Federal Aviation Administration, DOT

§ 21.307 Quality system.

Each applicant for or holder of a PMA must establish a quality system that meets the requirements of §21.137.


Each applicant for or holder of a PMA must provide a manual describing its quality system to the FAA for approval. The manual must be in the English language and retrievable in a form acceptable to the FAA.

§ 21.309 Location of or change to manufacturing facilities.

(a) An applicant may obtain a PMA for 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 PMA holder must obtain FAA approval before making any changes to the location of any of its manufacturing facilities.

(c) The PMA 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 PMA article.

§ 21.310 Inspections and tests.

(a) Each applicant for or holder of a PMA must allow the FAA to inspect its quality system, facilities, technical data, and any manufactured articles and witness any tests, including any inspections or tests at a supplier facility, necessary to determine compliance with this subchapter.

(b) Unless otherwise authorized by the FAA, the applicant or holder—

(1) May not present any article to the FAA for an inspection or test unless compliance with §21.303(b)(2) through (4) has been shown for that article; and

(2) May not make any change to an article between the time that compliance with §21.303(b)(2) through (4) is shown for that article and the time that the article is presented to the FAA for the inspection or test.

§ 21.311 Issuance.

The FAA issues a PMA after finding that the applicant complies with the requirements of this subpart and the design complies with the requirements of this chapter applicable to the product on which the article is to be installed.

§ 21.313 Duration.

A PMA is effective until surrendered, withdrawn, or the FAA otherwise terminates it.

§ 21.314 Transferability.

The holder of a PMA may not transfer the PMA.

§ 21.316 Responsibility of holder.

Each holder of a PMA must—

(a) Amend the document required by §21.305 as necessary to reflect changes in the organization and provide these amendments to the FAA;

(b) Maintain the quality system in compliance with the data and procedures approved for the PMA;

(c) Ensure that each PMA article conforms to its approved design and is in a condition for safe operation;

(d) Mark the PMA article for which an approval has been issued. Marking must be in accordance with part 45 of this chapter, including any critical parts;

(e) Identify any portion of the PMA article (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;

(f) Have access to design data necessary to determine conformity and airworthiness for each article produced under the PMA;

(g) Retain each document granting PMA and make it available to the FAA upon request; and

(h) Make available to the FAA information regarding all delegation of authority to suppliers.

§ 21.319 Design changes.

(a) Classification of design changes. (1) A “minor change” to the design of an article produced under a PMA is one...