

NOTICE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

N 8900.118

National Policy

Effective Date:
05/11/10

Cancellation Date:
05/11/11

SUBJ: Approved Airplane Cockpit Takeoff List

1. Purpose of This Notice. This notice provides guidance to ensure that pilots confirm that they are lining up for takeoff on the correct runway.

2. Audience. The primary audience for this notice is principal operations inspectors (POI) assigned to Title 14 of the Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR) part 121 and part 135 certificate holders, part 125 operators, and program managers assigned to part 91 subpart K (part 91K) operators. The secondary audience includes Flight Standards branches and divisions in the regions and in headquarters.

3. Where You Can Find This Notice. You can find this notice on the MyFAA Web site at https://employees.faa.gov/tools_resources/orders_notices/. Inspectors can access this notice through the Flight Standards Information Management System (FSIMS) at <http://fsims.avs.faa.gov>. Operators and the public may find this information at: <http://fsims.faa.gov>.

4. Background.

a. Comair Flight 5191 Accident. The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) issued Safety recommendation A-07-044 following the investigation of the Comair Flight 5191 accident. On August 27, 2006, Comair Flight 5191 attempted to takeoff from the wrong runway at Blue Grass Airport in Lexington, Kentucky.

b. NTSB Recommendation A-07-044. The recommendation requires that: “all 14 Code of Federal Regulations Part 91K, 121, and 135 operators establish procedures requiring all crewmembers on the flight deck to positively confirm and cross check the airplane’s location at the assigned departure runway before crossing the hold-short line for takeoff. This required guidance should be consistent with the guidance in AC 120-74A and Safety Alert for Operators (SAFO) 06013 and 07003.”

5. Action.

a. Provision of Cockpit Check Procedures. Title 14 CFR part 91, § 91.1033, part 121, § 121.315, part 125, § 125.215, and part 135, § 135.83 require certificate holders to provide cockpit check procedures for each type of aircraft. This may be the approved or accepted cockpit

checklist for the aircraft or documented standard operating procedures (SOP). These checklists and SOPs must include each item necessary for flightcrew members to verify actions before starting engines, taking off or landing, and engine and system emergencies. Although the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) recognizes the contribution of the Runway Awareness and Advisory System (RAAS) to aviation safety, the FAA does not consider the RAAS to be an acceptable alternative method of compliance with the intent of this notice.

b. Review Certificate Holder Checklist Procedures. POIs of part 121 and part 135 certificate holders, part 125 operators, and all program managers assigned to part 91K operators must review their assigned certificate holder's takeoff checklists or SOPs. They must ensure that the checklists or SOPs include a confirmation that the pilot or pilots are lining up for takeoff on the correct runway. In a multi-pilot crew, the checklist or SOP should require the pilots to confirm orally with each other that the aircraft is aligned on the correct runway. The objective is for the operators to ensure that a pilot or multi-pilot flightcrew aligns the aircraft for takeoff on the correct runway.

c. Confirm Action Completion. POIs and program managers must confirm this action is complete by entering it into the Program Tracking and Reporting Subsystem (PTRS) no later than 90 days from the effective date of this notice.

- Use PTRS Code 1030.
- Enter N8900.118 in the National Use field.

6. Disposition. We will permanently incorporate the information in this notice in FSIMS before this notice expires. Direct questions regarding this notice to the Air Transportation Division, AFS-200, at (202) 267-8166.

for

John M. Allen,
Director, Flight Standards Service