructions/pilot's operating handbook; the aircraft's flight training supplement; and the aircraft's maintenance and inspection procedures. However, these documents must be presented with the aircraft to determine its eligibility for a special airworthiness certificate in the light-sport category, pursuant to Title 14 of the Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR) 21.190(b). The additional document review requirements discussed in paragraph 435b(1) and (3)-(5) of FAA Order 8130.2H, as well as the general aircraft inspection in paragraph 435c of the order, remain in effect.

The Small Airplane Directorate (SAD) is responsible for issuing and managing SLSA PSPs and is the official repository for these documents. Before concluding a PSP, SAD is required to complete a rigorous and detailed review of an SLSA manufacturer's documentation. This allows the ASI or properly authorized designee responsible for the airworthiness certification of the aircraft to engage in a simplified assessment of the documents and forms listed above. The ASI or properly authorized designee may engage in a more detailed review of these documents and forms to ensure their accuracy and consistency, but is encouraged to streamline this process because a detailed document review was performed before signing the PSP.

Through a network of mature PSPs, the FAA will increase reliance on self-declarative and self-disclosing systems, as originally envisioned in the light-sport rule. One way to accomplish this is to streamline the document review requirements for SLSA manufacturers with a PSP in good standing.

Under the authority of this deviation memorandum, the FAA is formally "prototyping" the feasibility of SLSA PSPs and the reduced document review approach. This deviation will be incorporated into a future revision of FAA Order 8130.2.

If you have any questions regarding this deviation memorandum, please contact Robert Ferrarese, Aviation Safety Analyst, AIR-113, at (202) 267-1575 or robert.ferrarese@faa.gov. If you have any questions regarding a PSP with a specific SLSA manufacturer, please contact Terry L. Chasteen, Light-Sport Aircraft Program Manager, Small Airplane Directorate, ACE-114, at (816) 329-4147 or terry.chasteen@faa.gov.

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