

NOTICE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

N 8900.715

National Policy

Effective Date:
10/30/24

Cancellation Date:
10/30/25

SUBJ: OpSpec A001, Issuance and Applicability, and Reports, and OpSpec D085, U.S.-Registered Aircraft Listing and Maintenance Requirements, for Part 129

1. Purpose of This Notice. This notice announces the release of a nonmandatory revision for operations specification (OpSpec) A001 for Title 14 of the Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR) part 129. This notice also announces the release of a mandatory revision for OpSpec D085 for part 129 (both the part 129 and § 129.14 set of available OpSpecs).

2. Audience. The primary audience for this notice is International Field Offices (IFO), Principal Operations Inspectors (POI), Principal Maintenance Inspectors (PMI), and Principal Avionics Inspectors (PAI) with oversight responsibility for OpSpec issuance under part 129. 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 Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) website at https://www.faa.gov/regulations_policies/orders_notices and DRS.

4. Explanation of Policy Changes. Title 14 CFR part 3 subpart C requires individuals who have a foreign address and no U.S. physical address of record on file with the FAA to designate a U.S. agent for service if they apply for a certificate issued under 14 CFR part 47, 61, 63, 65, 67, or 107 or hold a certificate issued under any of these parts. The International Program Division (AFS-50) is adding a reference to part 3 subpart C in OpSpecs A001 and D085.

5. Guidance. Appendices to this notice show the revised templates. This notice contains the following:

Appendix	Authorizing Document	Paragraph	Applicable to Part
A	OpSpec	A001	129
B	OpSpec	D085	129
C	OpSpec	D085	129, § 129.14

6. Action. This change affects principal inspectors (PI) with responsibility for the issuance, amendment, and oversight of OpSpecs for part 129. All PIs will review the information in this notice and reissue:

- OpSpec A001, as appropriate.
- OpSpec D085 (both the 129 and 129.14 sets) by the effective date as published in FAA final rule 89 FR 81305, U.S. Agents for Service on Individuals with Foreign Addresses Who Hold or Apply for Certain Certificates, Ratings, or Authorizations.

7. Disposition. We will incorporate the information in this notice into FAA Order 8900.1 before this notice expires. Direct questions or comments concerning the information in this notice to the International Operations Branch (AFS-52) at 202-267-3719.



Robert Ruiz for
Lawrence Fields
Executive Director, Flight Standards Service

**Appendix A. Sample OpSpec A001, Issuance and Applicability, and Reports:
14 CFR Part 129**

a. These operations specifications are issued to [Part 129 operator] (hereinafter, the “foreign air carrier”). The foreign air carrier’s addresses:

The foreign air carrier is the holder of the following:

State of the Operator (Country)	State of the Operator Air Operator Certificate (Identification)	DOT Economic Authority (Type)	DOT Economic Authority (Expiration)

b. The foreign air carrier must conduct each operation within the United States in accordance with its air operator certificate (AOC) and its associated operations specifications, and in accordance with these FAA-issued foreign operations specifications.

(1) The holder of these operations specifications will conduct foreign air carrier operations in common carriage in the United States pursuant to the applicable requirements, including provisions of 14 CFR Parts 91 and 129; 49 CFR Part 175; any other applicable regulations and laws of the United States; and Annex 1; Annex 6, Parts I and III; and Annex 8, Part II, Chapters 3 and 4 to the Convention on International Civil Aviation, as applicable. Additionally, foreign air carriers operating U.S.-registered aircraft must ensure that flightcrew members comply with 14 CFR Part 3 Subpart C and Part 61, § 61.3.

(2) At all times the foreign air carrier must: have an appropriate security program, as required by the Transportation Security Administration (TSA); be in possession of a valid AOC; and comply with the terms and conditions of its appropriate Department of Transportation (DOT) economic authority. Otherwise, these operations specifications shall become void and must be surrendered at the request of the FAA.

(3) The foreign air carrier may conduct [dropdown list] operations within the United States using regular terminal and alternate airports that the carrier has determined to be operationally suitable.

c. The foreign air carrier

- must use only the business name that appears on the operations specifications for those operations described in subparagraph b.
- may conduct the operations described in subparagraph b under the following other business names.

d. The foreign air carrier must use only the official business name or a name authorized by the DOT, as shown in these operations specifications, in the conduct of foreign air transportation within the United States.

e. The foreign air carrier is limited to operating within the United States in the geographical areas of operations shown below.

Authorized Geographic Areas of Operations

f. All radio communications with the air traffic control (ATC) system of the United States must use the appropriate call sign, as indicated in International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Document 8585 or FAA Order JO 7340.2.

Authorized Radio Call Sign	ICAO 3-Letter Identifier

g. If there are changes to any information in these FAA-issued operations specifications or to the basis upon which these operations specifications have been issued (e.g., foreign air carrier (company) ownership information), the foreign air carrier must notify the responsible Flight Standards office in a form and manner acceptable to the FAA.

(1) For scheduled passenger operations or all-cargo operations, the foreign air carrier must use the following airports:

Airports To Be Used for Scheduled Passenger Operations or All-Cargo Operations				
Regular Terminal	Alternate	Alternate	Alternate	Technical/Refueling Stop

(2) Except for overflights, if the foreign air carrier plans on conducting a charter flight that involves a landing in U.S. airspace, the air carrier must provide the responsible Flight Standards office with advance written notice (including by facsimile, email, or paper document) of the operation. For urgent situations, a telephone notification to the responsible Flight Standards office may be used with a written notice sent as soon as possible.

(3) The foreign air carrier must provide prior notification of any wet lease or interchange operations conducted by the foreign air carrier to, from, or within the United States on behalf of other air carriers.

(4) The foreign air carrier must provide additional reports and notifications (e.g., the schedule and frequency of flights) *when requested by the FAA*.

h. Responsible Flight Standards Office:
[Dropdown List]

U.S. Post Office Mailing Address	Overnight Package Delivery Address

FAA Principal Inspector(s) Name/Title	Phone Number	Fax Number	Email

Appendix B. Sample OpSpec D085, U.S.-Registered Aircraft Listing and Maintenance Requirements: 14 CFR Part 129

a. The holder of these operations specifications shall maintain its U.S.-registered aircraft listed in this operations specification paragraph in accordance with the applicable requirements, including the provisions of these operations specifications; 14 CFR Part 129, § 129.14; and the applicable provisions of 14 CFR Parts 21, 39, 43, 65, and 91.

b. These operations specifications serve as documentation that the aircraft is maintained utilizing an approved maintenance program authorized under § 129.14(a). These operations specifications serve as the FAA approval of the maintenance program.

(1) The maintenance program must be sufficiently comprehensive in scope and detail to fulfill the foreign air carrier's responsibility to maintain the aircraft in an airworthy condition in accordance with applicable Federal aviation regulations and standards prescribed and approved by the Administrator. The program shall be included in the foreign air carrier's manual.

(2) Each aircraft and its component parts, accessories, and appliances must be maintained in an airworthy condition in accordance with the time limits for the accomplishment of the overhaul, replacement, periodic inspection, and routine checks of the aircraft and its component parts, accessories, and appliances. Time limits or standards for determining time limits shall be contained in a document approved by the Administrator and referenced in these operations specifications.

(3) Items identified as "on condition" shall be maintained in a continuous airworthy condition by periodic inspections, checks, service, repair, and/or preventive maintenance. The procedures and standards for inspections, checks, service, repair, and/or preventive maintenance shall be described or referenced in the foreign air carrier's maintenance manual.

(4) Parts or subassemblies of components that do not have specific time intervals shall be checked, inspected, and/or overhauled at the same time limitations specified for the component or accessory to which such parts or subassemblies are related.

c. The maintenance program shall be made readily available to the personnel responsible for scheduling or performing inspections on the aircraft. No change in the maintenance program or existing maintenance agreements shall be made unless the FAA International Field Office (IFO), that issued these operations specifications, previously approves the change.

d. If, during operations conducted by the foreign air carrier, required maintenance or repairs cannot be made at the aircraft's current location, the aircraft may be operated on a one-time ferry flight, provided that a special flight permit (SFP) is requested and granted by the FAA under the provisions of Part 21, §§ 21.197 and 21.199. In this case, before relocating the aircraft, the foreign air carrier must also secure special permission from the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) of the foreign country in and over which the foreign air carrier may be operating at the time.

e. No foreign air carrier may operate a U.S.-registered aircraft with inoperative instruments or equipment, except in accordance with the provisions of an FAA-approved minimum equipment list (MEL) for that aircraft and the conditions prescribed by § 129.14(b).

- f. The aircraft, which have FAA MEL approval, are listed in paragraph D095 of these operations specifications.
- g. All flightcrew members operating U.S.-registered aircraft in international flight operations must hold valid U.S. airman certificates, Special Purpose Pilot Authorizations (SPPA), or, when operating within a foreign country, valid licenses issued by the country in which the aircraft is operated and meet the applicable requirements of 14 CFR Parts 3 Subpart C, 61, and 63.
- h. All maintenance performed on aircraft approved under these operations specifications shall be performed in accordance with the FAA-approved § 129.14 maintenance program and by persons authorized under Part 43, § 43.3. Only persons authorized under § 43.7 may return the aircraft to service after it has undergone maintenance, preventive maintenance, rebuilding, or alterations.
- i. These operations specifications shall become void if the foreign air carrier does not comply with the terms and conditions of these operations specifications and the terms and conditions of the aircraft Airworthiness Certificate.
- j. The foreign air carrier is authorized to conduct operations using the U.S.-registered aircraft identified on this operations specification, provided such aircraft are operated with a current and valid Certificate of Airworthiness and registration.

Table 1 – U.S.-Registered Aircraft

Aircraft M/M/S	Aircraft Registration Number	Aircraft Serial Number	129 - Operating to the U.S. 129.14 - Operating Outside the U.S.	Maintenance Program Document Name	Document Revision Date and Number

Appendix C. Sample OpSpec D085, U.S.-Registered Aircraft Listing and Maintenance Requirements: 14 CFR Part 129, § 129.14

a. The holder of these operations specifications shall maintain its U.S.-registered aircraft listed in this operations specification paragraph in accordance with the applicable requirements, including the provisions of these operations specifications; 14 CFR Part 129, § 129.14; and the applicable provisions of 14 CFR Parts 21, 39, 43, 65, and 91.

b. These operations specifications serve as documentation that the aircraft is maintained utilizing an approved maintenance program authorized under § 129.14(a). These operations specifications serve as the FAA approval of the maintenance program.

(1) The maintenance program must be sufficiently comprehensive in scope and detail to fulfill the foreign air carrier or foreign person's responsibility to maintain the aircraft in an airworthy condition in accordance with applicable Federal aviation regulations and standards prescribed and approved by the Administrator. The program shall be included in the foreign air carrier or foreign person's maintenance manual.

(2) Each aircraft and its component parts, accessories, and appliances must be maintained in an airworthy condition in accordance with the time limits for the accomplishment of the overhaul, replacement, periodic inspection, and routine checks of the aircraft and its component parts, accessories, and appliances. Time limits or standards for determining time limits shall be contained in a document approved by the Administrator and referenced in these operations specifications.

(3) Items identified as "on condition" shall be maintained in a continuous airworthy condition by periodic inspections, checks, service, repair, and/or preventive maintenance. The procedures and standards for inspections, checks, service, repair, and/or preventive maintenance, shall be described or referenced in the foreign air carrier or foreign person's maintenance manual.

(4) Parts or subassemblies of components that do not have specific time intervals shall be checked, inspected, and/or overhauled at the same time limitations specified for the component or accessory to which such parts or subassemblies are related.

c. The maintenance program shall be made readily available to the personnel responsible for scheduling or performing inspections on the aircraft. No change in the maintenance program or existing maintenance agreements shall be made unless the responsible Flight Standards District Office (FSDO), that issued these operations specifications, previously approves the change.

d. If, during operations conducted by the foreign air carrier or foreign person, required maintenance or repairs cannot be made at the aircraft's current location, the aircraft may be operated on a one-time ferry flight, provided that a special flight permit (SFP) is requested and granted by the FAA under the provisions of Part 21, §§ 21.197 and 21.199. In this case, before relocating the aircraft, the foreign air carrier or foreign person must also secure special permission from the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) of the foreign country in and over which the foreign air carrier or foreign person may be operating at the time.

e. No foreign air carrier or foreign person may operate a U.S.-registered aircraft with inoperative instruments or equipment except in accordance with the provisions of an

FAA-approved minimum equipment list (MEL) for that aircraft and the conditions prescribed by § 129.14(b).

- f. The aircraft, which have FAA MEL approval, are listed in paragraph D095 of these operations specifications.
- g. All flightcrew members operating U.S.-registered aircraft in international flight operations must hold valid U.S. airman certificates, Special Purpose Pilot Authorizations (SPPA), or, when operating within a foreign country, valid licenses issued by the country in which the aircraft is operated and meet the applicable requirements of 14 CFR Parts 3 Subpart C, 61, and 63.
- h. All maintenance performed on aircraft approved under these operations specifications shall be performed in accordance with the FAA-approved § 129.14 maintenance program and by persons authorized under Part 43, § 43.3. Only persons authorized under § 43.7 may return the aircraft to service after it has undergone maintenance, preventive maintenance, rebuilding, or alterations.
- i. These operations specifications shall become void if the foreign air carrier or foreign person does not comply with the terms and conditions of these operations specifications and the terms and conditions of the aircraft Airworthiness Certificate.
- j. Operating U.S.-Registered Aircraft in Common Carriage Solely Outside the United States.

(1) The foreign air carrier or foreign person conducting operations in common carriage solely outside the United States under § 129.1(b) using the U.S.-registered aircraft identified in this operations specification must operate such aircraft with a current and valid Certificate of Airworthiness and registration and maintain the aircraft in accordance with § 129.14. The aircraft listed in this subparagraph do not operate to the United States. Further, these operations specifications are not an Operating Certificate.

(2) The authority issued in this subparagraph becomes void if the foreign air carrier or foreign person does not comply with the terms and conditions of these operations specifications and the terms and conditions of the aircraft Airworthiness Certificate.

Table 1 – U.S.-Registered Aircraft Outside the U.S.

Aircraft M/M/S	Aircraft Registration Number	Aircraft Serial Number	Maintenance Program Document Name	Document Revision Date and Number