

on the Lower Mississippi River. The committee normally meets twice a year at the Hale Boggs Federal Building, 501 Magazine Street, New Orleans, Louisiana. Members serve voluntarily, without compensation from the Federal Government for salary, travel, or per diem. Term of the membership will be for two years. The committee consists of 24 members who have particular expertise, knowledge, and experience regarding the transportation, equipment, and techniques that are used to ship cargo and navigate vessels on the Lower Mississippi River and its connecting navigable waterways, including the Gulf of Mexico. Vacancies to be filled are for:

(1) Five members representing River Port Authorities between Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and the Head of Passes of the Lower Mississippi River, of which one member shall be from the Port of St. Bernard and one member from the Port of Plaquemines.

(2) Two members representing vessel owners or ship owners domiciled in the State of Louisiana.

(3) Two members representing organizations that operate harbor tugs or barge fleets in the geographical area covered by the committee.

(4) Two members representing companies that transport cargo or passengers on the navigable waterways in the geographical area covered by the committee.

(5) Three members representing State Commissioned Pilot organizations, with one member each representing the New Orleans/Baton Rouge Steamship Pilots Association, the Crescent River Port Pilots Association, and the Associated Branch Pilots Association.

(6) Two at-large members who utilize water transportation facilities located in the geographical area of the committee.

(7) Three members representing consumers, shippers, or importer/exporters that utilize vessels that utilize the navigable waterways covered by the committee.

(8) Two members representing those licensed merchant mariners, other than pilots, who perform shipboard duties on vessels that utilize the navigable waterways covered by the committee.

(9) One member representing an organization that serves in a consulting or advisory capacity to the maritime industry.

(10) One member representing an environmental organization.

(11) One member representing the general public.

In support of the policy of the Department of Transportation on gender and ethnic diversity, the Coast Guard encourages applications from qualified

women and members of minority groups.

Applicants selected may be required to complete a Confidential Financial Disclosure Report (OGE Form 450). Neither the report or the information it contains may be released to the public, except under order issued by a Federal court or as otherwise provided under the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552a).

Dated: May 24, 1999.

**A.L. Gerfin, Jr.,**

*Captain, U.S. Coast Guard Commander, 8th Coast Guard Dist. Acting.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Aviation Administration

[Docket No. 120-XX]

#### Proposed Advisory Circular on Initial Air Carrier Operational Approval for Use of Digital Communication Systems

**AGENCY:** Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Request for comments on proposed Advisory Circular (AC) for Initial Air Carrier Operational Approval for Use of Digital Communication Systems.

**SUMMARY:** The proposed AC is intended to provide an acceptable means, but not the only means, for operational approval to use digital communications systems, including data link and voice communication (e.g., via satellite), for air traffic service and related capabilities for operators conducting operations under Title 14 of the Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR), parts 121, 125, 129, and 135.

**DATES:** Comments must be received on or before August 6, 1999.

**ADDRESSES:** Send all comments and requests for copies of the proposed AC to: Federal Aviation Administration, Flight Technologies and Procedures Division (Attention AFS-410), 800 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20591. This draft AC may also be accessed on the Internet at [www.faa.gov/AVR/afs/afs410/afs410.htm](http://www.faa.gov/AVR/afs/afs410/afs410.htm).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Don Streeter, AFS-410, at the above address, telephone (202) 267-9093 (8 a.m. to 5 p.m. EST).

Issued in Washington, DC on June 1, 1999.

**L. Nicholas Lacey,**

*Director, Flight Standards Service.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Aviation Administration

[Summary Notice No. PE-99-16]

#### Petitions For Exemption; Summary of Petitions Received; Dispositions of Petitions Issued

**AGENCY:** Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice of petitions for exemption received and of dispositions of prior petitions.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to FAA's rulemaking provisions governing the application, processing, and disposition of petitions for exemption (14 CFR Part 11), this notice contains a summary of certain petitions seeking relief from specified requirements of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR Chapter I), dispositions of certain petitions previously received, and corrections. The purpose of this notice is to improve the public's awareness of, and participation in, this aspect of FAA's regulatory activities. Neither publication of this notice nor the inclusion or omission of information in the summary is intended to affect the legal status of any petition or its final disposition.

**DATES:** Comments on petitions received must identify the petition docket number involved and must be received on or before June 18, 1999.

**ADDRESSES:** Send comments on any petition in triplicate to: Federal Aviation Administration, Office of the Chief Counsel, Attn: Rule Docket (AGC-200), Petition Docket No. \_\_\_\_\_, 800 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, D.C. 20591.

Comments may also be sent electronically to the following internet address: 9-NPRM-cmts@faa.gov.

The petition, any comments received, and a copy of any final disposition are filed in the assigned regulatory docket and are available for examination in the Rules Docket (AGC-200), Room 915G, FAA Headquarters Building (FOB 10A), 800 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, D.C. 20591; telephone (202) 267-3132.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Cherie Jack (202) 267-7271 or Terry Stubblefield (202) 267-7624 Office of Rulemaking (ARM-1), Federal Aviation Administration, 800 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20591.

This notice is published pursuant to paragraphs (c), (e), and (g) of § 11.27 of Part 11 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR Part 11).