§ 21.121 Applicability.

This subpart prescribes rules for production under a type certificate.

§ 21.122 Location of or change to manufacturing facilities.

(a) A type certificate holder may utilize manufacturing facilities located outside of the United States if the FAA finds no undue burden in administering the applicable requirements of Title 49 U.S.C. and this subchapter.

(b) The type certificate holder must obtain FAA approval before making any changes to the location of any of its manufacturing facilities.

(c) The type certificate holder must immediately notify the FAA, in writing, of any change to the manufacturing facilities that may affect the inspection, conformity, or airworthiness of its product or article.

§ 21.123 Production under type certificate.

Each manufacturer of a product being manufactured under a type certificate must—

(a) Maintain at the place of manufacture all information and data specified in §§ 21.31 and 21.41;

(b) Make each product and article thereof available for inspection by the FAA;

(c) Maintain records of the completion of all inspections and tests required by §§ 21.127, 21.128, and 21.129 for at least 5 years for the products and articles thereof manufactured under the approval and at least 10 years for critical components identified under § 45.15(c) of this chapter;

(d) Allow the FAA to make any inspection or test, including any inspection or test at a supplier facility, necessary to determine compliance with this subchapter;

(e) Mark the product in accordance with part 45 of this chapter, including any critical parts;

(f) Identify any portion of that product (e.g., sub-assemblies, component parts, or replacement articles) that leave the manufacturer’s facility as FAA approved with the manufacturer’s part number and name, trademark, symbol, or other FAA-approved manufacturer’s identification; and

(g) Except as otherwise authorized by the FAA, obtain a production certificate for that product in accordance with subpart G of this part within 6 months after the date of issuance of the type certificate.


§ 21.125 [Reserved]


(a) Each person manufacturing aircraft under a type certificate must establish an approved production flight test procedure and flight check-off form, and in accordance with that form, flight test each aircraft produced.

(b) Each production flight test procedure must include the following:

(1) An operational check of the trim, controllability, or other flight characteristics to establish that the production aircraft has the same range and degree of control as the prototype aircraft.

(2) An operational check of each part or system operated by the crew while in flight to establish that, during flight, instrument readings are within normal range.

(3) A determination that all instruments are properly marked, and that all placards and required flight manuals are installed after flight test.

(4) A check of the operational characteristics of the aircraft on the ground.

(5) A check on any other items peculiar to the aircraft being tested that can best be done during the ground or flight operation of the aircraft.


(a) Each person manufacturing aircraft engines under a type certificate must subject each engine (except rocket engines for which the manufacturer

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