

## CHAPTER 75. MONITOR MAINTENANCE PROGRAM FOR U.S.-REGISTERED AIRCRAFT OPERATED BY A FOREIGN OPERATOR

### SECTION 1. BACKGROUND

#### 1. PROGRAM TRACKING AND REPORTING SUBSYSTEM (PTRS) ACTIVITY CODES.

A. *Maintenance.* 3627

B. *Avionics.* 5627

3. **OBJECTIVE.** This chapter provides guidance in monitoring maintenance programs for U.S.-registered aircraft operated by foreign operators under Title 14 of the Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR) part 129.

#### 5. GENERAL.

A. Aviation Safety Inspectors (ASI) conduct routine and unannounced ramp inspections of foreign air carriers using U.S.-registered aircraft to ensure regulatory compliance of the approved maintenance program. All offices that have 14 CFR part 129 air carriers operating in their area of responsibility will have a monitoring program within the limitations of existing

resources. Inspectors are no longer required to coordinate with the operator's principal inspectors prior to conducting these inspections.

**NOTE: Any routine or unannounced ramp inspections of a foreign-registered aircraft must be limited to those operations being conducted within the U.S.**

B. Normally, the foreign air carrier should be notified when surveillance is to be conducted, although any reported or suspected unsafe operations, incidents, or complaints must be promptly inspected or investigated. Any safety-of-flight discrepancy found must be brought immediately to the attention of the foreign air carrier, if possible, and always to the immediate attention of the pilot-in-command (PIC). Since there will be many differences between part 129 operators, good judgment and discretion must be used, and all contact with the foreign air carrier must be conducted with tact and diplomacy

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## SECTION 2. PROCEDURES

### 1. PREREQUISITES AND COORDINATION REQUIREMENTS.

#### A. Prerequisites:

- Knowledge of the regulatory requirements of 14 CFR parts 43, 65, and 129
- Completion of the Airworthiness Inspector's Indoctrination Course or previous equivalent

*B. Coordination.* This task requires coordination between maintenance, avionics, and operations inspectors. The task may require coordination with the Regional Office and/or the appropriate Foreign Civil Air Authority (FCAA) and U.S. Embassy, as required.

### 3. REFERENCES, FORMS, AND JOB AIDS.

#### A. References:

- 14 CFR parts 21, 91, and 145
- Advisory Circular 129-4, Maintenance Programs for U.S.-Registered Aircraft Under FAR Part 129, as amended
- FAA Order 8400.10, Air Transportation Operations Inspector's Handbook, volume 2, chapter 4; volume 6, chapters 1 and 2
- International Civil Aviation Organization, Annex 6, Part 1, chapters 8 and 11

*B. Forms.* None.

*C. Job Aids.* None.

### 5. PROCEDURES.

*A. Coordinate with the Air Carrier.* Notify the foreign air carrier when routine surveillance is to be conducted. Do not allow safety to be jeopardized by the notification process. Promptly investigate reported or suspected unsafe operations, incidents, or complaints.

#### B. Inspect Appropriate Items.

(1) As needed, ensure compliance with the air carrier's approved maintenance program and Minimum Equipment List (MEL).

(2) Verify that the U.S. airworthiness and registration certificates are valid for the aircraft.

(3) Ensure that maintenance is performed in accordance with part 43.

*C. Analyze the Results of the Inspection.* Determine whether deficiencies exist and conduct an immediate verbal debriefing with the operator if any are found.

### 7. TASK OUTCOMES.

#### A. File PTRS Data Sheet.

#### B. Completion of this Task may Result in the Following:

(1) A letter informing the air carrier of the results of the inspection.

(2) Possible Enforcement Investigation Report (EIR).

**9. FUTURE ACTIVITIES.** Surveillance as requested or scheduled.

