

Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)
Fairbanks Flight Standards District Office (FSDO)
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www.alaska.faa.gov/faifsd0

AIRWORTHINESS NEWSLETTER

For Inspection Authorization Holders, A&Ps and Repairmen

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Introduction

We all hope your holiday season went well. With the weather we have been having lately, it seems like spring has come early. Keeping up with snow removal has been a full-time job. Be sure to take a close look at your customer aircraft for signs of damage from excessive snow loads.

We are always looking for articles from the field and would really like to have you share your knowledge and experience. We have not heard much from you recently. With the local industry changes from new bypass mail regulations, folks have had other things on their minds. However, this is when we need your ideas even more. So send us your input and help out your fellow mechanics with your great ideas! To those who have contributed, we appreciate your efforts and look forward to hearing from you again soon.

Remember that this publication is for you, the maintenance professional, and your compliments, criticisms, and ideas are important in keeping this publication informative, interesting, and helpful as you go about your vital tasks.

→ IA Renewal ←

IA's—do not forget to renew in the month of March. Enclosed with this Newsletter is FAA Form 8610-1, Mechanic's Application for Inspection Authorization. If you plan to renew by mail, include FAA Form 8610-1 and FAA Form 8310-5, mail to the address above, and please print "IA Renewal" on the outside of the envelope.

Fairbanks Seminar—Wednesday, March 23, 2005, Noon to 9 PM at Hutchison High School in the A&P classrooms. Kyle Taylor from Aero Twin and Dave Swartz from the ACO will talk about working with DERs; Dan Billman will cover maintenance aspects of Light-Sport Aircraft & Repairmen; Vickie Domke will cover ELT's and other common problems; we'll cover parts tags, field approvals, and more. For more information and to register, visit www.faasafety.gov. Call the Fairbanks FSDO at 907-474-0276 or 800-294-5119 with questions.

On Line—We haven't looked at these yet, but *Aircraft Maintenance Technology* magazine now has a way to attend a renewal seminar on line at www.amtonline.com. Gleim has one as well, at <http://www.gleim.com/aviation/inspection/online/index.php>. If you try one, please tell us about it.

Upcoming A/W Safety Meetings

We had a good turnout at the all-day Ski Flying and Maintenance Seminar on February 26th. (As a reminder, the August 2004 copy of this newsletter has an excellent article on ski maintenance issues, much of which also applies to floats.) If you weren't there, you missed a great maintenance presentation by Vickie Domke. Thanks, Vickie! The format was well received, and we are thinking about doing the same thing for **floats** in the near future. No date has been selected yet. Please give us your input on "when." We would like the information to be timely, but we know you cannot attend if you are too busy getting ready for the summer flying season. The same is true for a pre-hunting season seminar on **off-airport maintenance issues** – let us know what you would like to see, when you'd like to see it, and if you are able to help out. We are planning to meet with local **Repair Stations** on April 12, 2005, in the afternoon to cover training program and other issues. More information will be available per the below paragraph.

www.faasafety.gov and Airman Registry Accounts

Meetings will be announced by mailer or e-mail through SPANS (Safety Program Airmen Notification System), and listed on www.faasafety.gov. If you do not have a SPANS account, go to www.faasafety.gov and follow the instructions to sign up. New Revision 3 features were just added to keep making it a more useful service for you. Sign up through the same site for an Airman Registry account, so you can manage your address changes and do other certificate-related items yourself on line.

Aviation Safety Counselors

Our first new Aviation Safety Counselor (ASC) trainings will be March 8 and 10, 2005. More information is at www.faasafety.gov, and there will be more training opportunities in the future. If you are interested in helping to plan, present, or assist with safety meetings, or becoming more involved in reducing aircraft accidents, please call David Karalunas or Ken A. Thomas at (907) 474-0276. You can find more information on the role of an ASC in the on-line manual at www.faa.gov/avr/afs/safety/ASC.cfm. It is difficult to put on quality safety seminars without your help, so please check out this opportunity.

Miscellaneous Maintenance Information

NPRM on Parts 21 and 91 – Standard Airworthiness Certification of New Aircraft: You have until April 18, 2005, to comment on this proposed change that will affect aircraft spare parts, using STC's, and other issues that affect you as a mechanic. Check it out and submit comments. The document is Docket No. FAA-2003-14825; Notice No. 05-01, listed in the Federal Register on February 15, 2005. You can get to it through www.av-info.faa.gov, then click on "Regulatory and Guidance Library" under "Aircraft Information." Select "FAR NPRMs" in the second column and click on "Open for Comment."

Maintenance Aircraft Taxi/Ground Run Safety: Runway incursions continue to be a hot topic, and maintenance professionals can do their part to reduce them by reviewing the information available for pilots and airport vehicle drivers at <http://www.faa.gov/runwaysafety/>. The booklet "RUNWAY SAFETY, A Pilot's Guide to Safe Surface Operations" is available at the web site or from the FSDO, and includes tips on taxiing, communicating with controllers, and a review of airport signs and markings.

Field Approvals: Applications should be made in accordance with **AC 43-210**. After your assigned inspector makes sure things are in order, all applications are given to our local committee for review. We are processing and returning Field Approvals in a week or less, on average, *from the time your package is complete and adequate*. We want to be clear that we have a formal process in place, and you should submit your application packages in time for adequate review and revision. The committee meets on Wednesdays. If you drop one off late Tuesday or early Wednesday, your assigned inspector will not have the time to review it and get it to the committee that week, so plan ahead! More will be discussed at the IA Seminar.

Unapproved Parts Notifications (UPN's): The SPANS feature at www.faasafety.gov (discussed above) is now sending out UPN's. David Karalunas will no longer be sending them out himself via email, so sign up for a SPANS account and select UPN's in your information preferences if you'd like to continue receiving those notices.

Starter-Generator Brushes: If you want to replace brushes, you must have the data and equipment to do it. There is most likely a run-in and test period. This is normally a bench-test operation. Make sure you are doing such work in accordance with 14 CFR 43.13(a), using methods, techniques, and practices prescribed in the current manufacturer's maintenance manual or Instructions for Continued Airworthiness. This is the most commonly violated maintenance regulation around – don't let that happen to you!

Cessna Caravans: Have you read Temporary Revision Number 32-1 (D2078-17TR32-1) on main landing gear inspection? Check it out if it applies to you.

Repair Stations: See AC 145-9, Section 4-4, and 14 CFR 145.163 for training program requirements, and plan to be at the above-mentioned April 12th meeting if this applies to you.

On-line Services: We've talked above about SPANS and Airman Registry accounts above. We now have our last few years of Airworthiness Newsletters available under MECHANIC INFO at www.alaska.faa.gov/faifsd0. Aircraft records can be ordered on-line at www.diy.dot.gov ("diy" stands for do-it-yourself). You can get the records in paper form, or on CD-ROM. There is a nominal fee that you can pay on-line by credit card. Address changes can be made on-line, and replacement airmen certificates (and aircraft records) can be ordered at: <http://registry.faa.gov>. AD's, AC's, FAR, TC Data Sheets, and more are available at: www.faa.gov/certification/aircraft. There is more good info under the "Airworthiness Section" on the Alaskan Region Flight Standards home page, <http://www.aal.faa.gov/aal200/>. Another good site for information is <http://av-info.faa.gov>.

We Are Here to Support YOU! If you need information, would like to have us give a presentation where you work, help with training program issues, or just stop by for an informal visit, let us know. Talk to your assigned inspector, or call A/W SPM David Karalunas at (907) 474-0276.

Inspectors

Here is the current lineup for your **Fairbanks Airworthiness Inspectors:**

Airworthiness Unit Supervisor: James H. Tupper

Avionics:

Charles "Chuck" Banks
Roderick L. "Rod" Beaman
George W. Earp
William "Bill" Mahaffey
John S. Sims

Airworthiness

Blayne C. Camp
John Q. Gamble
Harley A. Holt
Patrick E. "Rick" Hrubes
Eric L. Jones
Steve Ketzer, Jr.
David Maranville

Airworthiness

Hardy "Mark" Smith
Kenneth C. Thomas
Joseph T. "JT" Walsh

Airworthiness Safety Program Manager

David Karalunas

Alaskan Region System Safety Analysis Branch

Cary J. Meier

You may contact them by telephone at (907) 474-0276, or by E-mail using the following format: first name.middle initial.last name@faa.gov. No spaces, no caps. If you have questions or a problem, give them a call. They are here to help you!

In Closing

Don't forget to renew your IA in March. There is no better way to do so than to join us for our seminar at Hutchison on March 23, 2005. We look forward to seeing you there for the latest info from the experts.

Since it is impossible for us to reach all A&Ps in our District, when you have finished reading this Newsletter, please pass it on to your A&P buddies and/or other aviation professionals.

'Til Next Time...

Keep 'em Flying – Safely!

