SUMMARY: This notice contains a summary of a petition seeking relief from specified requirements of 14 CFR. 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 the petition or its final disposition.

DATES: Comments on this petition must identify the petition docket number involved and must be received on or before November 29, 2010.

ADDRESSES: You may send comments identified by Docket Number FAA–2010–0947 and FAA–2010–0970 using any of the following methods:

• Government-wide rulemaking Web site: Go to http://www.regulations.gov and follow the instructions for sending your comments electronically.

• Mail: Send comments to the Docket Management Facility; U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., West Building Ground Floor, Room W12–140, Washington, DC 20590.

• Fax: Fax comments to the Docket Management Facility at 202–493–2251.

• Hand Delivery: Bring comments to the Docket Management Facility in Room W12–140 of the West Building Ground Floor at 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

Privacy: We will post all comments we receive, without change, to http://www.regulations.gov, including any personal information you provide. Using the search function of our docket Web site, anyone can find and read the comments received into any of our dockets, including the name of the individual sending the comment (or signing the comment for an association, business, labor union, etc.). You may review DOT’s complete Privacy Act Statement in the Federal Register published on April 11, 2000 (65 FR 19477–78).

Docket: To read background documents or comments received, go to http://www.regulations.gov at any time or to the Docket Management Facility in Room W12–140 of the West Building Ground Floor at 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Keira Jones (202) 267–4025, Tyneka Thomas (202) 267–7626 or David Staples (202) 267–4058, Office of Rulemaking, Federal Aviation Administration, 800 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20591. This notice is published pursuant to 14 CFR 11.85.

Issued in Washington, DC, on November 15, 2010.

Dennis Pratte,
Acting Deputy Director, Office of Rulemaking.

Petition For Exemption

Docket No.: FAA–2010–1012.

Petitioner: Seaborne Airlines.

Section of 14 CFR Affected: 14 CFR 121.305(j)

Description of Relief Sought: Seaborne Airlines is requesting relief from the requirement to install a third gyroscopic bank and pitch indicator in its DHC–6–300 aircraft.

[FR Doc. 2010–29195 Filed 11–18–10; 8:45 am]
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Federal Transit Administration

Transit Asset Management (TAM) Pilot Program

AGENCY: Federal Transit Administration, United States Department of Transportation.

ACTION: Request for Proposals (RFP).

SUMMARY: The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) is soliciting proposals from public transportation providers, state Departments of Transportation (DOT), and Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO)—individually or in partnership—to demonstrate effective Transit Asset Management (TAM) systems and "best practices", which can be replicated to improve transportation asset management at the nation's rail and bus public transportation agencies. Public sector applicants may partner with asset management system suppliers; however the official proposer must be a public agency. The TAM pilot program is intended to address several public transportation asset management challenges identified in previous research by FTA. FTA contemplates making multiple cooperative agreement awards for TAM pilot projects to varied teams.

The total available funding for the TAM pilot program is $3 million. FTA will award cooperative agreements, up to $1 million each, to successful proposers for pilot projects that will demonstrate certain aspects of TAM systems. Successful TAM pilot projects will promote the use of advanced tools and practices throughout the public transportation industry. FTA is looking for innovative approaches to asset management using proven technology that will enhance the ability of public transportation providers, MPOs, and state DOTs to maintain their assets in a state of good repair and/or make more informed resource allocation decisions. Proposed solutions must be scalable and transferable such that they can be adapted by public transportation agencies and organizations of various sizes and modes. Additionally, FTA seeks to provide technical assistance to public transportation agencies through written reports and technical knowledge to be provided under the cooperative agreements.

DATES: Proposals must be submitted electronically by January 18, 2011.

ADDRESSES: Proposals shall be submitted electronically to http://www.grants.gov. The Web site allows organizations to find and apply for funding opportunities electronically from all Federal grant-making agencies and is the single access point for over 1,000 cooperative agreement programs offered by the 26 Federal grant-making agencies. Mail and fax submissions will not be accepted (excluding supplemental information which cannot be sent electronically).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Contact Aaron C. James, Director, Office of Engineering, (202) 493–0107, aaron.james@dot.gov for proposal-specific information and issues.

I. Funding Authority

The FY 2010 DOT–HUD appropriations bill provides significant resources to FTA to encourage improved management of the condition and recapitalization of the Nation’s transit infrastructure. Specifically, the bill states:

“Asset Management—The conference agreement includes $5,000,000 to develop asset management plans, technical assistance, data collection and a pilot program as proposed by the Senate. The House did not include similar language. The conferees expect the pilot program to include transit agencies that vary in size and direct FTA to report findings to the Senate and House Committees on appropriations within 18 months of enactment.”

FTA is using a portion of this research funding, authorized by 49 U.S.C. 5312, to support research in asset management practices and condition assessment methodologies, as well as new data collection and analysis activities. $3 million has been reserved for the pilot projects being solicited in this RFP.

II. Background and Objectives

FTA is one of eleven agencies in the Department of Transportation (DOT) and has the primary responsibility of carrying out the Federal mandate of promoting and improving the nation’s public transportation system. As part of its role, FTA provides over $10 billion annually in financial assistance to transit agencies and states for building and maintaining public transportation systems. There is growing concern that a significant portion of the nation’s public transportation assets are in need of capital reinvestment due to the historically inadequate level of financial resources available for maintenance and asset replacement activities and/or an inability by agencies to set appropriate recapitalization priorities due to a lack of effective and easily adopted asset condition assessment tools and systems.

The National State of Good Repair Assessment, published by FTA in June 2010, indicated that roughly one-third of the nation’s public transit assets (weighted by replacement value) are in marginal or poor condition and that almost $80 billion is needed to bring them into a “state of good repair.” It has been widely acknowledged that asset management practices in the public transportation sector have not received the same level of technical advancement or attention as have those used for the nation’s highways and public utilities. FTA commissioned a review of “Transit Asset Management Practices—National and International” and posted this report to its Web site in July 2010. The review found that while several transit agencies are utilizing TAM systems of one form or another, there are many transit agencies without a system in place for managing the condition of their capital assets in a holistic manner. Effective TAM systems use quality data