

FAQs:

(Flight) Testing, Design Organisations

Question:

Typically, some ground and flight tests are performed on each production aircraft. Is a Production ground and flight test program to be considered part of the type design?

Answer:

When it is necessary to define a test program – ground or flight – to determine (e.g. by comparison) the airworthiness and the characteristics of production aircraft, then such a test program would meet the criteria of 21.A.31(a)4, and consequently should be considered as design data, and part of the type design.

Test programmes defined by the design organisation as part of the type design are the often integrated into the production organisation's manufacturing data. Additional tests to verify and ensure the quality of the product may be introduced by the production organisation into its test programme as long as they do not interfere with the approved type design data or render/make the tests defined in the approved type design ineffective.

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<https://www.easa.europa.eu/ro/faq/20119>