

NOTICE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

N 8900.668

National Policy

Effective Date:
7/31/23

Cancellation Date:
7/31/24

SUBJ: Decommissioning of OpSpecs A024 and C065 for Part 129 Foreign Air Carriers

1. Purpose of This Notice. This notice announces the decommissioning of Operations Specifications (OpSpec) A024, Air Ambulance Operations, and OpSpec C065, Powerback Operations with Airplanes, for Title 14 of the Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR) part 129 foreign air carriers. This notice also advises the reissuance of OpSpec A004, Summary of Special Authorizations, Limitations and Restrictions, for all foreign air carriers to remove the authorization statements associated with these decommissioned OpSpecs.

2. Audience. The primary audience for this notice is inspectors and managers in the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Flight Standards (FS) International Field Offices (IFO). The secondary audience includes the Safety Standards and Foundational Business 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 and the Dynamic Regulatory System (DRS) at <https://drs.faa.gov>. Operators and the public can find this notice on the FAA's website at https://www.faa.gov/regulations_policies/orders_notices and DRS.

4. Explanation of Changes to Parts A and C OpSpecs.

a. Decommissioning of Part 129 OpSpec A024, Air Ambulance Operations. A024 is being decommissioned due to a lack of specific regulatory basis for an air ambulance operations OpSpec authorization in part 129 and International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Annexes. Foreign air carriers have been conducting air ambulance operations to the United States without any specific safety concerns to date. The text of this OpSpec requires compliance with the provisions of ICAO Annex 6, Operation of Aircraft, which is already required by OpSpec A001, Issuance and Applicability, and Reports, subparagraph b(1). Therefore, the FAA has determined that a specific OpSpec for air ambulance operations is not required. The decommissioning of A024 does not preclude a foreign air carrier from conducting air ambulance operations in the United States. A foreign air carrier may still conduct air ambulance operations in the United States in compliance with their Air Operator Certificate (AOC), foreign OpSpecs, applicable ICAO Annexes, and the remainder of their FAA-issued part 129 OpSpecs.

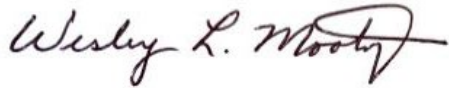
b. Decommissioning of Part 129 OpSpec C065, Powerback Operations With Airplanes. C065 is being decommissioned due to a lack of specific regulatory basis for powerback

operations in part 129 and ICAO Annexes and due to non-use. A foreign air carrier may still conduct powerback operations in the United States in compliance with their Civil Aviation Authority (CAA)-approved procedures and approval from the applicable airport.

5. Guidance. FAA Order 8900.1, Volume 12, Chapter 4, Section 2, Part 129 Part A Operations Specifications—General, and Section 4, Part 129 Part C Operations Specifications—Airplane Terminal Instrument Procedures and Airport Authorizations and Limitations, have been updated to remove the policy associated with these OpSpecs.

6. Action. The decommissioning of OpSpecs A024 and C065 affects principal inspectors (PI) with oversight of part 129 foreign air carriers and responsibility for the issuance and amendment of part 129 OpSpecs. Within 120 days of the effective date of this notice, PIs must archive all A024 and C065 OpSpecs issued to part 129 foreign air carriers for whom they have oversight responsibility. OpSpec A004 must be reissued for all foreign air carriers to remove the authorization statements for the decommissioned OpSpecs. The PI may provide a copy of this notice to the foreign air carrier when reissuing A004.

7. Disposition. We will incorporate the information in this notice into Order 8900.1, Volume 12, Chapter 4, Sections 2 and 4 before this notice expires. Direct questions or comments concerning the information in this notice to the International Operations Branch (AFS-52) at 202-267-0962.



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