



EUROPEAN AVIATION SAFETY AGENCY
AGENCE EUROPÉENNE DE LA SÉCURITÉ AÉRIENNE
EUROPÄISCHE AGENTUR FÜR FLUGSICHERHEIT

Independent Checking Function Assessment

Iain Higgins
DOATLM
29.11.2011

Your safety is our mission.
easa.europa.eu



Introduction

- ▶ The EASA DOA Section has created a harmonized approach for the initial investigation and continued surveillance of DOA Independent Checking Function of the Showing of Compliance. This presentation gives an insight into the activities that the DOA Team Leaders will conduct in order to evaluate this DOA function.



Introduction

- Requirements

- Initial Investigation (Significant Change)
 - Review of procedures
 - Assessment of competence

- Surveillance
 - Check of procedures
 - Evaluation of competence



Requirements

- 21A.239(b)
 - The design assurance system shall include an independent checking function of the showings of compliance on the basis of which the organisation submits compliance statements and associated documentation to the Agency.



AMC and GM

- *GM No. 1 to 21A.239(a) 3.1.3*
 - a. Approval by signing of all compliance documents, including test programmes and data, necessary for the verification of compliance with the applicable CS and environmental protection requirements as defined in Type Investigation programme.
 - b. Approval of the technical content (completeness, technical accuracy...), including any subsequent revisions, of the manuals approved by the Agency (Aircraft Flight Manual, the Airworthiness Limitations section of the Instructions for Continued Airworthiness and the Certification Maintenance Requirements (CMR) document, where applicable).



➤ *AMC 21A.239(b)*

- 1. The independent checking function of the showing of compliance should consist of the verification by a person not creating the compliance data. Such person may work in conjunction with the individuals who prepare compliance data.
- 2. The verification should be shown by signing compliance documents, including test programmes and data.



Assessment of Implementation

- General process carried out by the DOA team to judge if the Independent Verification Function of an organisation appropriately performs its intended tasks, and is successfully integrated in the design assurance system.



Initial Investigation (Significant Change)

- Review of procedures
 - Role Description
 - tasks and responsibilities
 - Independence
 - signatory flow
 - design engineer/ CVE ratio and quantity
 - availability provisions
 - use of external CVEs
 - Nomination and Training
 - minimum nomination/qualification criteria
 - scope of authorisation
 - provisions for records
 - evidence that the nominated CVE has accepted the role
 - training policy



Initial Investigation (Significant Change)

- ▶ External CVEs
 - DO Interface Document or equivalent



Initial Investigation (Significant Change)

- Assessment of competence
 - Samples
 - Sampling size based on large/small organisation and scope required
 - Records
 - selection process records including scope of authorisation
 - training records
 - Check Competence
 - interview of CVE and/or
 - technical project files review together with the CVE
 - credit for previous competence checks



Surveillance

- Check of procedures
 - Role Description
 - tasks and responsibilities
 - Independence
 - signatory flow
 - design engineer/ CVE ratio and quantity
 - availability provisions
 - use of external CVEs
 - Nomination and Training
 - minimum nomination/qualification criteria
 - scope of authorisation
 - provisions for records
 - evidence that the nominated CVE has accepted the role
 - training policy
 - External
 - DO Interface Document or equivalent



- Evaluation of competence
 - Sampling
 - sampling size based on large/small organisation, scope and level of activity
 - Records check
 - selection process records including scope of authorisation
 - training records
 - Projects check
 - technical project files review together with the CVE
 - interviews where necessary to check understanding



Reminders

- *CVEs must have been properly authorised under the appropriate procedures prior to the competence assessment of the organisation.*
- *The results of the assessments of competence are used by the DOAT to determine compliance or non compliance of the organisation with 21A.243(d) and 21A.245(a), they do not constitute an approval or rejection of the individual.*



EUROPEAN AVIATION SAFETY AGENCY
AGENCE EUROPÉENNE DE LA SÉCURITÉ AÉRIENNE
EUROPÄISCHE AGENTUR FÜR FLUGSICHERHEIT

Any questions?

Your safety is our mission.
easa.europa.eu