NOTICE

U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Aviation Administration

N 8130.71
6/14/02

Cancellation Date: 6/14/03

SUBJ: PROCEDURES FOR COMPLETION AND USE OF THE AUTHORIZED RELEASE CERTIFICATE, FAA FORM 8130-3, AIRWORTHINESS APPROVAL TAG

1. PURPOSE. This notice provides policy regarding the issuance of Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Form 8130-3, Airworthiness Approval Tag, by Designated Airworthiness Representatives (DAR) at distributor facilities not associated with a Production Approval Holder (PAH).

2. DISTRIBUTION. This notice is distributed to the Washington headquarters branch levels of the Aircraft Certification Service, Flight Standards Service, and the Regulatory Support Division; to the Aviation System Standards Office; to the branch level in the Aircraft Certification Directorates and regional Flight Standards Divisions; to all Aircraft Certification Offices; to all Manufacturing Inspection District and Satellite Offices; to all Flight Standards District Offices; to the Aircraft Certification Branch and Flight Standards Branch at the FAA Academy; to the Brussels Aircraft Certification Division and Flight Standards Staff; to applicable Representatives of the Administrator; and to all International Field Offices.

3. RELATED PUBLICATIONS.

a. FAA Order 8130.2, Airworthiness Certification of Aircraft and Related Products.

b. FAA Order 8130.21, Procedures for Completion and Use of the Authorized Release Certificate, FAA Form 8130-3, Airworthiness Approval Tag.

c. Advisory Circular (AC) 00-56, Voluntary Industry Distributor Accreditation Program.

4. BACKGROUND. For many years, products/parts have been shipped from PAHs to their customers bearing a variety of airworthiness certification statements established by each company in its own format. Additionally, the proliferation of new manufacturers producing modification and replacement parts has presented considerable difficulty for the end-user when determining whether the product/part is FAA-approved.

a. In 1995 the FAA established an industry Suspected Unapproved Parts (SUP) Steering Group. An early initiative of the group was to review the process of documenting the airworthiness certification of products/parts. Based upon studies conducted by the SUPs Steering Group, a SUPs Paper Trail Team was formed in 1998. The Paper Trail Team was a cross-functional team comprised of members who came from PAHs, air carriers, repair stations, distributors, and industry groups. The team charter was to propose a documented "paper trail" system that would fill the voids during the transfer of products/parts domestically and internationally. It was felt that a documented system would improve the ability to determine the airworthiness approval status of products/parts, and assist an installer in making an

Distribution: A-W (IR/FS/VN) –3; A-X (CD/FS) –3; A-FFS-5,7 (MAX); A-FAC-3, 4 (STD); AMA-220 (20 copies); AMA-250 (15 copies); AFS-600 (3 copies); AVR-20 (ALL); AEU-100/200; A-FDR-1D; FDR-2

Initiated By: AIR-200

accurate determination of airworthiness. The team made several recommendations, all of which have been addressed or are within current rulemaking projects.

b. In 1999, the SUPs Paper Trail Team reconvened and made an additional recommendation that distributors not associated with PAHs should comply with AC 00-56, Voluntary Industry Distributor Accreditation Program. Additionally, if a product/part in the accredited distributor's inventory did not have a Form 8130-3, and there was a traceable path to show that the product/part was produced under an FAA production approval, Form 8130-3 could be issued for domestic airworthiness approvals by an authorized DAR.

5. CHANGES. While the issuance of Form 8130-3 by PAHs for domestic airworthiness approval purposes is not mandatory at this time, any effort to standardize the method of documenting the airworthiness approval status of products/parts is viewed as a positive move. Therefore, in light of the recommendation submitted by the SUPs Paper Trail Team, the following changes in current policy shall be in effect until the expiration of this notice:

a. Distributor facilities not associated with a PAH, and accredited as described in AC 00-56, may be eligible to have a Form 8130-3 issued on behalf of the FAA for domestic airworthiness approval purposes for products/parts whose positive traceability to a PAH can be established.

b. Manufacturing DARs with function code 08 or maintenance DARs with function code 23 may issue a Form 8130-3, for domestic airworthiness approval purposes, for products/parts on behalf of the FAA at an accredited distributor. The Airline Suppliers Association maintains a list of AC 00-56 accredited distributors at http://www.airlinesuppliers.com. The airworthiness of the product/part must be established, as well as positive traceability to a PAH via acceptable documentation such as shipping documents or certificates of conformance, and part markings (part number and/or trade mark). Once positive traceability to a PAH is confirmed, the DAR must ensure that the PAH held a production approval for the subject product/part at the time the product/part was produced. Additionally, the DAR must find that the airworthiness of the product/part has not been compromised since release by the PAH. When filling out Form 8130-3, the DAR shall indicate in Block 13 that the tag was issued at the distributor's location utilizing documentation provided by the PAH in accordance with this notice.

NOTE: In accordance with Orders 8130.2 and 8130.21, manufacturing DARs are not authorized to issue airworthiness approvals for products/parts that have left the PAH's FAA-approved inspection/quality system. Additionally, maintenance DARs are only authorized to issue airworthiness approvals for products/parts that have left the PAH's FAA-approved inspection/quality system when presented for export. However, in order to ensure adequate DAR resources to support the activities authorized under this notice, these domestic airworthiness approvals may be issued by either manufacturing or maintenance DARs until the expiration of this notice.

6. CONCLUSION. The information and procedures described in this notice are intended to augment current guidance. All offices that have management responsibilities for DARs shall make this notice available to their designees.

Original signed by:

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Division