

Background

In 1988, the Aerospace Industries Association (AIA) initiated a study of airplane turbine engine power-loss and instability phenomena that were attributed to operating in inclement weather. AIA, working with the Association European des Constructeurs de Materiel Aerospatial (AECMA), concluded that a potential flight safety threat exists for turbine engines installed on airplanes when operating in an extreme rain or hail environment. AIA and AECMA further concluded that the rain and hail ingestion requirements contained in section 33.77 do not adequately address these threats. Consequently the Federal Aviation Administration has issued a notice of proposed rulemaking (61 FR 41688, dated August 9, 1996), proposing changes to the water and hail ingestion standards.

This advisory circular, published under the authority granted to the Administrator by 49 U.S.C. 106(g), 40113, 44701, 44702, 44704, provides guidance for these proposed requirements.

Issued in Burlington, Massachusetts, on August 27, 1996.

Jay J. Pardee,

Manager, Engine and Propeller Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service.

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Centers of Excellence in Airworthiness Assurance; Meeting

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of information meeting for FAA Aviation Research Center of Excellence (COE) in Airworthiness Assurance.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of an information meeting regarding technical proposals for the establishment of an FAA Aviation Research Center of Excellence in Airworthiness Assurance.

DATES: The meeting will be held October 23, 1996, from 9 am to 4 pm.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held in the Director's Conference Room, Fourth Floor, Technical and Administrative Building, at the William J. Hughes Technical Center, Atlantic City International Airport, NJ 08405.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: The Office of Research and Technology Applications, AAR-201, FAA Aviation Research Centers of Excellence Program Office, Building 270, Atlantic City International Airport, NJ 08405,

telephone (609) 485-5043, facsimile (609) 485-6509.

Note: The FAA will hold an information meeting on October 23, 1996, to explain further the FAA research needs, procedures, and criteria for the selection of the FAA Aviation Research Center of Excellence in Airworthiness Assurance. Questions and suggestions from attendees will be addressed at this meeting. Interested parties are encouraged, but not required, to attend the information meeting.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The FAA intends to award a 50-50 cost share cooperative agreement to establish a COE in Airworthiness Assurance at a qualified college or university. The cooperative agreement will be awarded in 3 year increments up to a maximum of 10 years. It is the FAA's intent to fund a minimum of \$1.5 million over the first three years. It is also the intent of the FAA to award a single-source indefinite delivery indefinite quantity (IDIQ) contract to the winner of the competition, under which orders may be placed for developmental products.

The Center shall conduct research which includes the entire spectrum (i.e. basic research through engineering development, prototyping and testing) within the scope of Airworthiness Assurance. This scope includes but is not limited to: crashworthiness, advanced materials, maintenance, inspection, and repair.

The FAA intends to provide long-term funding to establish and operate a prestigious partnership with academia, industry and government. To this end the FAA encourages offerors to team with organizations that complement their expertise from academia, industry, state/local government and other government agencies. The successful offeror is required to match FAA grant funds with non-federal funding over the term of the cooperative agreement. Matching funds are not required for any orders placed under the IDIQ contract. Separate cost-sharing contracts may be awarded when deemed appropriate.

Selection Criteria

The COE will be selected primarily on technical merit and the ability of the team to meet the following criteria mandated by the enabling legislation, Public Law 101-508:

- The extent to which the needs of the State in which the applicant is located are representative of the needs of the region for improved air transportation services and facilities.
- The demonstrated research and extension resources available to the applicant for carrying out the intent of the legislation.

- The capability of the applicant to provide leadership in making national and regional contributions to the solution of both long-range and immediate air transportation problems.
- The extent to which the applicant has an established air transportation program.
- The demonstrated ability of the applicant to disseminate results of air transportation research and educational programs through a statewide or region-wide continuing education program.
- The projects that the applicant proposes to carry out under the grant.

Those persons wishing to attend this informational meeting are requested to register by no later than October 21, 1996. To register for the meeting or to obtain more information about the meeting, contact Ms. Patricia Watts by facsimile (609) 485-6509 at the Office of Research and Technology Applications, at the William J. Hughes Technical Center, Building 270, Atlantic City International Airport, NJ 08405.

Issued in Washington, DC on August 29, 1996.

Patricia Watts,

Acting Director, Office of Aviation Research.

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RTCA, Inc., Special Committee 185, Aeronautical Spectrum Planning Issues; Meeting

Pursuant to section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, 5 U.S.C., Appendix 2), notice is hereby given for a Special Committee 185 meeting to be held on October 2-4, 1996, starting at 9:00 a.m. The meeting will be held at RTCA, 1140 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20036.

The agenda will be as follows: (1) Administrative Remarks; (2) General Introductions; (3) Review and Approval of the Agenda; (4) Review and Approval of the Summary of the Previous Meeting; (5) Review Draft Version 11 of Special Committee 185 Report; (6) Approve Version 11 with Final Corrections for Distribution for Ballot; (7) Other Business; (8) Date and Place of Next Meeting.

Attendance is open to the interested public but limited to space availability. With the approval of the chairman, members of the public may present oral statements at the meeting. Persons wishing to present statements or obtain information should contact the RTCA Secretariat, 1140 Connecticut Avenue,