CAAC/CAD (Hong Kong)/AACM (Macao)

Joint Certification

Flight Standard Department
1. Basis and Purpose
This advisory circular is established to officially publish the <<Cooperation Agreement on Mutual Acceptance of Aircraft Maintenance Approval >> (Hereinafter abbreviated as <<Cooperation Agreement>>) and its implementing procedures and standards prepared together by Civil Aviation Administration of China (hereinafter abbreviated as CAAC), Civil Aviation Division of Hong Kong (hereinafter abbreviated as CAD) and AACM (Macao).

2. Applicability
This AC is mandatory for all aircraft maintenance organizations in mainland China, Hong Kong and Macao, who will apply for a joint certification of CCAR-145, HKAR-145 and MAR-145 (hereinafter abbreviated as joint certification) per <<Cooperation Agreement>> signed by CAAC/CAD/AACM. Joint certification is applicable only to aircraft components except the whole power plant (including APU) and propeller.

3. Cancellation
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4. Explanations
4.1 To improve cooperation and efficiency in aviation safety supervision, to reduce the economic burden of the aviation enterprises and air carriers caused by extra repeated technical inspections, audits, CAAC/CAD/AACM signed <<Cooperation Agreement>> in Beijing on May 21st 2002 after sufficiently consulting and discussing, based on equivalent enough regulations, standards, practices, procedures and systems for Maintenance Organizations approval and supervision. It is regulated in the <<Cooperation Agreement>> that
repeated inspections and audits shall be avoided provided the obligation of each authority given by its own law is not impaired. The three parts will mutually accept the findings reported by each other during inspections and audits of maintenance organizations, as well as their systems for return to service aircraft components.

4.2 After signing “Cooperation Agreement”, CAAC/CAD/AACM held the first conference of the Joint Maintenance Committee. In the conference, Members of the Joint Maintenance Committee were appointed, the authority in charge and the chairman were voted and “Joint Maintenance Procedure” was signed.

4.3 The joint certification was regarded as a special approval as described in Article 10 (3) of CCAR-145R2.

4.4 This AC is set up per Article 10 (3) of CCAR-145R2. It provides guidance for Maintenance Organizations in mainland China on how to apply for and gain the Joint Certification.

4.5 As required by “Cooperation Agreement”, “Joint Maintenance Procedure” and “Supplemental Cooperation Agreement for mutual Acceptance of Aircraft Maintenance Organization Approval” signed at Shanghai on Feb. 28th 2004 by CAAC/CAD/AACM, the maintenance organizations in Hong Kong and Macao shall apply the joint certification to CAD/AACM accordingly. Since Jan. 1st 2003, CAAC will not accept application for CCAR-145 approval of aircraft components, except whole power plant (including APU) and propeller from the Maintenance Organizations in Hong Kong and Macao.

5. Application

5.1 The maintenance organizations (hereinafter abbreviated as applicants) in mainland China applying for the Joint Certification by CAAC/CAD/AACM must hold CCAR-145 approval and be listed in “List of Approved Civil Aviation
Aircraft Maintenance Organization >> (current AC-145-03).

5.2 Applicants shall submit the application for joint certification to the Flight Standard Department of CAAC.

Address: Continuous Airworthiness Maintenance Division,
Flight Standard Department, CAAC
No. 155 Dong Si Western Street, Beijing
Zip code: 100710
Tel: 010-64092423/64091402
Fax: 010-64030987

5.3 Applicants shall provide the following application data, at least in English:
(1). Application letter signed by the accountable manager.
(2). A copy of <<Maintenance Organization Certificate>> and <<Capability List>>

5.4 After receiving the complete application data from the applicant, CAAC will review the audit record (including the latest complete audit record sheet, notification of findings, corrective action report and audit report), as well as <<Maintenance Organization Manual>> from the regional Administration with jurisdiction over the applicant. If the applicant has passed the audit performed by the auditor who has got the training on the Joint Maintenance Management Procedures, it will directly get the audit for a recommended joint certification per Paragraph 6.1 of this AC. Otherwise CAAC or the regional Administration with jurisdiction over the applicant will organize an audit of the applicant by the auditors with training on the Joint Maintenance Management Procedures. Applicants must ensure its facility, personnel and documentation accessible to the appointed audit group. If the audit group recommend in their audit report to approve, the applicant can get an audit for the recommended joint certification per Paragraph 6.1 of this AC.

6. Recommended Joint Certification

6.1 Flight Standard Department of CAAC will review the <<Maintenance
Management Manual>> of the applicant and audit record for its conformity with CCAR-145 and <<Joint Maintenance Procedures>>.

6.2 For the applicant verified to be in conformity with CCAR-145 and <<Joint Maintenance Procedures>>, Flight Standard Department of CAAC will recommend the Joint Maintenance Committee to issue a Joint Certification to the applicant.

7. Investigation of Maintenance Standard Group
7.1 The Joint Maintenance committee together with the Flight Standard Department of CAAC will spot check some of the applicants having got recommendation for joint certification by Flight Standard Department of CAAC. The selected applicants must accept the investigation by the Maintenance Standard Group.

7.2 Members of the Maintenance Standard Group are the auditors from CAD/AACM. Maintenance coordinators of Flight Standard Department of CAAC will participate in the investigation.

7.3 Work methods of the Maintenance Standard Group is to observe how CAAC and related regional Administration implement CCAR-145 in the maintenance organization audit and how the maintenance organizations response to CAAC and related regional Administration. The maintenance organizations under investigation must answer all the questions raised by Maintenance Standard Group.

8. Joint Certification
8.1 Joint maintenance committee will approve all applicants recommended by Flight Standard Department of CAAC for joint certification, if Maintenance Standard Group is satisfied with investigation results, otherwise, the applicant recommended by Flight Standard Department of CAAC will not get the joint certification.
8.2 Joint Maintenance Committee will inform Flight Standard Department of CAAC of the Maintenance Organizations having got the joint certification by means of List of Approval, and then Flight Standard Department of CAAC will add them into the published <<List of Approved Civil Aircraft Maintenance Organizations>>.

9. Audit fee for Joint Certification
Joint Certification (including application, investigation of Maintenance Standard Group and approval) is free.

10. Maintenance Certification of Joint Certification
10.1 The maintenance organizations holding Joint Certification shall fill not only their Maintenance Organization Certificate Number, but also Joint Certification Number in column 19 of the <<Authorized Release Certificate/Airworthiness Approval Tag>> (AAC-038) released per CCAR-145. Only AAC-038 with the Joint Certification Number can be accepted by CAD/AACM.

10.2 CAAC will also accept the Airworthiness Approval Tag (CAD FORM1 and AACM FORM 1) with the Joint Certification Number issued by the Maintenance Organizations holding the joint certification in Hong Kong and Macao.

11. Supervision to Maintenance Organizations with joint certification approval
Annual inspection to the Maintenance Organizations holding joint certification will be performed by auditors with training on joint Maintenance Management Procedures. Joint Maintenance Committee will also perform scheduled Maintenance Standard Group investigation, or investigation on maintenance quality. All Maintenance Organizations holding joint certification must accept all relevant audits and investigations.

12. Expiration of Joint Certification
12.1 The joint certification will be suspended, revoked or expired together with
the CCAR-145 approval.

12.2 Maintenance organizations can also give up the joint certification after informing Flight Standard Department of CAAC. In this case, it only means that it’s not necessary for the maintenance organizations to accept audit by auditors with training on the joint maintenance management procedures and investigation by maintenance standard group, but the maintenance organizations shall still satisfy the requirements of CCAR-145.