



# Federal Aviation Administration

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## Memorandum

Date: DEC 29 2011  
To: Chas. Frederic Anderson, Director, Aeronautical Products, AJV-3  
From: Leslie H. Smith, Manager, Flight Technologies and Procedures Division, AFS-400  
Subject: Standard Threshold Crossing Height (TCH) values

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The purpose of this memorandum is to clarify Flight Standards policy for determining standard TCH values.

Our directives (e.g. Order 8260.3B, Volume 1, paragraph 3.1.3, Order 8260.3B Volume 3, paragraph 2.6, Order 8260.54 paragraph 2.11) describe TCH standards but do not elaborate whether limits are applied to the documented value or to the published value.

Minimum and maximum TCH values were established to standardize conditions in the visual phase of the approach and facilitate touchdown at a safe point on the runway. They have no bearing on collision risk or associated obstacle clearance requirements. Since small TCH variations are indiscernible to a pilot, if the **published** TCH falls within established limits it should be considered standard regardless of the documented value. For example, when the TCH on a localizer performance with vertical guidance (LPV) approach is documented as 60.49 but published as 60, it is considered acceptable and no waiver is required. Similarly, a TCH on a CAT II ILS approach documented as 49.50 but published as 50 is also considered acceptable.

This policy clarification will be incorporated into the appropriate directive(s) at the next opportunity for revision. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Rick Dunham, Manager, Flight Procedure Standards Branch, AFS-420, at (405) 954-4164.

cc:

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