



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

Aircraft Certification Service

800 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, DC 20591

JUN 09 2016

Ali Bahrami
Vice President, Civil Aviation Aerospace
Industries Association

Walter Desrosier
Vice President, Engineering & Maintenance
General Aviation Manufacturers Association

Dear Mr. Bahrami and Mr. Desrosier:

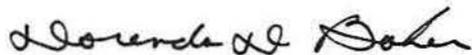
The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) would like to thank the Aerospace Industries Association (AIA) and the General Aviation Manufacturers Association (GAMA) for their effort to develop the Standard for Safety Management Systems (SMS) implementation. We believe it will help to educate and inform the Design and Manufacturing Community on a common SMS framework. As requested in your letter dated, May 31st, we have reviewed National Aerospace Standard (NAS) 9927 titled, "Safety Management Systems and Practices for Design and Manufacturing" and find Section 1 to be consistent with ICAO Annex 19, Appendix 2, and the current requirements in 14 CFR part 5. As stated in NAS 9927, we concur that Section 2 is supplementary information that may be considered by future users of the standard and does not constitute or impose additional requirements. Based on our review of Section 2, we have identified some recommended changes for your consideration for the future revisions of NAS 9927. We plan to share our comments with you at a later time.

The FAA accepts the NAS 9927 as a basis for SMS recognition and will develop policy that will allow for an assessment of the processes and procedures of a Design and/or Manufacturers voluntary implementation of an SMS per Section 1 of the NAS 9927. Upon review and concurrence that the organization meets the requirements, the FAA will issue a letter acknowledging the organization has successfully implemented SMS. As part of this recognition, the FAA will also identify an oversight model to assess the ongoing performance of the organization to their SMS.

Furthermore, upon the issuance of part 21 regulatory change that will mandate SMS for Type and Production certificate holders; we will require all recognized voluntary programs to accomplish a gap analysis for any change to 14 CFR part 5. The gap analysis and any resulting changes with respect to SMS will then be considered for compliance to 14 CFR part 5 applicable to 14 CFR part 21 Type and Production certificate holders.

If you have any questions or concerns you would like to discuss, please feel free to contact David Hempe at, 202-267-8235 and we thank you for your continued efforts in this area.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dorenda D. Baker".

Dorenda D. Baker
Director, Aircraft Certification Service