



U.S. Department
of Transportation
Federal Aviation
Administration

Memorandum

Subject: **INFORMATION:** Clarification of Conformity
Inspection Functions to Include Witnessing of
Tests

Date:

AUG 29 2003

From: Manager, Production and Airworthiness Division,
AIR-200

Reply to
Attn. of:

To: ALL Manufacturing Inspection Offices
ALL Manufacturing Inspection District/Satellite
Offices
ALL Certificate Management/Unit Offices
ALL Aircraft Certification Offices

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide clarification to conformity inspection functions with respect to "witnessing of tests" by designees. An issue was raised by a manufacturing inspection field office regarding the correct interpretation of "witnessing of tests" as part of conformity inspections activity.

Historically, it has been the philosophy and the practice to include "witnessing of tests" as part of the certification process under Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Order 8110.4, Type Certification. Designees have been authorized to conduct the witnessing of tests from a wide variety of inspections under the conformity inspection activities. The intent of the conformity inspection function codes does include a range of activities, to include witnessing of tests, when requested by the ACO engineer.

All manufacturing offices may continue to utilize designees to "witness tests" when requested by the ACO engineers under the appropriate conformity inspection function code.

To eliminate any ambiguities, this issue will be clarified in the next revision to FAA Order 8100.8, Designee Management Handbook.

If there are any questions, please contact the Airworthiness Certification Branch Manager, AIR-220, at (202) 267-8361.

Frank P. Paskiewic