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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: Fatigue Risk Management Plans (FRMP) for Part 121 Air Carriers – Part One

Purpose: This InFO discusses FRMPs which will be required for air carriers conducting operations under Title 14 of the Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR), part 121.

Background: In accordance with the Airline Safety and Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Extension Act of 2010, each air carrier conducting operations under 14 CFR part 121 must submit a FRMP to the Administrator for review and acceptance *no later* than 90 days after August 2, 2010 (See Section 212(b)) – October 31, 2010.

Discussion: A FRMP is a air carrier's management plan outlining policies and procedures for reducing the risks of flightcrew member fatigue and improving flightcrew member alertness. The FRMP policies and procedures should focus on the air carrier's specific kind of operations (*e.g.*, domestic, flag, and supplemental) and the type operations (*e.g.*, continuous duty overnights, night vs. day operations, cargo vs. passenger operations, short-haul vs. long-haul, etc.).

The FAA will issue guidance on FRMPs in the immediate future through a second InFO and FAA Order 8900.1, Flight Standards Information Management System (FSIMS). The guidance will outline the structure and elements of an FRMP, the submittal process, and the review and acceptance process. For review, each part 121 air carrier will electronically submit their draft FRMP to FAA Headquarters, Air Transportation Division (AFS-200), at 9-AWA-AVS-AFS-200-Air-Transportation-Division@faa.gov.

Note that there are distinct differences between an FRMP and an overall Fatigue Risk Management System (FRMS), which will be addressed in the subsequent guidance.

Recommended Action: Each part 121 Director of Operations and Director of Safety should be prepared to develop their FRMP as soon as the upcoming guidance is made available to industry. In the interim, the following related reference material will be useful in preparing to develop their FRMP:

- Advisory Circular (AC) 120-100 (as amended), Basics of Aviation Fatigue
- Advisory Circular (AC) 120-103, Fatigue Risk Management Systems for Aviation Safety
- Advisory Circular (AC) 120-92 (as amended), Introduction to Safety Management Systems for Air Operators
- Advisory Circular (AC) 120-59a (as amended), Air Carrier Internal Evaluation Programs

- Advisory Circular (AC) 120-66 (as amended), Aviation Safety Action Programs (ASAP)
- Advisory Circular (AC) 120-82 (as amended), Flight Operations Quality Assurance (FOQA)
- Safety Alert for Operators (SAFO) 09014, Concepts for Fatigue Countermeasures in Part 121 and 135 Short-Haul Operations.

Contact: Question or comments regarding this InFO should be directed to Dale E. Roberts, Part 121 Air Carrier Operations Branch, AFS-220 at (202) 267-8166.