TO: KRWA NOUS2 021900
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N JO 7210.886
FF ALRGNS 1/500/530 AMC-1 AMA-500 ACT-1 ALATFO XVM
EFFECTIVE: 09/02/2015
SUBJECT: MODEL AIRCRAFT OPERATIONS IN THE VICINITY OF AIRPORTS

1. THE FAA IS REVISING ADVISORY CIRCULAR 91-57 WHICH PERTAINS TO MODEL AIRCRAFT OPERATING STANDARDS DUE TO NEW STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS FOR MODEL AIRCRAFT CONTAINED IN SECTION 336 OF THE FAA MODERNIZATION AND REFORM ACT OF 2012. THE FAA HAS ISSUED AN INTERPRETATION TO CLARIFY THE AGENCY'S UNDERSTANDING OF THOSE REQUIREMENTS.

2. IF AN OPERATOR OF MODEL AIRCRAFT PROPOSES FLIGHT ACTIVITY WITHIN 5 STATUTE MILES OF AN AERODROME, THE OPERATOR MUST NOTIFY THE AERODROME OPERATIONS MANAGER PRIOR TO ANY OPERATIONS. ADDITIONALLY, IF THERE IS AN ACTIVE AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL (ATC) FACILITY LOCATED AT THE AERODROME, THE AIR TRAFFIC MANAGER MUST BE NOTIFIED PRIOR TO THE PROPOSED MODEL AIRCRAFT ACTIVITY.
3. IF NOTIFIED, THE AIR TRAFFIC FACILITY MANAGER IS RESPONSIBLE TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE FOR:

A. ENSURING OPERATIONAL PERSONNEL HAVE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:
   
1. GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION AND OPERATING AREA DIMENSIONS
2. ALTITUDE AT WHICH THE OPERATIONS WILL BE CONDUCTED (NORMALLY NOT TO EXCEED 400 FEET AGL)
3. NUMBER OF MODELS AND OPERATORS.
4. TIME AND DURATION OF ACTIVITY.
5. A METHOD TO DETERMINE WHEN ACTIVITY BEGINS AND ENDS.
6. A REAL TIME CONTACT FOR ANY REQUIRED COMMUNICATIONS.

B. A RECORD OF THE ACTIVITY.

C. LOGGING OPERATIONAL ISSUES THAT RESULT FROM THE ACTIVITIES.


5. FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES, SECTION 336 REQUIRES THAT MODEL AIRCRAFT OPERATIONS MUST MEET THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS;

A. THE AIRCRAFT IS FLOWN STRICTLY FOR HOBBY OR RECREATIONAL USE
B. The aircraft is operated in accordance with a community-based set of safety guidelines and within the programming of a nationwide community-based organization.

C. The aircraft is limited to not more than 55 pounds unless otherwise certified through a design, construction, inspection, flight test, and operational safety program administered by a community-based organization.

D. The aircraft is operated in a manner that does not interfere with and gives way to any other aircraft.

6. ATC managers or airport management concerned about unsafe model aircraft operations should contact the local FSDO and local law enforcement immediately.

7. Requests for operations other than hobby or recreational, should be redirected to the FAA website at: www.faa.gov/uas for authorization.

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