

Aviation Maintenance

Sponsor Organization: AFS

TCRG Lead: Dave Cann

Title: An International Survey of Maintenance Human Factors Programs in Maintenance Organizations

Description of Requirements:

Assess the status of maintenance human factors in countries regulated by FAA, Transport Canada, and the European Aviation Safety Agency.

Background:

There are a variety of International approaches to the regulation of human factors programs for maintenance organizations. Transport Canada and the European Aviation Safety Agency have established specific, yet differing, rules regarding maintenance human factors. These rules pertain to such items as initial and continuation training and to requirements for formal error reporting systems. FAA has not yet established regulations but, instead, has created guidance documents and established voluntary reporting programs for maintenance organizations. FAA has opted for a voluntary rather than a regulatory approach to maintenance human factors. The requirement centers on an assessment of the impact of voluntary versus regulatory approaches to maintenance human factors programs. What is the organizational impact, the impact to the aviation maintenance technician (AMT) (also called Licensed Engineer, in Europe or Aviation Maintenance Engineer in Canada), and the impact on maintenance-related incidents and accidents. There is also a requirement to assess whether there is a significant difference in implementation of maintenance human factors programs across the international spectrum. A small survey of US maintenance organizations was conducted in 2002, as part of the Commercial Airplane Certification Process Study for Human Factors. This new proposed survey would also assess the current state of Human Factors in the US industry compared to that in 2002.

Output:

Final report describing the industry based on results from survey. This report will include the following: (1) Cooperate with AFS-330, CSTA for Aviation Maintenance Human Factors, and designated international entities to identify the key topical areas to be surveyed as well as the specific manner in which the questions should be asked. (2) Capitalize on the questions used in the 2002 Certification Process Study so that selected data from 2002 can be compared to 2005-6 data. (3) Assume

responsibility for survey instrument layout, printing, and distribution in accordance with the cooperation specified above. (4) Receive responses, compile and analyze data.

Regulatory Link:

Part 43, 61, 63, 65, 91, 93, 147