

U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Aviation Administration

## InFO

Information for Operators

InFO 24007 DATE: 06/11/24

Flight Standards Service Washington, DC

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An InFO contains valuable information for operators that should help them meet certain administrative, regulatory, or operational requirements, with relatively low urgency or impact on safety. The contents of this document do not have the force and effect of law and are not meant to bind the public in any way. This document is intended only to provide clarity to the public regarding existing requirements under the law or agency policies.

**Subject:** Safety Management System (SMS) Requirement for Repair Stations Located in the United States (U.S.) Holding or Seeking European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) Part-145 Approval.

**Purpose:** This InFO serves to inform Title 14 of the Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR) part 145 repair stations located in the U.S. seeking initial approval or renewal of EASA Part-145 certification, about the upcoming requirement to establish, implement, and maintain a SMS.

**Background:** The European Union has revised its regulatory system regarding continuing airworthiness, incorporating SMS requirements for approved maintenance organizations [ref. Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/1963 of 8 November 2021 amending Regulation (EU) No 1321/2014].

**Discussion:** The SMS requirement in the amended regulation has introduced a significant difference between the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and EASA regulatory systems; the FAA and EASA have agreed to establish a special condition in accordance with the U.S.-EU Safety Agreement, Annex 2. This special condition requires FAA certificated repair stations located in the U.S. seeking initial approval or renewal of EASA Part-145 certification to establish, implement, and maintain an SMS. Participation with the FAA Voluntary SMS Program is deemed acceptable as a means to comply with the new requirement. The deadline for implementation of this requirement is December 31, 2025.

For more information, reference Advisory Circular (AC) 120-92, Safety Management Systems for Aviation Service Providers, at: <a href="https://www.faa.gov/regulations\_policies/advisory\_circulars/">https://www.faa.gov/regulations\_policies/advisory\_circulars/</a>, and information on the FAA Voluntary SMS Program can be accessed at: <a href="https://www.faa.gov/about/initiatives/gasafetyoutreach/smsvp">https://www.faa.gov/about/initiatives/gasafetyoutreach/smsvp</a>.

**Recommended Action:** Current FAA certificated repair stations holding EASA Part-145 approval desiring to retain such approval should begin planning as necessary to implement an acceptable SMS by the deadline of December 31, 2025. FAA certificated repair stations seeking initial EASA Part-145 approval will be required to implement an SMS prior to receiving approval, and should plan accordingly.

**Contact:** Questions or comments regarding this InFO should be directed to the Aircraft Maintenance Division at (202) 267-1675, or via email at 9-AWA-AFS-INTL-Coordinator@faa.gov. For questions or support on the FAA Voluntary SMS Program, contact the SMS Program Office at 9-NATL-SMS-ProgramOffice@faa.gov.