



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Federal Aviation
Administration**

Memorandum

Subject: **INFORMATION:**
Policy Memo # PS-AIR100-2005-01
Military Requests for TSO Approval

Date: August 11, 2005

From: Manager, Aircraft Engineering Division, AIR-100

Reply to
Attn. of:

To: All Aircraft Certification Office (ACO) Managers

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide guidance relative to the certification of military avionics. We have recently received inquiries concerning Technical Standard Order (TSO) markings for military avionics. Two separate but similar situations have arisen:

1. **Separate Functions:** If a military piece of avionics performs a civilian function for which there is a TSO, the equipment may receive a TSO marking; however, if this equipment also performs one or more other functions that could not be approved for civilian use the equipment and all associated documentation shall be marked "For Military Use Only". For example, if a military piece of avionics performs a civilian Traffic Alert and Collision Avoidance System (TCAS) function, and a separate non-certification military function in the same piece of equipment, the equipment may receive a TSO marking for the civilian TCAS function, but must be marked "For Military Use Only" to ensure that the other non-certifiable function will never be used by non-military operators. (Of course, this assumes that the non-certifiable functions have been shown to not interfere with the TSO function.)
2. **Deviations:** If a military piece of avionics performs a civilian function for which there is a TSO, the equipment may receive a TSO marking; however, if this equipment has been granted deviations that could not be approved for civilian use, the equipment and all associated documentation shall be marked "For Military Use Only". For example, if a military piece of avionics performs a civilian Mode S transponder function, but requires TSO deviations for military features that would not be approved for civilian use, the equipment may receive a TSO marking for the civilian Mode S function, but must be marked "For Military Use Only" to ensure that the other military features will never be used by non-military operators.

If you have any further questions, please contact Chris Carter, Manager, Technical Programs and Continued Airworthiness Branch, AIR-120 at 202-267-7242.

/s/ Susan Cabler for

David W. Hempe