



# FAA

## Aviation Safety

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### Memorandum

Date:

To: Gary Powell, Director, Aeronautical Information Services

From: Mark Steinbicker, Manager, Flight Technologies and Procedures Division

Prepared by: Thomas J. Nichols, Section Manager, Flight Procedures and Airspace Group

Subject: Initial Climb Area Obstacle Clarification

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**Overview/Summary:** This is to provide clarification to the obstacle definition in FAA Order 8260.3, United States Standard for Terminal Instrument Procedures (TERPS), Appendix B, Paragraph 88.

**Background:** Flight Standards clarification is based on the safety risk assessment of proposed modifications to the departure initial climb area (ICA). The clarification will assist in identifying obstacles pertaining to hold lines while implementing proposed modifications to the departure initial climb area

**Issues:** Per the definition of an Obstacle in FAA Order 8260.3, a taxiing aircraft is considered an obstacle except where operational restrictions prevent taxiing operations during takeoff and landing. Flight Standards considers the hold line placement based on the proposed modification to the ICA as described in SRAR [Proposal for Change to FAA Order 8260.3, United States Standard for Terminal Instrument Procedures (TERPS), Departure Initial Climb Area (ICA)] (attached) as an operational restriction outlined in the definition. This clarification may be used until Flight Standards processes changes to affected 8260-series directives.

Attachment

cc: Airports Engineering (AAS-100)  
Non-FAA Service Providers