Federal Aviation Administration, DOT

§ 35.1 Applicability.

(a) This part prescribes airworthiness standards for the issue of type certificates and changes to those certificates, for propellers.

(b) Each person who applies under part 21 for such a certificate or change must show compliance with the applicable requirements of this part.

(c) An applicant is eligible for a propeller type certificate and changes to those certificates after demonstrating compliance with subparts A, B and C of this part. However, the propeller may not be installed on an airplane unless the applicant has shown compliance with either §23.907 or §25.907 of this chapter, as applicable, or compliance is not required for installation on that airplane.

(d) For the purposes of this part, the propeller consists of those components listed in the propeller type design, and the propeller system consists of the propeller and all the components necessary for its functioning, but not necessarily included in the propeller type design.

[Amtd. 35–3, 41 FR 55475, Dec. 20, 1976, as amended by Amtd. 35–8, 73 FR 63346, Oct. 24, 2008]

§ 35.2 Propeller configuration.

The applicant must provide a list of all the components, including references to the relevant drawings and software design data, that define the type design of the propeller to be approved under §21.31 of this chapter.

[Amtd. 35–8, 73 FR 63346, Oct. 24, 2008]

§ 35.3 Instructions for propeller installation and operation.

The applicant must provide instructions that are approved by the Administrator. Those approved instructions must contain:

(a) Instructions for installing the propeller, which:

(1) Include a description of the operational modes of the propeller control system and functional interface of the control system with the airplane and engine systems;

(2) Specify the physical and functional interfaces with the airplane, airplane equipment and engine;

(3) Define the limiting conditions on the interfaces from paragraph (a)(2) of this section;

(4) List the limitations established under §35.5;
§ 35.4 Instructions for Continued Airworthiness.

The applicant must prepare Instructions for Continued Airworthiness in accordance with appendix A to this part that are acceptable to the Administrator. The instructions may be incomplete at type certification if a program exists to ensure their completion prior to delivery of the first aircraft with the propeller installed, or upon issuance of a standard certificate of airworthiness for an aircraft with the propeller installed, whichever occurs later.

[Amdt. 35–5, 45 FR 66381, Sept. 11, 1980]

§ 35.5 Propeller ratings and operating limitations.

(a) Propeller ratings and operating limitations must:

1. Be established by the applicant and approved by the Administrator.

2. Be included directly or by reference in the propeller type certificate data sheet, as specified in §21.41 of this chapter.

3. Be based on the operating conditions demonstrated during the tests required by this part as well as any other information the Administrator requires as necessary for the safe operation of the propeller.

(b) Propeller ratings and operating limitations must be established for the following, as applicable:

1. Power and rotational speed:
   (i) For takeoff.
   (ii) For maximum continuous.

2. Overspeed and overtorque limits.

[Amdt. 35–8, 73 FR 63346, Oct. 24, 2008]

§ 35.7 Features and characteristics.

(a) The propeller may not have features or characteristics, revealed by any test or analysis or known to the applicant, that make it unsafe for the uses for which certification is requested.

(b) If a failure occurs during a certification test, the applicant must determine the cause and assess the effect on the airworthiness of the propeller. The applicant must make changes to the design and conduct additional tests that the Administrator finds necessary to establish the airworthiness of the propeller.

[Amdt. 35–8, 73 FR 63346, Oct. 24, 2008]
flight hour). Since the estimated probability for individual failures may be insufficiently precise to enable the applicant to assess the total rate for hazardous propeller effects, compliance may be shown by demonstrating that the probability of a hazardous propeller effect arising from an individual failure can be predicted to be not greater than $10^{-8}$ per propeller flight hour. In dealing with probabilities of this low order of magnitude, absolute proof is not possible and reliance must be placed on engineering judgment and previous experience combined with sound design and test philosophies.

(b) If significant doubt exists as to the effects of failures or likely combination of failures, the Administrator may require assumptions used in the analysis to be verified by test.

c) The primary failures of certain single propeller elements (for example, blades) cannot be sensibly estimated in numerical terms. If the failure of such elements is likely to result in hazardous propeller effects, those elements must be identified as propeller critical parts. For propeller critical parts, applicants must meet the prescribed integrity specifications of §35.16. These instances must be stated in the safety analysis.

d) If reliance is placed on a safety system to prevent a failure progressing to hazardous propeller effects, the possibility of a safety system failure in combination with a basic propeller failure must be included in the analysis. Such a safety system may include safety devices, instrumentation, early warning devices, maintenance checks, and other similar equipment or procedures. If items of the safety system are outside the control of the propeller manufacturer, the assumptions of the safety analysis with respect to the reliability of these parts must be clearly stated in the analysis and identified in the propeller installation and operation instructions required under §35.3.

e) If the safety analysis depends on one or more of the following items, those items must be identified in the analysis and appropriately substantiated.

(1) Maintenance actions being carried out at stated intervals. This includes verifying that items that could fail in a latent manner are functioning properly. When necessary to prevent hazardous propeller effects, these maintenance actions and intervals must be published in the instructions for continued airworthiness required under §35.4. Additionally, if errors in maintenance of the propeller system could lead to hazardous propeller effects, the appropriate maintenance procedures must be included in the relevant propeller manuals.

(2) Verification of the satisfactory functioning of safety or other devices at pre-flight or other stated periods. The details of this satisfactory functioning must be published in the appropriate manual.

(3) The provision of specific instrumentation not otherwise required. Such instrumentation must be published in the appropriate documentation.

(4) A fatigue assessment.

(f) If applicable, the safety analysis must include, but not be limited to, assessment of indicating equipment, manual and automatic controls, governors and propeller control systems, synchrophasers, synchronizers, and propeller thrust reversal systems.

g) Unless otherwise approved by the Administrator and stated in the safety analysis, the following failure definitions apply to compliance with this part.

(1) The following are regarded as hazardous propeller effects:

(i) The development of excessive drag.

(ii) A significant thrust in the opposite direction to that commanded by the pilot.

(iii) The release of the propeller or any major portion of the propeller.

(iv) A failure that results in excessive unbalance.

(2) The following are regarded as major propeller effects for variable pitch propellers:

(i) An inability to feather the propeller for feathering propellers.

(ii) An inability to change propeller pitch when commanded.

(iii) A significant uncommanded change in pitch.
§ 35.16 Propeller critical parts.

The integrity of each propeller critical part identified by the safety analysis required by §35.15 must be established by:

(a) A defined engineering process for ensuring the integrity of the propeller critical part throughout its service life,

(b) A defined manufacturing process that identifies the requirements to consistently produce the propeller critical part as required by the engineering process, and

(c) A defined service management process that identifies the continued airworthiness requirements of the propeller critical part as required by the engineering process.

§ 35.17 Materials and manufacturing methods.

(a) The suitability and durability of materials used in the propeller must:

(1) Be established on the basis of experience, tests, or both.

(2) Account for environmental conditions expected in service.

(b) All materials and manufacturing methods must conform to specifications acceptable to the Administrator.

(c) The design values of properties of materials must be suitably related to the most adverse properties stated in the material specification for applicable conditions expected in service.

§ 35.19 Durability.

Each part of the propeller must be designed and constructed to minimize the development of any unsafe condition of the propeller between overhaul periods.

§ 35.21 Variable and reversible pitch propellers.

(a) No single failure or malfunction in the propeller system will result in unintended travel of the propeller blades to a position below the in-flight low-pitch position. The extent of any intended travel below the in-flight low-pitch position must be documented by the applicant in the appropriate manuals. Failure of structural elements need not be considered if the occurrence of such a failure is shown to be extremely remote under §35.15.

(b) For propellers incorporating a method to select blade pitch below the in-flight low pitch position, provisions must be made to sense and indicate to the flight crew that the propeller blades are below that position by an amount defined in the installation manual. The method for sensing and indicating the propeller blade pitch position must be such that its failure does not affect the control of the propeller.

§ 35.22 Feathering propellers.

(a) Feathering propellers are intended to feather from all flight conditions, taking into account expected wear and leakage. Any feathering and unfeathering limitations must be documented in the appropriate manuals.

(b) Propeller pitch control systems that use engine oil to feather must incorporate a method to allow the propeller to feather if the engine oil system fails.

(c) Feathering propellers must be designed to be capable of unfeathering after the propeller system has stabilized to the minimum declared outside air temperature.

§ 35.23 Propeller control system.

The requirements of this section apply to any system or component that controls, limits or monitors propeller functions.

(a) The propeller control system must be designed, constructed and validated to show that:

(1) The propeller control system, operating in normal and alternative operating modes and in transition between operating modes, performs the functions defined by the applicant throughout the declared operating conditions and flight envelope.

(2) The propeller control system functionality is not adversely affected...
§ 35.34 Inspections, adjustments and repairs.

(a) Before and after conducting the tests prescribed in this part, the test article must be subjected to an inspection, and a record must be made of all the relevant parameters, calibrations and settings.

(b) During all tests, only servicing and minor repairs are permitted. If major repairs or part replacement is required, the Administrator must approve the repair or part replacement.
prior to implementation and may require additional testing. Any unscheduled repair or action on the test article must be recorded and reported.

[Amdt. 35–8, 73 FR 63348, Oct. 24, 2008]

§ 35.35 Centrifugal load tests.

The applicant must demonstrate that a propeller complies with paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) of this section without evidence of failure, malfunction, or permanent deformation that would result in a major or hazardous propeller effect. When the propeller could be sensitive to environmental degradation in service, this must be considered. This section does not apply to fixed-pitch wood or fixed-pitch metal propellers of conventional design.

(a) The hub, blade retention system, and counterweights must be tested for a period of one hour to a load equivalent to twice the maximum centrifugal load to which the propeller would be subjected during operation at the maximum rated rotational speed.

(b) Blade features associated with transitions to the retention system (for example, a composite blade bonded to a metallic retention) must be tested either during the test of paragraph (a) of this section or in a separate component test for a period of one hour to a load equivalent to twice the maximum centrifugal load to which the propeller would be subjected during operation at the maximum rated rotational speed.

(c) Components used with or attached to the propeller (for example, spinners, de-icing equipment, and blade erosion shields) must be subjected to a load equivalent to 1.59 percent of the maximum centrifugal load to which the component would be subjected during operation at the maximum rated rotational speed. This must be performed by either:

(1) Testing at the required load for a period of 30 minutes; or

(2) Analysis based on test.

[Amdt. 35–8, 73 FR 63348, Oct. 24, 2008]

§ 35.36 Bird impact.

The applicant must demonstrate, by tests or analysis based on tests or experience on similar designs, that the propeller can withstand the impact of a 4-pound bird at the critical location(s) and critical flight condition(s) of a typical installation without causing a major or hazardous propeller effect. This section does not apply to fixed-pitch wood propellers of conventional design.

[Amdt. 35–8, 73 FR 63348, Oct. 24, 2008]

§ 35.37 Fatigue limits and evaluation.

This section does not apply to fixed-pitch wood propellers of conventional design.

(a) Fatigue limits must be established by tests, or analysis based on tests, for propeller:

(1) Hubs.

(2) Blades.

(3) Blade retention components.

(4) Components which are affected by fatigue loads and which are shown under § 35.15 to have a fatigue failure mode leading to hazardous propeller effects.

(b) The fatigue limits must take into account:

(1) All known and reasonably foreseeable vibration and cyclic load patterns that are expected in service; and

(2) Expected service deterioration, variations in material properties, manufacturing variations, and environmental effects.

(c) A fatigue evaluation of the propeller must be conducted to show that hazardous propeller effects due to fatigue will be avoided throughout the intended operational life of the propeller on either:

(1) The intended airplane by complying with § 23.907 or § 25.907 of this chapter, as applicable; or

(2) A typical airplane.

[Amdt. 35–8, 73 FR 63348, Oct. 24, 2008]

§ 35.38 Lightning strike.

The applicant must demonstrate, by tests, analysis based on tests, or experience on similar designs, that the propeller can withstand a lightning strike without causing a major or hazardous propeller effect. The limit to which the propeller has been qualified must be documented in the appropriate manuals. This section does not apply to fixed-pitch wood propellers of conventional design.

[Amdt. 35–8, 73 FR 63348, Oct. 24, 2008]
§ 35.39 Endurance test.

Endurance tests on the propeller system must be made on a representative engine in accordance with paragraph (a) or (b) of this section, as applicable, without evidence of failure or malfunction.

(a) Fixed-pitch and ground adjustable-pitch propellers must be subjected to one of the following tests:

(1) A 50-hour flight test in level flight or in climb. The propeller must be operated at takeoff power and rated rotational speed during at least five hours of this flight test, and at not less than 90 percent of the rated rotational speed for the remainder of the 50 hours.

(2) A 50-hour ground test at takeoff power and rated rotational speed.

(b) Variable-pitch propellers must be subjected to one of the following tests:

(1) A 110-hour endurance test that must include the following conditions:

(i) Five hours at takeoff power and rotational speed and thirty 10-minute cycles composed of:

(A) Acceleration from idle,

(B) Five minutes at takeoff power and rotational speed,

(C) Deceleration, and

(D) Five minutes at idle.

(ii) Fifty hours at maximum continuous power and rotational speed.

(iii) Fifty hours, consisting of ten 5-hour cycles composed of:

(A) Five accelerations and deaccelerations between idle and takeoff power and rotational speed,

(B) Four and one half hours at approximately even incremental conditions from idle up to, but not including, maximum continuous power and rotational speed, and

(C) Thirty minutes at idle.

(2) The operation of the propeller throughout the engine endurance tests prescribed in part 33 of this chapter.

(c) An analysis based on tests of propellers of similar design may be used in place of the tests of paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section.

[Amdt. 35–8, 73 FR 63549, Oct. 24, 2008]

§ 35.40 Functional test.

The variable-pitch propeller system must be subjected to the applicable functional tests of this section. The same propeller system used in the endurance test (§ 35.39) must be used in the functional tests and must be driven by a representative engine on a test stand or on an airplane. The propeller must complete these tests without evidence of failure or malfunction. This test may be combined with the endurance test for accumulation of cycles.

(a) Manually-controllable propellers. Five hundred representative flight cycles must be made across the range of pitch and rotational speed.

(b) Governing propellers. Fifteen hundred complete cycles must be made across the range of pitch and rotational speed.

(c) Feathering propellers. Fifty cycles of feather and unfeather operation must be made.

(d) Reversible-pitch propellers. Two hundred complete cycles of control must be made from lowest normal pitch to maximum reverse pitch. During each cycle, the propeller must run for 30 seconds at the maximum power and rotational speed selected by the applicant for maximum reverse pitch.

(e) An analysis based on tests of propellers of similar design may be used in place of the tests of this section.

[Amdt. 35–8, 73 FR 63549, Oct. 24, 2008]

§ 35.41 Overspeed and overtorque.

(a) When the applicant seeks approval of a transient maximum propeller overspeed, the applicant must demonstrate that the propeller is capable of further operation without maintenance action at the maximum propeller overspeed condition. This may be accomplished by:

(1) Performance of 20 runs, each of 30 seconds duration, at the maximum propeller overspeed condition; or

(2) Analysis based on test or service experience.

(b) When the applicant seeks approval of a transient maximum propeller overtorque, the applicant must demonstrate that the propeller is capable of further operation without maintenance action at the maximum propeller overtorque condition. This may be accomplished by:

(1) Performance of 20 runs, each of 30 seconds duration, at the maximum propeller overtorque condition; or
§ 35.42 Components of the propeller control system.

The applicant must demonstrate by tests, analysis based on tests, or service experience on similar components, that each propeller blade pitch control system component, including governors, pitch change assemblies, pitch locks, mechanical stops, and feathering system components, can withstand cyclic operation that simulates the normal load and pitch change travel to which the component would be subjected during the initially declared overhaul period or during a minimum of 1,000 hours of typical operation in service.

[Amdt. 35–8, 73 FR 63349, Oct. 24, 2008]

§ 35.43 Propeller hydraulic components.

Applicants must show by test, validated analysis, or both, that propeller components that contain hydraulic pressure and whose structural failure or leakage from a structural failure could cause a hazardous propeller effect demonstrate structural integrity by:

(a) A proof pressure test to 1.5 times the maximum operating pressure for one minute without permanent deformation or leakage that would prevent performance of the intended function.

(b) A burst pressure test to 2.0 times the maximum operating pressure for one minute without failure. Leakage is permitted and seals may be excluded from the test.

[Amdt. 35–8, 73 FR 63349, Oct. 24, 2008]

§ 35.45–35.47 [Reserved]

APPENDIX A TO PART 35—INSTRUCTIONS FOR CONTINUED AIRWORTHINESS

A35.1 GENERAL

(a) This appendix specifies requirements for the preparation of Instructions for Continued Airworthiness as required by §35.4.

(b) The Instructions for Continued Airworthiness for each propeller must include the Instructions for Continued Airworthiness for all propeller parts. If Instructions for Continued Airworthiness are not supplied by the propeller part manufacturer for a propeller part, the Instructions for Continued Airworthiness for the propeller must include the information essential to the continued airworthiness of the propeller.

(c) The applicant must submit to the FAA a program to show how changes to the Instructions for Continued Airworthiness made by the applicant or by the manufacturers of propeller parts will be distributed.

A35.2 FORMAT

(a) The Instructions for Continued Airworthiness must be in the form of a manual or manuals as appropriate for the quantity of data to be provided.

(b) The format of the manual or manuals must provide for a practical arrangement.

A35.3 CONTENT

The contents of the manual must be prepared in the English language. The Instructions for Continued Airworthiness must contain the following sections and information:

(a) Propeller Maintenance Section. (1) Introduction information that includes an explanation of the propeller’s features and data to the extent necessary for maintenance or preventive maintenance.

(2) A detailed description of the propeller and its systems and installations.

(3) Basic control and operation information describing how the propeller components and systems are controlled and how they operate, including any special procedures that apply.

(4) Instructions for uncrating, acceptance checking, lifting, and installing the propeller.

(5) Instructions for propeller operational checks.

(6) Scheduling information for each part of the propeller that provides the recommended periods at which it should be cleaned, adjusted, and tested, the applicable wear tolerances, and the degree of work recommended at these periods. However, the applicant may refer to an accessory, instrument, or equipment manufacturer as the source of this information if it shows that the item has an exceptionally high degree of complexity requiring specialized maintenance techniques, test equipment, or expertise. The recommended overhaul periods and necessary cross-references to the Airworthiness Limitations section of the manual must also be included. In addition, the applicant must include an inspection program that includes the frequency and extent of the inspections necessary to provide for the continued airworthiness of the propeller.

(7) Troubleshooting information describing probable malfunctions, how to recognize those malfunctions, and the remedial action for those malfunctions.
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(8) Information describing the order and method of removing and replacing propeller parts with any necessary precautions to be taken.

(9) A list of the special tools needed for maintenance other than for overhauls.

(b) Propeller Overhaul Section. (1) Disassembly information including the order and method of disassembly for overhaul.

(2) Cleaning and inspection instructions that cover the materials and apparatus to be used and methods and precautions to be taken during overhaul. Methods of overhaul inspection must also be included.

(3) Details of all fits and clearances relevant to overhaul.

(4) Details of repair methods for worn or otherwise substandard parts and components along with information necessary to determine when replacement is necessary.

(5) The order and method of assembly at overhaul.

(6) Instructions for testing after overhaul.

(7) Instructions for storage preparation including any storage limits.

(8) A list of tools needed for overhaul.

A35.4 AIRWORTHINESS LIMITATIONS SECTION

The Instructions for Continued Airworthiness must contain a section titled Airworthiness Limitations that is segregated and clearly distinguishable from the rest of the document. This section must set forth each mandatory replacement time, inspection interval, and related procedure required for type certification. This section must contain a legible statement in a prominent location that reads: “The Airworthiness Limitations section is FAA approved and specifies maintenance required under §§ 43.16 and 91.403 of the Federal Aviation Regulations unless an alternative program has been FAA approved.”

(Amdt. 35–5, 45 FR 60182, Sept. 11, 1980, as amended by Amdt. 35–6, 54 FR 34330, Aug. 18, 1989)

PART 36—NOISE STANDARDS: AIRCRAFT TYPE AND AIRWORTHINESS CERTIFICATION

36.11 Acoustical change: Helicopters.
36.13 Acoustical change: Tiltrotor aircraft.

Subpart B—Transport Category Large Airplanes and Jet Airplanes

36.101 Noise measurement and evaluation.
36.103 Noise limits.
36.105 Flight Manual Statement of Chapter 4 equivalency.

Subpart C [Reserved]

Subpart D—Noise Limits for Supersonic Transport Category Airplanes

36.301 Noise limits: Concorde.

Subpart E [Reserved]

Subpart F—Propeller Driven Small Airplanes and Propeller-Driven, Commuter Category Airplanes

36.501 Noise limits.

Subpart G [Reserved]

Subpart H—Helicopters

36.801 Noise measurement.
36.803 Noise evaluation and calculation.
36.805 Noise limits.

Subparts I–J [Reserved]

Subpart K—Tiltrotors

36.1101 Noise measurement and evaluation.
36.1103 Noise limits.

Subparts L–N [Reserved]

Subpart O—Documentation, Operating Limitations and Information

36.1501 Procedures, noise levels and other information.
36.1581 Manuals, markings, and placards.
36.1583 Noncomplying agricultural and fire fighting airplanes.

APPENDIX A TO PART 36—AIRCRAFT NOISE MEASUREMENT AND EVALUATION UNDER § 36.101

APPENDIX B TO PART 36—NOISE LEVELS FOR TRANSPORT CATEGORY AND JET AIRPLANES UNDER § 36.103

APPENDIXES C–E TO PART 36 [RESERVED]

APPENDIX F TO PART 36—FLYOVER NOISE REQUIREMENTS FOR propeller-driven small airplane and propeller-driven, commuter category airplane certifi-

APPENDIX G TO PART 36—TAKEOFF NOISE REQUIREMENTS FOR propeller-driven small airplane and propeller-driven, commuter category airplane certifi-

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