



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Aviation
Administration**

800 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, DC 20591

September 1, 2017

Mr. Dave Hamilton
Round Canopy Parachuting Team – USA Vice President
2404 Orion Drive
Colorado Springs, CO 80906

Dear Mr. Hamilton:

In accordance with FAA Order Volume 3, Chapter 6, Section 1, Para 3-150 (A) the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) accepts the Round Canopy Parachuting Team standard operating procedures (SOP), dated 15 August 2017, for simulated airborne operations demonstrations including training, testing and currency. Any changes to these documents must be submitted to this office for acceptance prior to initiation.

We are issuing the Round Canopy Parachuting Team Letter of Authorization (LOA) to address modification of the conditions discussed with this office prior to and subsequent to the satisfactory inspection of your operation during the Thunder Over Michigan Air Show, Willow Run Airport, Ypsilanti, MI, on September 1, 2017. We are issuing acceptance with the following conditions:

1. All civilian military style demonstration jumps will be made from a minimum altitude of 1,500 feet AGL.
2. The parachute system used for demonstration jumps consists of at least one main parachute, one approved reserve parachute, and one approved single person harness and container as established in SOP and training program.
3. All parachute equipment will be maintained by a certified parachute rigger in accordance with manufacturers' instructions and 14 CFR Part 65 Subpart F.
4. All parachute equipment used for demonstrations will be maintained IAW 14CFR part 105.43.
5. Approved parachute means a:
 - a. parachute manufactured under a type certificate; or
 - b. Technical Standard Order (C-23 series); or
 - c. personnel carrying US military parachute, that meets the 14 CFR 105.3 definition of approved parachute.
6. All civilian jumpers performing a military style demonstration jump will have a minimum of thirty-five (35) jumps on the static line equipment (main parachute, harness/container and reserve) being used during the demonstration jump. Demonstrate to a degree/level of proficiency to the Team Leadership per SOP or training program.
7. One (1) jump must be made within the past 90 days on the same type of equipment used during the demonstration jump. After 90 days meet currency requirements per the SOP and/or training program.
8. The maximum surface winds are limited to 15 mph (13 knots) for demonstration jumps.
9. A wind drift indicator will be used for each lift.

10. No jumper is permitted to exit or drift over the spectator area at any time.
11. The minimum landing distance from the spectator area is 500 feet.
12. No aircraft will be permitted to circle the jumpers or fly directly over descending parachutist.
13. Any extra equipment should be kept to a minimum and secured for demonstration jumps.
14. A jumpmaster must be on each lift that meets the requirements of that position per the SOP.
15. Ground crew will have direct two-way radio communication with the jump aircraft/jumpmaster. It shall be the primary means of communication. In the event two-way radio communication is lost, visual means of communication must be available that is capable of being identified and understood by the jumpers from the jump aircraft, and that will clearly indicate to jump or not to jump per SOP and training program.

This LOA will remain valid until surrendered, superseded, or revoked by this office.

It is expected that any civilian airborne demonstrations the Round Canopy Parachuting Team conducts at an aviation event or over or into a congested area will be performed within the guidelines and provisions of the Certificate of Authorization for each individual event.

This office is available at your convenience to answer any questions you may have concerning FAA aviation events or parachuting policies. Sue Gardner, FAA National Aviation Event Specialist (NAES), can be reached by telephone at (630) 880-5834 or via email at sue.gardner@faa.gov or Mike Millard, FAA Parachute Operations, can be reached by telephone at (202) 267-7909 or via email at mike.millard@faa.gov.

We appreciate the cooperation you have extended to the FAA in the past, and look forward to continue working with you and your entire team in assuring aviation safety.

Sincerely,

Kieran K. O'Farrell

Kieran Katlin O'Farrell
Manager
General Aviation Operations Branch, AFS-830
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