

SUBJECT: CONFIGURATION MANAGEMENT POLICY

1. PURPOSE. This order directs the use of the configuration management (CM) policy contained in the Acquisition Management System (AMS) and applicable portion of Order 1800.8F, National Airspace System Configuration Management. This order also provides the structure for CM policy and guidance and provides for the transition from Order 1800.8F.
2. DISTRIBUTION. This order is distributed to the division level in the Offices of the Associate Administrators for Air Traffic Services and Research and Acquisitions; to the division level in the Offices of Acquisition, Air Traffic System Development, Aviation Research, Communications, Navigation, and Surveillance Systems, System Architecture and Investment Analysis, Business Management, System Capacity, and Independent Operational Test and Evaluation; to the division level in the Air Traffic Service, Airway Facilities Service, and Air Traffic System Requirements Service; to the branch level in the regional Airway Facilities and Air Traffic Divisions; to the division level at the Aeronautical Center and the Technical Center; and a standard distribution to all Airway Facilities field offices.
3. BACKGROUND. Order 1800.8F was in the process of being revised when the AMS was issued as FAA policy in April 1996. Since that time, the CM policy has been revised and reviewed for inclusion in AMS and this order. The revised CM policy is comprised of a set of specific policy statements, a configuration management life-cycle process description, a series of national procedures, and supporting office of primary interest (OPI) documentation. Each level of the CM policy and the related implementation processes and procedures represents an increasing level of detail and is designed to make it easier to keep the process, procedures, and supporting documentation current and applicable. The national CM procedures are under development. Order 1800.8F will not be cancelled until the revised policy, process, and procedures are all developed, approved, and incorporated in the AMS and other areas of the FAA Acquisition System Toolset (FAST). At that time, CM policy will reside identically in both this directive and the FAST. Since the full hierarchy of documents has not been completed, applicable portions of Order 1800.8F remain in effect until specifically superseded. In addition, since not all offices have access to FAST, a copy of the policy located on FAST is attached to this order. The hierarchy of policy documents is described below:
 - a. The policy consists of a series of implementation elements geared toward FAA specific organizations, functions, and responsibilities. Following a general category that is the basis for all other sections, the policy addresses the role and responsibilities of National Airspace System (NAS) level CM, acquisition level CM, regional CM responsibilities, and operational CM activities.
 - b. The National Life-Cycle CM Process describes the detailed activities and organizational responsibilities represented during the life cycle of CM operations in the NAS.
 - c. The National Procedures consist of standard operating guidelines, structured around the basic CM tenets of: management responsibility, life-cycle CM planning and management, configuration identification, change management, status accounting, configuration verification and audits, and commercial off-the-shelf/nondevelopmental item. These procedures standardize CM in the NAS and are the basis for detailed OPI operating procedures and documentation.

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d. The supporting OPI documentation is developed by the individual IPT or solution provider and is the basis for day-to-day operations. Supporting documentation developed by any organization shall follow the CM policy, National Process and the National Procedures unless the Director, Evaluation and Configuration Management and Evaluation Staff, ACM-1, specifically approves deviations.

4. SCOPE. The attachment to this order and the contents of the NAS CM portion of the AMS/FAST are identical. CM policy and subsequent revisions adding national procedures will, when completed, supercede Order 1800.8F. Applicable portions of Order 1800.8F remain in effect until superceded by approved documentation detailed in paragraph 5. These applicable portions of Order 1800.8F refer to procedures not yet covered in the CM section of the AMS/FAST.

5. POLICY. CM policy shall be comprised of specific policy statements, a configuration management life-cycle process description, a series of national procedures, and supporting OPI documentation. Specific CM policy statements are found in section 4 of the AMS located on the FAST. The CM process (as will other parts of policy when they are completed) is also available through the FAST, which is located on the Internet at <http://fast.faa.gov>. Both the specific policy statements and the process are attached to this order as Appendix 1, Configuration Management in the National Airspace System. Inconsistencies between AMS/FAST (and Appendix 1 of this order) and 1800.8F should be provided to ACM-1, who will coordinate resolution and provide clarification to ensure consistent application.

6. PROMULGATION OF CHANGES. Changes to CM policy will undergo a complete review and comment process before submittal for approval. Notification of changes will be made simultaneously through the FAST and via changes to this order. All changes to the CM policy statements in AMS will be reviewed by the appropriate levels within the offices of the Associate Administrator for Air Traffic Services and Associate Administrator for Research and Acquisitions before submission to the Administrator for approval. Changes to CM processes and procedures may be approved by ACM-1. Assistance and clarifications can be obtained by calling the Manager, Configuration Management Staff, ACM-20, at 202-358-5339. In addition, the CM web site containing a wide range of CM information can be accessed at: <http://www.faa.gov/cm/index.htm>.

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Administrator