Date: 09/27/18  No: KOKU-KAN-SANJI-613

Director-General, Civil Aviation Bureau of Japan
Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism

Subject: The Technical Standard to Prevent Objects Falling off Airplanes

1. Purpose.

The purpose of this standard is to establish standards of necessary measures taken by domestic air carriers, aerial work service operators and foreign international air carriers (hereinafter referred to as “operators”) to prevent the occurrence of parts departing from aircraft and falling ice blocks (hereinafter referred to as “falling objects”) in the operation of an aircraft. This standard shall apply to any of the following cases:

1-1 When any person who intends to obtain a license for air transport services under Article 100 of the Civil Aeronautics Act (Act No. 231 of 1952, hereinafter referred to as “the Act”) and Article 210 of the Ordinance for Enforcement of the Civil Aeronautics Act (Ordinance of the Ministry of Transport No. 56 of 1952, hereinafter referred to as “the Ordinance”);

1-2 When any person who intends to obtain a license for aerial work services under Article 123 of the Act and Article 227 of the Ordinance;

1-3 When any person who intends to obtain a license for international air transport services by foreign nationals under Article 129 of the Act and Article 232 of the Ordinance;

1-4 When any domestic air carrier intends to obtain an approval for alteration of its operation plan under Article 109 of the Act and Article 220 of the Ordinance;

1-5 When any domestic aerial work service operator intends to obtain an approval for alteration of its operation plan under Article 124 of the Act (Article 109 of the Act is applied mutatis mutandis) and Article 229 of the Ordinance (Article 220 of the Ordinance is applied mutatis mutandis);

1-6 When any foreign international air carrier intends to obtain an approval for alteration of its operation plan under Article 129-3 of the Act and Article 233-3 of the Ordinance.

2. Applicability.

2-1 This standard is applicable to airplanes with a maximum takeoff weight more than 5,700 kg.

2-2 In this standard, objects falling off airplanes would mean parts departing from aircraft and falling ice blocks.
3. Application for Licenses or Authorization.

When any operator intends to obtain a business license or approval for alteration of its operation plan, the operator shall submit an application describing the following matters (3-1 through 3-3).

3-1 Engineering management.

The operators must have a system to collect the information of falling objects, analyze and assess from the engineering aspect, and based on these results, they should develop countermeasures (inspection, maintenance and others) and implement them.

3-2 Corrective actions.

3-2-1 Accomplishing technical documents effective to prevent falling objects.

The operators shall accomplish technical documents (e.g., Service Bulletins) issued by aircraft and component manufacturers that are considered effective to prevent falling objects; provided, however, that this shall not apply to the case of implementing equivalent measures acknowledged by these manufacturers are acceptable.

3-2-2 Other measures.

In addition to the measures stipulated in the preceding paragraph, the operators themselves shall take measures necessary for preventing falling objects.

3-3 Education and Training.

The operators must provide education and training to flight crew, maintenance staff and ground handling staff about measures to prevent falling objects.

Supplementary Provisions (September 27, 2018)

1. This standard affects persons described in paragraph 1, 1-1 and 1-2 applying for a new license for air transport services and aerial work services after January 15, 2019.

2. This standard affects persons described in paragraph 1, 1-3 applying for a new license for international air transport services by foreign nationals after March 15, 2019.

3. This standard affects domestic operators described in paragraph 1, 1-4 and 1-5 applying for an approval for alteration of the operation plan after January 15, 2019.

4. This standard affects foreign international operators described in paragraph 1, 1-6 applying for an approval for alteration of the operation plan after March 15, 2019.

Direct your questions or comments to Transport Standards Staff, Air Transport Safety Unit, Civil Aviation Bureau of Japan, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, phone +81-3-5253-8732, Fax +81-3-5253-1661, E-mail: g_CAB_GIJ_UNK@mlit.go.jp.
Note: This English translation of the Technical Standard is intended for reference, the Technical Standard written in Japanese has become the official text.