

EASA

TERMS OF REFERENCE

TOR Nr: 21.027

Issue: 1

Date: 1 June 2007

Regulatory reference: Annex to Regulation (EC) No 1702/2003¹ (Part 21) and related AMC and GM

Reference documents: FAA AC 8150-1b, AC21-25A
AEA letter March 29, 2005

1. Subject:

Repairs and design changes to ETSO.

2. Problem / Statement of issue and justification; reason for regulatory evolution (regulatory tasks):

Under the current Part 21 rules, changes and repairs to European Technical Standard Order (ETSO) articles designed by a person who is not the holder of the relevant ETSO authorisation (ETSO-A) can be approved as a change or repair to the product in which they are installed. Such change or repair approval becomes invalid as soon as the article is installed in another product. This restriction creates major difficulties for operators and maintenance organisations that make regularly minor changes or repairs to ETSO articles such as seats. The other available alternative for a person who is not the holder of the ETSO-A, is to apply for a new ETSO authorisation. This is considered too restrictive when applied to minor changes or repairs.

Auxiliary Power Units (APU's) are considered ETSO articles, however for approval of changes and repairs the procedures of Subpart D (changes to TC) or Subpart E (Supplemental Type Certificate) apply. When Subpart E is applied in case of a major repair by someone who is not the ETSO-A holder, this leads to a new ETSO-A. This consequence is considered not practical.

3. Objective:

The objective of the NPA is to propose an amendment to the applicable paragraphs of IR Part 21 and related AMC/GM to:

- provide the option for applicants other than the ETSO authorisation holder, to do minor repairs and design changes to ETSO articles which have no appreciable effect on the airworthiness of the product in which they are installed.
- make the procedure for repair to APU consistent with the current procedures for repair to products.
- establish marking requirements for minor repair and design changes to ETSO. (Subpart Q)

¹ Commission Regulation (EC) No 1702/2003 of 24 September 2003 laying down implementing rules for the airworthiness and environmental certification of aircraft and related products, parts and appliances, as well as for the certification of design and production organisations (OJ L 243, 27.9.2003, p. 6.) Regulation as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 375/2007 (OJ L 94, 4.4.2007, p. 3).

4. Specific tasks and interface issues (Deliverables):

An NPA shall be drafted considering:

- Extending the eligibility for making minor repairs and design changes to non ETSO-A holders.
- The definition or scope of minor repairs or changes related to (a).
- Making Subpart M applicable to APU.
- Marking requirements for minor repairs or changes by non-ETSO-A holders.

5. Working Methods (in addition to the applicable EASA procedures):

Agency

6. Time scale, milestones:

NPA to be published third quarter 2007, Decision 3rd quarter 2008.