

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

National Policy



Effective Date: 5/02/07

SUBJ: Safety Oversight Circulars (SOC)

1. **Purpose of This Order.** This order establishes Safety Oversight Circulars (SOC) as a method of providing guidance material to the Air Traffic Organization (ATO) concerning compliance with Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Aviation Safety (AVS), and Air Traffic Safety Oversight Service (AOV) directives.

2. Audience. All FAA organizations involved in/or supporting the operation or maintenance of the National Airspace System (NAS). ATO adherence to AOV-provided guidance will demonstrate compliance with requirements and expedite the process of AOV oversight and approvals.

3. Where I Can Find This Order. AOV will post SOCs on an FAA Web site. AOV will not publish hard copies of SOCs. Any FAA organization or person desiring a hard copy may download and print the desired material from the AOV employee Web site located at: <u>https://employees.faa.gov/org/linebusiness/avs/offices/AOV/</u>. AOV will number and date each SOC and list newest SOCs in ascending order. All active, cancelled, and superseded SOCs will be maintained on the above referenced site.

4. Authority to Change This Order. The Associate Administrator for Aviation Safety, AVS-1, has delegated the authority to amend or cancel this order to the Director, Air Traffic Safety Oversight Service, AOV-1.

5. Action. All Air Traffic Safety Oversight Inspectors (ATSI) must become familiar with the contents of each SOC.

6. Background. SOCs contain safety critical information. An SOC may contain information alone or a combination of information and guidance material or recommended actions to be taken by the ATO to meet the requirements of directives such as FAA Order 1100.161, Air Traffic Safety Oversight; FAA Order 8000.86, Air Traffic Safety Oversight Compliance Process; and FAA Order 8000.90, AOV Credentialing and Control Tower Operator Certification Programs.

7. Announcement of SOCS. AOV will announce newly posted SOCs by e-mail notification to appropriate stakeholders in FAA headquarters for further dissemination within their respective organizations.

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