August 29, 2016

Dear Aviation Community:

The rapidly increasing globalization of the aviation industry necessitates greater collaboration with civil aviation authorities and industry in order to harmonize regulatory systems and efficiently respond to common regulatory challenges. Many areas within the aviation and aerospace sector are experiencing exponential growth leading to significant increases in both domestic certification activities and foreign validation projects, including those from traditional and from emerging States of Design. These activities are platforms for positive and exciting opportunities and help to maintain and improve our safety record, but have placed growing resource demands on civil aviation authorities to efficiently manage the needs of industry.

On September 16, 2015, the leadership of the certification services/departments of the Agência Nacional de Aviação Civil (ANAC), European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA), Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), and Transport Canada Civil Aviation (TCCA) signed a charter establishing the Certification Management Team (CMT). The CMT will oversee and manage collaboration efforts to permit the development and implementation of regulatory and policy solutions common to certification issues and support greater harmonization of our systems. The CMT vision is to use active confidence building initiatives and risk-based validation principles to accept partner certification activities with limited or no technical involvement. The CMT understands that maximizing the use of existing bilateral partnerships to accept approvals and findings made by our partners is essential to reducing the resources currently expended on validation programs.

In May 2016, the CMT signed their Collaboration Strategy identifying four high-level strategic focus areas to realize the CMT vision. These focus areas are Partnership Leveraging, Continued Confidence Building, Global Leadership, and Certification Policy Alignment. The CMT is working in a quadrilateral fashion to address these focus areas with the understanding that the scope of the bilateral agreements are not always aligned. In light of this, the CMT recognizes partners may develop bilateral validation improvement roadmaps to address the four strategic focus areas more efficiently in the near term.

We believe the CMT Collaboration Strategy will produce significant progress towards our bilateral goals and the CMT’s vision to use active confidence building initiatives and risk based validation principles to accept partner certification activities with limited or no technical involvement.
This letter introduces the CMT Collaboration Strategy to our industry stakeholders in an effort to establish a dialogue and promote common solutions and approaches to aircraft certification within the international community. We look forward to meeting with industry in Cologne, Germany at Industry Day at the CMT on September 16, 2016, and hearing your feedback.

Sincerely,

Original signed August 29, 2016
Roberto Honorato
Deputy Airworthiness Superintendent
ANAC

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Trevor Woods
Certification Director
EASA

Original signed August 29, 2016
Dorenda D. Baker
Director, Aircraft Certification Service
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Original signed August 29, 2016
Robert Sincennes
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