Federal Aviation Administration, DOT

Subpart A—General

§ 35.1 Applicability.

(a) This part prescribes airworthiness standards for the issue of type certificates and changes to those certificates, for propellers.

(b) Each person who applies under part 21 for such a certificate or change must show compliance with the applicable requirements of this part.

(c) An applicant is eligible for a propeller type certificate and changes to those certificates after demonstrating compliance with subparts A, B and C of this part. However, the propeller may not be installed on an airplane unless the applicant has shown compliance with either §23.907 or §25.907 of this chapter, as applicable, or compliance is not required for installation on that airplane.

(d) For the purposes of this part, the propeller consists of those components listed in the propeller type design, and the propeller system consists of the propeller and all the components necessary for its functioning, but not necessarily included in the propeller type design.


§ 35.2 Propeller configuration.

The applicant must provide a list of all the components, including references to the relevant drawings and software design data, that define the type design of the propeller to be approved under §21.31 of this chapter.

[Amdt. 35–8, 73 FR 63346, Oct. 24, 2008]

§ 35.3 Instructions for propeller installation and operation.

The applicant must provide instructions that are approved by the Administrator. Those approved instructions must contain:

(a) Instructions for installing the propeller, which:

(1) Include a description of the operational modes of the propeller control system and functional interface of the control system with the airplane and engine systems;

(b) Specify the physical and functional interfaces with the airplane, airplane equipment and engine;

(c) Define the limiting conditions on the interfaces from paragraph (a)(2) of this section;

(d) List the limitations established under §35.5;

(e) Define the hydraulic fluids approved for use with the propeller, including grade and specification, related operating pressure, and filtration levels; and

(f) State the assumptions made to comply with the requirements of this part.

(b) Instructions for operating the propeller which must specify all procedures necessary for operating the propeller within the limitations of the propeller type design.

[Amdt. 35–8, 73 FR 63346, Oct. 24, 2008]

§ 35.4 Instructions for Continued Airworthiness.

The applicant must prepare Instructions for Continued Airworthiness in accordance with appendix A to this part that are acceptable to the Administrator. The instructions may be incomplete at type certification if a program exists to ensure their completion prior to delivery of the first aircraft with the propeller installed, or upon issuance of a standard certificate of airworthiness for an aircraft with the propeller installed, whichever occurs later.

[Amdt. 35–5, 45 FR 60181, Sept. 11, 1980]

§ 35.5 Propeller ratings and operating limitations.

(a) Propeller ratings and operating limitations must:

(1) Be established by the applicant and approved by the Administrator.

(2) Be included directly or by reference in the propeller type certificate data sheet, as specified in §21.41 of this chapter.

(3) Be based on the operating conditions demonstrated during the tests required by this part as well as any other information the Administrator requires as necessary for the safe operation of the propeller.
§ 35.7 Propeller ratings and operating limitations must be established for the following, as applicable:

(b) Power and rotational speed:
   (i) For takeoff;
   (ii) For maximum continuous;
   (iii) If requested by the applicant, other ratings may also be established.

(2) Overspeed and overtorque limits.

§ 35.7 Features and characteristics.

(a) The propeller may not have features or characteristics, revealed by any test or analysis or known to the applicant, that make it unsafe for the uses for which certification is requested.

(b) If a failure occurs during a certification test, the applicant must determine the cause and assess the effect on the airworthiness of the propeller. The applicant must make changes to the design and conduct additional tests that the Administrator finds necessary to establish the airworthiness of the propeller.

Subpart B—Design and Construction

§ 35.11 [Reserved]

§ 35.13 [Reserved]

§ 35.15 Safety analysis.

(a)(1) The applicant must analyze the propeller system to assess the likely consequences of all failures that can reasonably be expected to occur. This analysis will take into account, if applicable:
   (i) The propeller system in a typical installation. When the analysis depends on representative components, assumed interfaces, or assumed installed conditions, the assumptions must be stated in the analysis.
   (ii) Consequential secondary failures and dormant failures.
   (iii) Multiple failures referred to in paragraph (d) of this section, or that result in the hazardous propeller effects defined in paragraph (g) of this section.

(b) The applicant must summarize those failures that could result in major propeller effects or hazardous propeller effects defined in paragraph (g) of this section, and estimate the probability of occurrence of those effects.

(3) The applicant must show that hazardous propeller effects are not predicted to occur at a rate in excess of that defined as extremely remote (probability of $10^{-7}$ or less per propeller flight hour). Since the estimated probability for individual failures may be insufficiently precise to enable the applicant to assess the total rate for hazardous propeller effects, compliance may be shown by demonstrating that the probability of a hazardous propeller effect arising from an individual failure can be predicted to be not greater than $10^{-8}$ per propeller flight hour. In dealing with probabilities of this low order of magnitude, absolute proof is not possible and reliance must be placed on engineering judgment and previous experience combined with sound design and test philosophies.

(b) If significant doubt exists as to the effects of failures or likely combination of failures, the Administrator may require assumptions used in the analysis to be verified by test.

(c) The primary failures of certain single propeller elements (for example, blades) cannot be sensibly estimated in numerical terms. If the failure of such elements is likely to result in hazardous propeller effects, those elements must be identified as propeller critical parts. For propeller critical parts, applicants must meet the prescribed integrity specifications of §35.16. These instances must be stated in the safety analysis.

(d) If reliance is placed on a safety system to prevent a failure progressing to hazardous propeller effects, the possibility of a safety system failure in combination with a basic propeller failure must be included in the analysis. Such a safety system may include safety devices, instrumentation, early warning devices, maintenance checks, and other similar equipment or procedures. If items of the safety system are outside the control of the propeller manufacturer, the assumptions of the safety analysis with respect to the reliability of these parts must be clearly stated in the analysis and identified in