U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

Effective Date: **9-30-2010**

SUBJ: Flightcrew Member Training Hours Requirement Review Aviation Rulemaking Committee

1. PURPOSE. This document establishes the Flightcrew Member Training Hours Requirement Review Aviation Rulemaking Committee (ARC) according to the Administrator's authority under Title 49 of the United States Code (49 U.S.C.), section 106(p)(5).

2. BACKGROUND.

a. In August 2010 Congress enacted the "Airline Safety and Federal Aviation Administration Extension Act of 2010" (the "Act"). Section 209(b) of the Act, titled "FAA Rulemaking on Training Programs," requires the FAA to convene a multidisciplinary panel to assess and make recommendations to the Administrator on:

1) The best methods and optimal time needed for flightcrew members of Title 14 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) part 121 and 135 air carriers to master aircraft systems, maneuvers, procedures, takeoffs and landings, and crew coordination;

2) The initial and recurrent testing requirements for pilots, including the rigor and consistency of testing programs such as check rides;

3) The optimal length of time between training events for such flightcrew members, including recurrent training events;

4) The best methods to reliably evaluate a flightcrew member's mastery of aircraft systems, maneuvers, procedures, takeoffs and landings, and crew coordination;

5) Classroom instruction requirements governing curriculum content and hours of instruction;

6) The best methods to allow specific academic training courses to be credited toward the total flight-hours required to receive an airline transport pilot certificate; and

7) Crew leadership training.

b. Section 209(b) of the Act also requires the panel to consider industry best practices with respect to training protocols, methods, and procedures and to submit a report, based on the findings of the panel, to Congress and the NTSB by July 31, 2011.

c. To carry out the requirements of Section 209(b) of the Act, the FAA is chartering an ARC. The ARC will accomplish the tasks directed in Section 209(b) of the Act based on the Congressional timelines outlined in the Act and will additionally develop recommendations for the FAA regarding regulatory action in those same areas.

3. **OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE OF THE ARC.** The Flightcrew Member Training Hours Requirement Review ARC will provide a forum for the U.S. aviation community to discuss and provide recommendations to the FAA concerning the development of requirements to meet Section 209(b) of the Act.

a. Specifically, the ARC shall assess and make recommendations concerning:

1) The best methods and optimal time needed for flightcrew members of 14 CFR part 121 and 135 air carriers to master aircraft systems, maneuvers, procedures, takeoffs and landings, and crew coordination;

2) The initial and recurrent testing requirements for pilots, including the rigor and consistency of testing programs such as check rides;

3) The optimal length of time between training events for such flightcrew members, including recurrent training events;

4) The best methods to reliably evaluate a flightcrew member's mastery of aircraft systems, maneuvers, procedures, takeoffs and landings, and crew coordination;

5) Classroom instruction requirements governing curriculum content and hours of instruction;

6) The best methods to allow specific academic training courses to be credited toward the total flight-hours required to receive an airline transport pilot certificate; and

7) Crew leadership training.

b. The ARC shall consider scalability of its recommendations to address the needs of small businesses.

c. The ARC will develop recommendations to 14 CFR parts 121, 135, and other associated regulations as may be required to comply with the intent of Section 209(b) of the Act. These recommendations will be presented to the Associate Administrator for Aviation Safety for rulemaking consideration on or before July 31, 2011.

4. ARC PROCEDURES.

a. The ARC will provide advice and recommendations to the Associate Administrator for Aviation Safety and acts solely in an advisory capacity. Once the ARC recommendations are delivered to the Associate Administrator, it is within her discretion to determine when and how the report of the ARC is released to the public.

b. The committee will discuss and present information, guidance, and recommendations that the members of the committee consider relevant in addressing the objectives.

c. The ARC may be reconvened following the submission of its recommendations for the purposes of providing advice and assistance to the FAA, at the discretion of the Associate Administrator.

5. ORGANIZATION, MEMBERSHIP, AND ADMINISTRATION.

a. The membership of the ARC will consist of individuals from the government, pilot associations, training organizations, and other industry organizations that can provide experts in aircraft operations, flightcrew member training, human factors, and other appropriate specialties as determined by the FAA.

1) The ARC will consist of no more than 17 individuals.

2) The FAA will identify the number of ARC members that each organization may select to participate. The Associate Administrator for Aviation Safety will then request that each organization name its representative(s). Only the representative for the organization will have authority to speak for the organization or group that he or she represents.

3) Active participation and commitment by members will be essential for achieving the ARC's objectives and for continued membership on the ARC.

b. The Associate Administrator for Aviation Safety is the sponsor of the ARC and will select an industry chair(s) from the membership of the ARC and the FAA-designated representative for the ARC. Once appointed, the industry chair(s) will:

1) Coordinate required committee and subcommittee (if any) meetings in order to meet the ARC's objectives and timelines;

2) Provide notification to all ARC members of the time and place for each meeting;

3) Ensure meeting agendas are established and provided to the committee members in a timely manner; and

4) Other responsibilities as required to ensure ARC objectives are met.

c. A record of discussions of ARC meetings will be kept.

d. Although not required, a quorum is desirable at each ARC meeting.

6. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.** ARC meetings are not open to the public. Persons or organizations that are not members of the ARC and are interested in attending a meeting must request and receive approval before the meeting from the industry chair(s) and the designated Federal representative.

7. **AVAILABILITY OF RECORDS.** Records, reports, agendas, working papers, and other documents that are made available to or prepared for or by the ARC will be available for public inspection and copying at the FAA Flight Standards Service, Air Transportation Division, AFS-200, 800 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, D.C. 20591, consistent with the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. section 522. Fees will be charged for information furnished to the public according to the fee schedule published in Title 49 CFR part 7.

8. **PUBLIC INTEREST.** The ARC's formation is determined to be in the public interest and is designed to fulfill the performance of duties imposed on the FAA by Federal law.

9. **EFFECTIVE DATE AND DURATION.** This ARC is effective upon issuance of this order. The ARC will remain in existence until September 30, 2012, unless sooner suspended, terminated or extended by the Administrator.

J. Randolph Babbitt
Administrator