



# Federal Aviation Administration

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## Memorandum

Date: June 15, 2006

To: See Distribution

From: David A. Downey, Manager, Rotorcraft Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service, ASW-100

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Subject: Policy Statement for Lavatory Installations on Rotorcraft

Reply to Attn of: ASW-100-05-001

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The purpose of this policy statement is to provide standardized guidance regarding certification of lavatory installations in rotorcraft.

Recently, there have been applications for lavatory installations in type certificated part 29 rotorcraft. Title 14 Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR) part 29 for transport category rotorcraft does not include specific requirements that address a lavatory installation and the related safety concerns. These safety concerns include:

1. Floor surfaces in the area of the lavatory may become wet due to water spillage or other leakage and become a hazard to helicopter occupants.
2. Lavatory doors, if a locking mechanism is installed that cannot be opened from the outside, may trap occupants and prevent access to them during emergencies.
3. Hazardous quantities of ice may form on the rotorcraft in freezing conditions as a result of drainage from the lavatory.

The general requirements of §§ 29.601 and 29.1309 are appropriate for determining compliance, and the above specific safety concerns may be addressed as follows:

1. Floor Surfaces: The floor surfaces of all areas that are likely to become wet in service must have slip-resistant properties;
2. Doors: All lavatory doors must be designed to preclude anyone from becoming trapped inside, and if a locking mechanism is installed, it must be capable of being unlocked from the outside without aid of special tools; and

3. Drainage of Fluids Subject to Freezing: If fluids subject to freezing may be drained overboard in flight or during ground operation, the drains must be designed and located to prevent the formation of hazardous quantities of ice on the rotorcraft as a result of the drainage.

While we do not perceive a lavatory installation in a part 27 normal category rotorcraft, this policy guidance is applicable to both part 27 and part 29 rotorcraft.

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