

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**Coast Guard****[USCG 2002-11274]****Guidelines for Assessing Merchant Mariners Through Demonstrations of Proficiency as Masters and Chief Mates on Ships of 500 Gross Tonnage or More as Measured Under the International Tonnage Convention (ITC)****AGENCY:** Coast Guard, DOT.**ACTION:** Notice of availability and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard announces the availability of, and seeks public comments on, the national performance measures proposed here for use as guidelines when mariners demonstrate their proficiency as Masters or Chief Mates on ships of 500 gross tonnage ITC or more. These measures were developed from recommendations and input provided by the Merchant Marine Personnel Advisory Committee (MERPAC).

DATES: Comments and related material must reach the Docket Management Facility on or before April 22, 2002.

ADDRESSES: Please identify your comments and related material by the docket number of this notice [USCG 2002-11274]. Then, to make sure they enter the docket just once, submit them by just one of the following means:

(1) By mail to the Docket Management Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, room PL-401, 400 Seventh Street SW., Washington, DC 20590-0001.

(2) By delivery to room PL-401 on the Plaza level of the Nassif Building, 400 Seventh Street SW., Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The telephone number is 202-366-9329.

(3) By fax to the Docket Management Facility at 202-493-2251.

(4) Electronically through the Web Site for the Docket

Management System at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

In choosing among these means, please give due regard to the recent difficulties with delivery of mail by the U.S. Postal Service to Federal facilities.

The Docket Management Facility maintains the public docket for this Notice. Comments and related material received from the public, as well as documents mentioned in this Notice, will become part of this docket and will be available for inspection or copying at room PL-401 on the Plaza level of the

Nassif Building, 400 Seventh Street SW., Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. You may also find this docket on the Internet at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

The measures proposed here are also available from Mr. Mark Gould, Maritime Personnel Qualifications Division, Office of Operating and Environmental Standards, Commandant (G-MSO-1), U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, telephone 202-267-0229, or e-mail address mgould@comdt.uscg.mil.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For questions on this Notice or on the national performance measures proposed here, write or call Mr. Gould where indicated under **ADDRESSES**. For questions on viewing or submitting material to the docket, call Ms. Dorothy Beard, Chief, Dockets, Department of Transportation, telephone 202-366-9329.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:*What Action Is the Coast Guard Taking?*

Table A-II/2 of the Code accompanying the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW), 1978, as amended in 1995, articulates qualifications for ensuring merchant mariners' attaining the minimum standard of competence through demonstrations of their proficiency as Master or Chief Mate on ships of 500 gross tonnage ITC or more. The Coast Guard tasked MERPAC with referring to the Table, modifying and specifying it as it deemed necessary, and recommending national performance measures. The Coast Guard has reviewed the measures recommended by MERPAC and has developed a final set that we are proposing here for use as guidelines for assessing that proficiency.

The guidelines are set up as follows: First we set forth the competency within the STCW a mariner must demonstrate to meet the STCW section. Next we give a series of examples of Performance Conditions, a set of Performance Behaviors for each Performance Condition, and a set of Performance Standards for each Performance Behavior.

For example, if the STCW competency to demonstrate is, "Plan a voyage and conduct navigation"—A Performance Condition for that competency demonstrating knowledge, understanding, and proficiency is: On a ship under way or in a navigational laboratory—

A Performance Behavior for that condition is: The candidate will describe all systems for ship's position reporting and Vessel Traffic Systems (VTSs) required for the route.

The Performance Standards for that behavior are: All shoreside entities requiring ships' position reports and all VTS services for the route are correctly identified; All reporting requirements are correctly described; and The hailing frequencies and position-reporting requirements of all VTS services are noted on the appropriate charts.

If the mariner properly meets all of the Performance Standards, he or she passes the practical demonstration. If he or she fails to properly carry out any of the Performance Standards, he or she fails it.

Why Is the Coast Guard Taking This Action?

The Coast Guard is taking this action to comply with STCW, as amended in 1995 and incorporated into domestic regulation in 46 CFR parts 10, 12, and 15 in 1997. Guidance from the International Maritime Organization on shipboard assessments of proficiency suggests that Parties develop standards and measures of performance for practical tests as part of their programs for training and assessing seafarers.

How May I Participate in This Action?

You may participate in this action by submitting comments and related material on the national performance measures proposed here. (Although the Coast Guard does not seek public comment on the measures recommended by MERPAC, as distinct from the measures proposed here, those measures are available on the Internet at the Homepage of MERPAC, <http://www.uscg.mil/hq/g-m/advisory/merpac/merpac.htm>.) These measures are available on the Internet at <http://dms.dot.gov>, under this docket number [USCG 2002-11274]. They are also available from Mr. Gould where indicated under **ADDRESSES**. If you submit written comments please include—

- Your name and address;
- The docket number for this Notice [USCG 2002-11274];
- The specific section of the performance measures to which each comment applies; and
- The reason for each comment.

You may mail, deliver, fax, or electronically submit your comments and related material to the Docket Management Facility, using an address or fax number listed in **ADDRESSES**. Please do not submit the same comment or material more than once. If you mail

or deliver your comments and material, they must be on 8 1/2-by-11-inch paper, and the quality of the copy should be clear enough for copying and scanning. If you mail your comments and material and would like to know whether the Docket Management Facility received them, please enclose a stamped, self-addressed postcard or envelope. The Coast Guard will consider all comments and material received during the 60-day comment period.

Once we have considered all comments and related material, we will publish a final version of the national performance measures for use as guidelines by the general public. Individuals and institutions assessing the competence of mariners may refine the final version of these measures and develop innovative alternatives. If you vary from the final version of these measures, however, you must submit your alternative to the National Maritime Center for approval by the Coast Guard under 46 CFR 10.303(e) before you use it as part of an approved course or training program.

Dated: January 14, 2002.

Joseph J. Angelo,

Director of Standards, Marine Safety and Environmental Protection.

[FR Doc. 02-3929 Filed 2-15-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-15-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

[Summary Notice No. PE-2002-12]

Petitions for Exemption; Summary of Petitions Received

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of petitions for exemption received.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to FAA's rulemaking provisions governing the application, processing, and disposition of petitions for exemption part 11 of Title 14, Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR), this notice contains a summary of certain petitions 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 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 March 11, 2002.

ADDRESSES: Send comments on any petition to the Docket Management System, U.S. Department of Transportation, Room Plaza 401, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590-0001. You must identify the docket number FAA-2001-XXXX at the beginning of your comments. If you wish to receive confirmation that FAA received your comments, include a self-addressed, stamped postcard.

You may also submit comments through the Internet to <http://dms.dot.gov>. You may review the public docket containing the petition, any comments received, and any final disposition in person in the Dockets Office between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The Dockets Office (telephone 1-800-647-5527) is on the plaza level of the NASSIF Building at the Department of Transportation at the above address. Also, you may review public dockets on the Internet at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Sandy Buchanan-Sumter (202) 267-7271, Office of Rulemaking (ARM-1), Federal Aviation Administration, 800 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20591.

This notice is published pursuant to 14 CFR 11.85 and 11.91.

Issued in Washington, DC, on February 13, 2002.

Donald P. Byrne,

Assistant Chief Counsel for Regulations.

Petitions for Exemption

[Docket No.: FAA-2001-9976]

Petitioner: United States Ultralight Association, Inc.

Section of 14 CFR Affected: 14 CFR 103.1(a) and (e).

Description of Relief Sought: To permit individuals authorized by the USUA to give instruction in powered ultralight vehicles that have a maximum empty weight of not more than 496 pounds, have a maximum fuel capacity of not more than 10 U.S. gallons, are not capable of more than 75 knots calibrated airspeed at full power in level flight, and have a power-off stall speed that does not exceed 35 knots calibrated airspeed, and to include weight exclusions of up to 35 pounds for safety devices intended for deployment in a potentially catastrophic situation, up to 70 pounds for each float, up to 90 pounds for each amphibious float, up to 120 pounds for an amphibious fuselage, and up to 15 pounds for each outrigger float and pylon on powered ultralight vehicles used for training.

[Docket No.: FAA-2001-8939]

Petitioner: Experimental Aircraft Association.

Section of 14 CFR Affected: 14 CFR 103.1(a) and (e).

Description of Relief Sought: To permit individuals authorized by EAA to give instruction in powered ultralight vehicles that have a maximum empty weight of not more than 496 pounds, have a maximum fuel capacity of not more than 10 U.S. gallons, are not capable of more than 75 knots calibrated airspeed at full power in level flight, and have a power-off stall speed that does not exceed 35 knots calibrated airspeed, and to include weight exclusions of up to 35 pounds for safety devices intended for deployment in a potentially catastrophic situation, up to 70 pounds for each float, up to 90 pounds for each amphibious float, up to 120 pounds for an amphibious fuselage, and up to 15 pounds for each outrigger float and pylon on powered ultralight vehicles used for training.

[Docket No.: FAA-2000-8425]

Petitioner: Aero Sports Connection, Inc.

Section of 14 CFR Affected: 14 CFR 103.1(a) and (e).

Description of Relief Sought: To permit individuals authorized by ASC to give instruction in powered ultralight vehicles that have a maximum empty weight of not more than 496 pounds, have a maximum fuel capacity of not more than 10 U.S. gallons, are not capable of more than 75 knots calibrated airspeed at full power in level flight, and have a power-off stall speed that does not exceed 35 knots calibrated airspeed, and to include weight exclusions of up to 35 pounds for safety devices intended for deployment in a potentially catastrophic situation, up to 70 pounds for each float, up to 90 pounds for each amphibious float, up to 120 pounds for an amphibious fuselage, and up to 15 pounds for each outrigger float and pylon on powered ultralight vehicles used for training.

[FR Doc. 02-3932 Filed 2-15-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-M

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Highway Administration

Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Joint Program Office (JPO) Announcement of the Completed Integration of the Maintenance and Construction Operations User Service Into the National ITS Architecture

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.