

NOTICE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

N 8900.458

National Policy

Effective Date:
4/4/18

Cancellation Date:
4/4/19

SUBJ: OpSpecs A003 and A025 for Part 145 Repair Stations

1. Purpose of This Notice. This notice provides guidance for aviation safety inspectors (ASI) assigned to air agencies conducting operations under Title 14 of the Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR) part 145. This notice clarifies the amendments to the standard language in the templates for Operations Specifications (OpSpecs) A003, Ratings and Limitations; and A025, Electronic/Digital Recordkeeping System, Electronic/Digital Signature, and Electronic Media.

2. Audience. The primary audience for this notice is Flight Standards District Offices (FSDO), International Field Offices (IFO), principal maintenance inspectors (PMI), and principal avionics inspectors (PAI) with oversight responsibility for repair stations. The secondary audience includes all Flight Standards divisions, branches, and offices.

3. Where You Can Find This Notice. You can find this notice on the MyFAA employee website 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 can find this notice on the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) website at <http://fsims.faa.gov>. This notice is available to the public at http://www.faa.gov/regulations_policies/orders_notices.

4. Background. Notice N 8900.411, OpSpecs A003 and A025 for Part 145 Repair Stations, dated April 3, 2017, was withdrawn from FSIMS due to various errors noted in the Background and Action sections of the notice. This notice provides notification of the changes that were made to the OpSpec A003 and A025 templates. The changes made (revision 01a of OpSpec A003 and revision 00b of OpSpec A025) are designed to align the language with that contained in part 145, §§ 145.59, 145.61(b), and 145.215(a). The following changes were made to the templates:

- The combination box under the “Class Ratings” section in the previous revision 010 of OpSpec A003 that allowed text entry is no longer available or an option.
- “Accessory Class” through “Radio Class” remain the same as in the previous revision 010 of OpSpec A003.
- The combination boxes under the “Propeller” listing that allowed text entry in the previous revision 010 of OpSpec A003 have been restricted to only the drop-down list.

- Reference to the capability list (CL) has been removed from the “Propeller Class 2” because the regulation only requires a list by make, and CLs are not to be authorized for a class rating.
- The drop-down box under the “Limited Ratings” section has been amended to contain only the 13 limited ratings listed under § 145.61(b).
- In the drop-down boxes under the “Manufacturer” and “Make/Model” sections, the language was revised to read: “From the Capability List, as amended,” removing the term “accepted.”
- The option for a drop-down box under the “Limitations” section has been removed.
- The word “approved” has been removed from OpSpec A025 subparagraph a and has been replaced with “acceptable.”

5. Guidance. Inspector guidance for OpSpecs A003 and A025 can be found in FAA Order 8900.1, Volume 3, Chapter 18, Section 3, Part A Operations Specifications—General; and Section 10, Parts A, B, and D Operations Specifications for Part 145 Repair Stations. This notice contains the following:

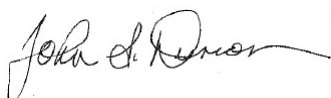
- The sample OpSpec A003 template in Appendix A applies to part 145.
- The sample OpSpec A025 template in Appendix B applies to part 145.

6. Action. Principal inspectors (PI) responsible for air agencies affected by this notice should review Order 8900.1, Volume 3, Chapter 18, Sections 3 and 10 for the issuance of OpSpecs A003 and A025. If it is determined that the repair station’s OpSpec A003 should be revised to reflect the ratings identified in §§ 145.59 and 145.61(b), the PI should communicate to the repair station the possible need to revise their OpSpec A003 to reflect the language in regulation. If the PI determines that A025 should be revised to insert the term “acceptable” and remove the term “approved,” the PI should also communicate this to the repair station for possible revisions needed to A025. Any revisions that need to be initiated to OpSpecs identified in this notice should only be implemented with the repair station’s acknowledgment and acceptance of the needed revisions.

Note: For example, if a repair station currently has a Limited Rating “Accessories—Electronic,” it should be reissued as “Accessories” with the statement “Limited to Electronic Accessories” contained in the “Limitations” section.

Note: For repair stations, OpSpec A025 is nonmandatory.

7. Disposition. FAA Order 8900.1 guidance has been revised to reflect the changes in the OpSpecs A003 and A025. Direct questions concerning the information in this notice to the Repair Stations Branch (AFS-340) at 202-267-1675.



John S. Duncan
Executive Director, Flight Standards Service

Appendix A. Sample OpSpec A003, Ratings and Limitations: 14 CFR Part 145

The certificate holder is authorized the following Ratings and/or Limitations:

Class Ratings

None authorized

Accessory Class 1: Mechanical Accessories

Accessory Class 2: Electrical Accessories

Accessory Class 3: Electronic Accessories

Airframe Class 1: Composite Construction of Small Aircraft

Airframe Class 2: Composite Construction of Large Aircraft

Airframe Class 3: All-Metal Construction of Small Aircraft

Airframe Class 4: All-Metal Construction of Large Aircraft

Instrument Class 1: Mechanical

Instrument Class 2: Electrical

Instrument Class 3: Gyroscopic

Instrument Class 4: Electronic

Power Plant Class 1: Reciprocating Engines of 400 HP or Less

Power Plant Class 2: Reciprocating Engines of more than 400 HP

Power Plant Class 3: Turbine Engines

Radio Class 1: Communications Equipment

Radio Class 2: Navigational Equipment

Radio Class 3: Radar Equipment

Propeller Class 1: All Fixed Pitch and Ground Adjustable Propellers of Wood, Metal, or Composite Construction

Propeller Class 2: All propellers in the following list:

Limited Ratings

Rating	Manufacturer	Make/Model	Limitations
None authorized Accessories Aircraft Fabric Work Airframe Emergency Equipment Engines Floats Instruments Landing Gear Components Nondestructive Inspection, Testing, and Processing Propellers Radio Rotor Blades Any other purpose for which the FAA finds the applicant's request is appropriate	From the Capability List, as amended.	From the Capability List, as amended.	

Limited Ratings – Specialized Services

Rating	Specifications	Limitations
None Authorized Circuit Board Repair Cleaning Processes Heat Treating Machining Metal Processing Plating Protective Coating Rewinding Tire Retreading Welding		Repair limitations as contained in the referenced Civil or Military Specification.

**Appendix B. Sample OpSpec A025, Electronic/Digital Recordkeeping System,
Electronic/Digital Signature, and Electronic Media: 14 CFR Part 145**

- a. The certificate holder is authorized to use an acceptable electronic/digital recordkeeping system, described and/or referenced in this paragraph (if none, enter “N/A”).

Text Box

- b. The certificate holder is authorized the use of the following electronic/digital signature procedures (if none, enter “N/A”).

Text Box

- c. The certificate holder is authorized to use electronic media for the repair station and quality control manuals, if acceptable (if none, enter “N/A”).

Text Box