



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Aviation
Administration**

InFO

Information for Operators

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http://www.faa.gov/other_visit/aviation_industry/airline_operators/airline_safety/info

An InFO contains valuable information for operators that should help them meet certain administrative, regulatory, or operational requirements with relatively low urgency or impact on safety.

Subject: ICAO guidance on “Certified True Copy” of the Air Operator Certificate (AOC)

Purpose: This InFO supersedes InFO 08048, dated 8/26/2008. It describes the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) requirement to carry a “certified true copy” of the AOC on board any aircraft operated internationally.

Background: ICAO adopted Amendment 30 to Annex 6, Part I and Amendment 11 to Annex 6 Part III. These amendments were applicable on November 23, 2006. These amendments state “An aeroplane or helicopter shall carry a “certified true copy” of the AOC specified in 4.2.1, and a copy of the authorizations, conditions, and limitations relevant to the aeroplane or helicopter, issued in conjunction with the certificate.”

Note: This is not an FAA requirement. This is an ICAO requirement. The FAA is providing this information to U.S. commercial operators as a courtesy. Operators should review the guidance provided by ICAO here: http://www.icao.int/fsix/Library/Annex6_AOC.pdf

Discussion: The purpose of this ICAO Standard is for a state’s regulatory authorities to be able to determine, during inspections, such as ramp inspections, which state has responsibility for regulatory oversight of the aircraft’s operations, and to ascertain the extent of any conditions or limitations attached to the AOC.

Recommended Action: To comply with the ICAO Standard, an air operator operating internationally must have onboard its aircraft a “certified true copy” of the appropriate part of the AOC (usually the first page) containing at least the information on the identity of the operator (name and location) as well as the certificate date of issue and validity period. The FAA’s air operator or air carrier certificate contains this information.

What is a Certified True Copy? A certified true copy is a copy of the AOC with a certification statement that attests that the copy is a true copy of the original AOC. This certification statement shall be permanently affixed to the copy and shall be signed and display an official stamp or seal. ICAO provides the following model certification statement:

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the attached is a true copy of the *[title of the AOC]*, issued at *[place]* on *[date]* by *[the issuing authority]*.

Signed at *[place]* on *[date]*

[signed by the appropriate certifying authority according to the laws of its state]

[official stamp/seal]

Recommended Action: Each operator that conducts international operations should ensure they are in compliance with the above ICAO Standard to carry onboard a “certified true copy” of their AOC with the associated “authorizations, conditions, and limitations”.

For each aircraft that it operates internationally, a U.S. commercial operator should create a copy of its AOC with the above certification statement placed upon it. The operator should have each of these AOCs signed by a notary to include the notary’s stamp or seal, certifying that it is a true copy of the original AOC. A notary’s signature and stamp or seal fulfills ICAO’s requirement that it be “signed by the appropriate certifying authority according to the laws of its state.” Each individual AOC carried on board an aircraft must contain an original notary signature and stamp or seal. Copies of the notary-signed AOC will not meet the ICAO requirement.

Contact: For further information, contact AFS-200 at 202-267-8166.