



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Aviation
Administration**

Memorandum

Subject: **ACTION:** Part 142 Training, Checking and
Testing through Flight Simulation Devices

Date: AUG 11 2004

From: Director, Flight Standards Service, AFS-1

Reply to
Attn. of:

To: All Regional Flight Standards Division Managers

It is Flight Standards policy that when approving pilot training, checking, and testing under 14 CFR part 142, the primary form of training will be based on advanced flight training devices and/or simulators. That is to say that all approved part 142 pilot training courses must be supported by Level 6 or 7 Flight Training Devices (FTD) and/or Levels A through D Flight Simulators.

The Part 142 Training Center rule was developed with the state-of-the-art training concept in mind. It recognizes the expanded use of sophisticated flight simulation that provides more in depth training in a safer flight training environment than can be accomplished in the aircraft. It also provides for training, testing, and checking of air operators (parts 125, 135, and 121) who would not otherwise have the ability to train, check, or test in advanced flight simulation devices. It was never intended to become another means for approving basic aircraft training exclusively in airplanes. Parts 61 and 141 adequately serve that purpose. Part 142 was created for advanced flight training devices that replicate a specific aircraft, make/model, and type of aircraft cockpit with handling characteristics that accurately model the aircraft. (Those characteristics are developed from specific manufacturing data.)

Part 61 and part 141 also adequately provide for the use of flight simulation devices that cannot qualify as "advanced" through:

- 61.51 (g)(4) Logging Instrument Time
- 61.57 (d)(1)(ii) Instrument Proficiency Check
- 61.65 (e)(2) Instrument Training/Maximum 20 hours
- 61.65 (a)(8)(ii) Instrument Rating Practical Test
- 61.129 (i)(1)(i) Commercial Pilot Training/Maximum 50 hours
- 61.159 (a)(3)(i) Airline Transport Pilot Training/Maximum 25 hours
- 141.41 (b) Approved Part 141 Appendices as Limited by Section 61.4 (b)

In June, due to a concern for the inconsistent approval of training center programs, all Training Center Program Managers (TCPM) were required to forward a list of those existing part 142 certificated training centers with approved pilot training curriculums that are not utilizing advanced flight training devices or simulators as a primary means of training, testing, and checking, and the following were reported:

SimCenter, Inc. - Southern Region, MIA FSDO

15 students currently enrolled

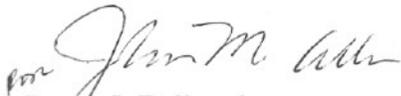
Recurrent Training Center, Inc. - Great Lakes Region, SPI FSDO

8 students currently enrolled

CRM Airline Training Center, Inc. - Western-Pacific Region, SDL FSDO

20 students currently enrolled

TCPMs shall remove part 142 approval from all of those curricula dedicated to conducting pilot training, checking, and/or testing exclusively in aircraft or without the use of advanced flight simulation as the primary means for training, checking, and testing. No new students may be enrolled beyond the date of this notification. Once currently enrolled students have completed their contracted training, checking, and/or testing, the approval of such curricula must be removed from the part 142 certificate. There shall be no further approvals of this type granted under part 142. TCPMs shall advise training centers that they may conduct those types of operations under part 61 or part 141.


James J. Ballough