

# NOTICE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

N 8900.243

National Policy

Effective Date:  
12/3/13

Cancellation Date:  
12/3/14

**SUBJ:** OpSpec A012, Part 121 Domestic Operations to Certain Airports Outside the 48 Contiguous United States and Alaska

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- 1. Purpose of This Notice.** This notice provides notification of a mandatory revision to the template for operations specification (OpSpec) A012, Part 121 Domestic Operations to Certain Airports Outside the 48 Contiguous United States and Alaska.
- 2. Audience.** The primary audience for this notice is Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) certificate-holding district offices (CHDO) and principal operations inspectors (POI) assigned to certificate holders who are authorized to conduct Title 14 of the Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR) part 121 domestic and flag operations. The secondary audience includes Flight Standards Service (AFS) divisions and branches in the regions and in headquarters (HQ).
- 3. Where You Can Find This Notice.** You can find this notice on the MyFAA employee Web site at [https://employees.faa.gov/tools\\_resources/orders\\_notices](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>. Air carriers (operators) can find this notice on the FAA's Web site at <http://fsims.faa.gov>. This notice is available to the public at [http://www.faa.gov/regulations\\_policies/orders\\_notices](http://www.faa.gov/regulations_policies/orders_notices).
- 4. Background.** Currently, OpSpec A012, HQ Rev 060, allows a certificate holder who is authorized to conduct part 121 domestic and flag operations to apply domestic rules when conducting flag flights to certain airports outside the 48 contiguous United States and Alaska. Therefore, under the current A012 authorization, a certificate holder could apply domestic flight and duty rules to a flight that would otherwise be conducted in accordance with flag flight and duty rules. As of January 4, 2014, 14 CFR part 117, Flightcrew Member Duty and Rest Requirements, is in effect. In accordance with part 117, all part 121 passenger operations must be conducted in accordance with part 117 flight and duty requirements regardless of the kind of operation (domestic, flag, or supplemental). Accordingly, the Air Transportation Division (AFS-200) has revised OpSpec A030, Supplemental Operations by a Certificate Holder Authorized to Conduct Domestic or Flag Operations, to align with part 117 requirements.
- 5. Sample OpSpec A012 Template.** A sample template of OpSpec paragraph A012, HQ Rev 070, is in Appendix A.

**6. Action.** Revision 070 to OpSpec A012 is a mandatory change. POIs must issue the new template and archive the old one no later than January 4, 2014.

**7. Nonstandard Text (TEXT 99).** POIs are reminded that any nonstandard text in an OpSpec template requires HQ approval. Additionally, all existing nonstandard text contained in OpSpec A012 requires HQ approval before it may be reissued. Information on obtaining HQ approval to issue nonstandard text to an OpSpec template is located in FAA Order 8900.1 Volume 3, Chapter 18, Section 2.

**8. Disposition.** We will permanently incorporate the information in this notice into FSIMS before this notice expires. Direct questions or comments concerning this notice to the New Program Implementation Branch (AFS-240) at 202-267-8166.

for 

John S. Duncan  
Director, Flight Standards Service

**Appendix A. Sample OpSpec Paragraph A012, Part 121 Domestic Operations to  
Certain Airports Outside the 48 Contiguous United States and Alaska:  
14 CFR Part 121**

a. This operations specification authorizes the certificate holder to conduct operations pursuant to the rules applicable to domestic operations between:

(1) The airports listed in the certificate holder's operations specification paragraph C070 and the airports in Table 1 of this paragraph.

(2) The airports listed in the certificate holder's operations specification paragraph C070 and the state of Alaska.

**Note:** All operations must be conducted in accordance with the conditions and limitations set forth below.

b. Applicability. This domestic operation authorization applies only to operations conducted as follows:

(1) For operations outside the 48 Contiguous United States:

(a) Operations from airports located in the contiguous United States that are listed in the certificate holder's operations specification paragraph C070 to the airports listed in Table 1, provided those airports are:

(i) Outside the 48 contiguous United States, and

(ii) Within 950 NM from the territorial limits of the 48 contiguous United States.

(b) Operations from the airports listed in Table 1 to the airports located in the 48 contiguous United States that are listed in the certificate holder's operations specification paragraph C070.

(2) For operations in the state of Alaska:

(a) Operations to airports in the state of Alaska that are listed in the certificate holder's operations specification paragraph C070. The airports in the state of Alaska do not need to be listed in Table 1.

(b) Operations from airports in the state of Alaska listed in the certificate holder's operations specification paragraph C070 to the airports located in the 48 contiguous United States that are listed in the certificate holder's operations specification paragraph C070.

**Table 1—Airports Outside of the 48 Contiguous United States (Excluding Alaska)**

ICAO Identifier & Airport Name

c. Conditions and Limitations.

(1) The certificate holder must have flag authority listed in paragraph A001 of its operations specifications.

(2) The certificate holder must comply with the requirements of 14 CFR part 121, § 121.11.

(3) The certificate holder must comply with all regulations applicable to domestic operations for the operations between the airports authorized by this operations specification.

(4) The certificate holder shall not operate any aircraft below the minimums set forth in § 121.657.

(5) When conducting part 121 passenger-carrying operations, the certificate holder must comply with the flight and duty requirements of 14 CFR part 117 for all flights, regardless of whether the kind of operation is domestic, flag, or supplemental.

(6) For all operations conducted in accordance with this paragraph, an alternate airport for the destination must be listed in the dispatch release if the flight is scheduled for more than 6 hours. For operations only to the state of Alaska, an alternate airport for the destination must be listed in the dispatch release if the destination airport does not have more than one separate suitable runway authorized for the type of aircraft to be used.

(7) All airports used in conjunction with this authorization must be listed in the certificate holder's operations specification C070 as either a regular, provisional, or refueling airport in accordance with § 121.631(a).

(8) If all of the conditions and limitations contained in this operations specification paragraph cannot be met, the certificate holder is prohibited from conducting operations under this authorization and must conduct operations in accordance with flag rules.