



International Aircraft Certification

Frequently Asked Questions

Bilateral Agreements

- 1. What are bilateral agreements? What is the difference between the Bilateral Airworthiness Agreement (BAA), Bilateral Aviation Safety Agreement (BASA) and the Implementation Procedures for Airworthiness (IPA)?**

To learn more about bilateral agreements and the different types of bilateral cooperation, refer to the FAA's [Bilateral Agreements Overview](#) page.

- 2. Which countries have bilateral agreements with the U.S., and where can I locate these documents?**

The [Bilateral Agreements Listing](#) webpage lists all of the countries that have bilateral agreements with the U.S. After locating a specific country in the drop down menu, a list of the respective agreements will appear and may be viewed online or downloaded.

- 3. Where can I find the Executive Agreement (EA) or Implementation Procedures for Airworthiness (IPA) for a particular country?**

The [Bilateral Agreements Listing](#) webpage lists all of the countries that have bilateral agreements with the U.S. After locating a specific country in the drop down menu of the [Bilateral Agreements Listing](#), a list of all current agreements will appear and can be viewed online or downloaded.

- 4. When does the FAA expect to complete bilateral agreement negotiations with a particular country?**

The development of a new or revised bilateral agreement or implementing procedures can be lengthy process and may require the successful outcome of a relevant technical evaluation. As a result, the FAA typically cannot provide projected completion dates. For more information, contact the International Office (AIR-40) via e-mail at: 7-AWA-AVS-AIR-040@faa.gov.

- 5. How do I find the most recent version of a specific agreement?**

The [Bilateral Agreements Listing](#) webpage provides a comprehensive listing of all agreements currently in effect.

- 6. I found an error in an agreement. One of your links is broken.**

To report concerns or technical difficulties, contact the International Office (AIR-40) via e-mail at: 7-AWA-AVS-AIR-040@faa.gov.

Design Approvals

7. If I have FAA-issued design approval for my aircraft, how do I obtain equivalent approvals from a particular country?

Bilateral Partner Country Requirements: Refer to the applicable bilateral agreement through the [Bilateral Agreements Listing](#) webpage to determine the scope of acceptance or approval and associated validation procedures. The applicant must work through their local Aircraft Certification Office (ACO). The ACO will explain this process and coordinate with the foreign civil aviation authority to assist the applicant in obtaining the foreign approval. To locate the appropriate ACO that serves your geographic area for guidance on aircraft certification-related activities, please click [here](#).

Non-Bilateral Partner Country Requirements: Refer to [Advisory Circular 21-52](#), "Obtaining Foreign Design Approval / Acceptance of U.S. Products and Articles".

In both scenarios, the applicant is advised to also review [Advisory Circular 21-2L](#)'s web-based [Appendix 2](#) "Special Requirements of Importing Countries" and to confirm with the applicable foreign civil aviation authority to determine if there are any additional special import requirements.

8. How do I obtain FAA design approval for a product manufactured outside the U.S.?

The FAA addresses original design approvals for foreign manufactured products [here](#).

9. I am a Parts Manufacturer Approval (PMA) holder planning to shift manufacturing of my parts to a bilateral partner country. What are the necessary steps to extend my PMA?

The FAA allows a U.S. PMA holder to produce its parts in both bilateral and non-bilateral countries. The production approval holder is advised to review Chapter 7 of [FAA Order 8120.22](#), "Production Approval Procedures" and all of [FAA Order 8100.11](#), "Decision Paper Requirements for Undue Burden and No Undue Burden Determinations under 14 CFR Part 21 for Production and Export Airworthiness Approvals".

[Locate](#) and contact your local Manufacturing Inspection District Office (MIDO) for additional information.

10. How do I install a foreign Supplemental Type Certificate (STC) on a U.S.-registered aircraft?

The FAA addresses foreign STC installations [here](#).

11. I hold a FAA Technical Standard Order Authorization (TSO), and plan to shift manufacturing of my articles to a foreign country. What are the necessary steps for retaining my FAA TSO Authorization?

The FAA addresses manufacturing under a TSO authorization [here](#).

12. Where can I find a list of countries that accept FAA-issued STCs without application?

The FAA does not currently maintain a list of countries that accept STC certification without validation. However, applicants are advised to review the applicable bilateral agreement (located on the [Bilateral Agreements Listing](#) webpage for specific requirements, and to contact the foreign civil aviation authority for additional information.

Import Requirements

13. What is the process for importing and registering an aircraft from a foreign country?

Review the [Import Airworthiness Approval](#) and [Import an Aircraft](#) webpages to learn more about the documentation and registration procedures required for approval.

14. How do I import aircraft from a country that does not have a bilateral agreement with the U.S.?

In order to import a non-U.S. State of Design aircraft into the U.S., the U.S. and the State of Design must currently have a bilateral agreement with provisions pertaining to the item in question. For additional information, refer to [Advisory Circular 21-23B](#) "Airworthiness Certification of Civil Aircraft, Engine, Propellers and Related Products Imported to the United States". For importing used U.S. State of Design aircraft from another country see FAA Order 8130.2.

15. We are a foreign company that manufactures articles, and would like to export Article X to the U.S. How do we obtain FAA approval?

Contact your foreign civil aviation authority for instructions on the certification process. A Bilateral Aviation Safety Agreement must exist between the U.S. and your country in order for you to import your articles to the U.S. You can check the [Bilateral Agreements Listing](#) webpage if your country has a bilateral agreement with the U.S. After locating a specific country in the drop down menu, a list of the respective agreements will appear and may be viewed online or downloaded.

16. My U.S. Company would like to enter into a joint venture to manufacture products/parts at facilities in a bilateral partner country. How do we obtain FAA certification to import these products into the U.S.?

Contact the International Office (AIR-40) via e-mail at: 7-AWA-AVS-AIR-040@faa.gov.

Export Requirements

17. How do I export my U.S.-registered product or part to a foreign country?

The FAA allows the issuance of [export airworthiness approvals](#) for all eligible products, articles and parts when they are found to conform to their FAA approved design and are in a safe condition for safe operation. Refer to [Order 8130.2G](#), Chapter 5, section 2, "Airworthiness Certification of Aircraft and Related Products".

All applicants should be familiar with the guidance contained in [Advisory Circular 21-2L](#) "Complying with the Requirements of Import Countries or Jurisdictions When Exporting U.S. Products, Articles, or Parts".

Bilateral Partner Country Requirements: The Bilateral Aviation Safety Agreement with Implementation Procedures for Airworthiness (BASA-IPA) contains the primary export requirements for export. Applicants are advised to review the IPA section pertaining to Export Airworthiness Approval for specific procedural details. To determine if there are any supplemental special import requirements, refer to [Advisory Circular 21-2L](#)'s web-based [Appendix 2](#) "Special Requirements of Importing Countries".

Non-Bilateral Partner Country: Refer to [Advisory Circular 21-2L](#)'s web-based [Appendix 2](#) "Special Requirements of Importing Countries".

18. How do I deregister my U.S.-registered aircraft?

To learn more about the requirements for deregistration, refer to the [Aircraft Certification: Export an Aircraft](#) webpage. Additional information is also located in [Advisory Circular Form 8050-124E](#), Information to Aid in the cancellation for Export of United States Registered Aircraft.

19. How do I apply for design approval with another country?

Bilateral Partner Country: Review the relevant bilateral agreement for procedural requirements.

Non-Bilateral Partner Country: Review Advisory Circular 21-2L's web-based [Appendix 2](#) "Special Requirements of Importing Countries" and contact the associated foreign civil aviation authority to verify all requirements. Additionally, refer to [Advisory Circular 21-52](#), "Obtaining Foreign Design Approval / Acceptance of U.S. Products and Articles" for additional information.

20. How do I obtain acceptance from a non-bilateral partner country for a U.S.-issued STC?

For additional information, refer to section 7 of [Advisory Circular 21-2L](#), "Complying with the Requirements of Importing Countries or Jurisdictions When Exporting U.S. Products, Articles, or Parts."

21. How do I find special import requirements for a specific country?

Refer to Question 18.

22. What should I do if no special import requirements are listed for a specific country?

In the event that a country does not appear on either the [Bilateral Agreement Listing](#) or in [Advisory Circular 21-2L](#)'s web-based [Appendix 2](#), it is the responsibility of the applicant to contact the associated foreign civil aviation authority to address all requirements.

EASA-Related

23. How do I import/export/obtain approvals from EASA or a member state?

A number of EASA-related questions are addressed in [EASA Frequently Asked Questions](#).

If the applicant finds their question remains unanswered, contact the International Office (AIR-40) via e-mail at: 7-AWA-AVS-AIR-040@faa.gov.

24. Do I need a European permit to fly my U.S.-registered aircraft that was modified after production by the U.S.?

Applicants must contact their foreign civil aviation authority to obtain information on permit requirements.

Contact

25. Which countries require notification prior to designee activity?

Unless waived by the bilateral agreement, any activity in a foreign country by an FAA designee requires notification to the applicable foreign civil aviation authority. While the majority of the FAA's bilateral partners no longer require notification, it is still required for (as of April 2014): Israel, Malaysia, New Zealand, Russia and Taiwan.

For country-specific procedures, review the notification requirements outlined in the applicable Implementation Procedures for Airworthiness.

26. Where do I submit my Foreign Request for Conformity (FRFC)?

After reviewing the associated Implementation Procedures for Airworthiness to identify your Manufacturing Inspection Office, select the appropriate e-mail address listed below to submit your FRFC.

Small Airplane Directorate: 9-ACE-180-FRFC@faa.gov
Rotorcraft Directorate: 9-ASW-180-FRFC@faa.gov
Engine & Propeller Directorate: 9-ANE-180-FRFC@faa.gov
Transport Airplane Directorate: 9-ANM-108-FRFC@faa.gov

It must be noted that a FRFC is an authority-to-authority function, which means that the MIO, in conjunction with AIR-40 as needed, will coordinate with the appropriate authority on behalf of the applicant. The applicant must not contact the authority directly.

27. Where do I send my Type Validation application?

Type Validation applications are submitted through the Aircraft Certification Office (ACO) serving your geographic area. To locate your local ACO, please click [here](#).

28. How do I obtain a form from a foreign country?

If the form is not available in the applicable bilateral agreement, contact the applicable civil aviation authority.

Flight Standards

29. Can a pilot with a certificate issued by a foreign country privately fly an n-registered aircraft in another foreign country?

Contact the International Programs and Policy Office, Flight Standards Service [here](#).

30. Does the FAA have an agreement with X country on the regulation of repair stations?

Contact your local Flight Standards District Office for all repair station-related activities. Locate the appropriate office [here](#).

Applicants may also contact the International Programs and Policy Office, Flight Standards Service [here](#).

31. What is the process for servicing aircraft in bilateral partner countries using a U.S. 145 certificate?

Contact your local Flight Standards District Office for all repair station-related activities. Locate the appropriate office [here](#).

Applicants may also contact the International Programs and Policy Office, Flight Standards Service [here](#).