

| <p align="center"><b>RVSM APPROVAL PROCESS EVENTS: U.S. OPERATORS<br/>(Nov 8, 2004)</b></p> <p><b>Note: text updated in this edition is highlighted in yellow.</b></p>  | <p><b>91-RVSM Reference Paragraph or Document on RVSM Documentation Website</b></p>  |
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| <p>Operator Establishes Need to Obtain RVSM Approval. <b>NOTE:</b> ATS providers have announced intent to implement RVSM in NOTAM's and Aeronautical Information Publications.</p>  | <p>6c(1) &amp; (2)</p>   |
| <p>Operator Contacts Aircraft Manufacturer or Design Organization and obtains aircraft RVSM airworthiness approval documents, if available:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>For In-service aircraft:</u> e.g., Service Bulletin (SB), Aircraft Service Change (ASC) , Supplemental Type Certificate (STC); and</li> <li>• <u>For New or In-production aircraft:</u> e.g., Airplane Flight Manual statement, Type Certificate Data Sheet</li> </ul> <p>Manufacturer advises operator whether aircraft is covered by group approval or is considered as a non-group aircraft</p> <p>Manufacturer advises operator on obtaining airworthiness approval documents</p> | <p>11b; Aircraft Engineering Package List; Points of Contact list - Aircraft Manufacturers</p>   |
| <p>Operator contacts the responsible Flight Standards District Office (FSDO) or Certificate Management Office (CMO) to arrange a pre-application meeting to discuss requirements for approval.</p>  | <p>11.c; <b>See paragraphs 3 and 7 on next pages.</b></p>  |
| <p><b>Approx 60 days in advance</b>, operator submits an application to FSDO or CMO for operational approval.</p>   | <p>6c, 11b, 11d</p>  |
| <p><b><u>Content of Application:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Airworthiness Documents. (See para. 8 for TCAS Version 7 information).</li> <li>2. Description of Aircraft Equipment.</li> <li>3. Operations Training Programs and Operating Practices and Procedures.</li> <li>4. Operations Manuals and Checklists.</li> <li>5. Past Performance.</li> <li>6. Minimum Equipment List <b>(only if operating under an MEL).</b></li> <li>7. Maintenance Program.</li> <li>8. Plan for participation in Monitoring Programs.</li> <li>9. Plan for reporting altitude-keeping errors.</li> </ol>   | <p>11d, Example Application</p> <p>11d(1), Aircraft Engineering Package List</p> <p>11d(2)</p> <p>11d(3); <b>See para 5.</b></p> <p>11d(4); <b>See para 5.</b></p> <p>11d(5)</p> <p>11d(6), MMEL GC59</p> <p>10, 11d(7). <b>See para 4.</b></p> <p>11d(8), 11h . <b>See para 6.</b></p> <p>11i</p> |
| <p>FSDO or CMO reviews application.</p>   | <p>11e</p>   |

**RVSM APPROVAL EVENTS (CONT.)**

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| <p>FSDO or CMO registers operator’s RVSM compliant airframes on the US RVSM Approvals Database by making appropriate PTRS entries or faxing information. See reference in next column.</p> <p><b>NOTE: as individual airframes are verified to be RVSM compliant, the PTRS entries should be made or the information faxed to the FAA Technical Center (Fax 609-485-5078).</b></p> | <p>A PTRS Data Entry Job Aid is posted under FAA Inspector Guidance on the RVSM Documentation Webpage.</p> |
| <p>For Part 91, 121 and 135 operators, validation flight completed, if required.</p>   | <p>11f</p>   |
| <p>When operator completes airworthiness, continued airworthiness and operations program requirements, FSDO or CMO grants operational approval.</p>  | <p>11g</p>   |

1. **FAA RVSM Website Address:** [www.faa.gov/ats/ato/rvsm1.htm](http://www.faa.gov/ats/ato/rvsm1.htm) then click on “RVSM Documentation” Icon.

2. **RVSM Documentation Section Organization.** (Documents applicable to specific areas of operation are published for the individual areas). **Section headings are:**

- Webpage Updates: By Month Listing
- Getting Started: Information and Checklists
- Aircraft Certification (AIR) Policy/Procedures
- Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) – Applicable to All Operators
- Contacts
- FAA Inspector Guidance
- Documents Applicable to All RVSM Approvals
- General/Business Aviation Aircraft and Operator Documents
- Large Transport Aircraft/Operator Documents
- Monitoring Requirements and Procedures
- Registration on RVSM Approvals Database
- Area of Operations Specific Information & Operational Policy/Procedures

**1 North American RVSM**

- Domestic US RVSM (DRVSM)
- Canada – RVSM
- Mexico – RVSM
- Gulf of Mexico

**2 Global Areas of RVSM Operations**

- Asia/Pacific Ocean
- Caribbean and South America
- Europe
- North Atlantic (NAT)
- West Atlantic Route System (WATRS), San Juan FIR, NY Oceanic, Atlantic High Offshore

3. **Guidance to FAA Inspectors.** Current Guidance to FAA Flight Standards Inspectors is:

- a. Guidance Applicable to Part 91 Operators:
  - (1) **Job Aid: Part 91 Operator Application to Conduct RVSM Operations**
  - (2) Notice 8700.23 (Letter of Authorization For Special Areas of Operations (SAO))
  - (3) Notice 8700.26 (Authorization of Aircraft and Operators For Flight In RVSM Airspace)
- b. Guidance Applicable to Part 121, 125 and 135 Operators: HBAAT 03-06 (9/8/03)
- c. Airworthiness Guidance Applicable to All Operators: FAA Order 8300.10 (Airworthiness Inspector's Handbook) (5/21/03). See paragraph 4 below.
- d. PTRS Data Entry Job Aid

4. **Maintenance Programs.** FAA Order 8300.10 (Airworthiness Inspector's Handbook) was updated with RVSM information in May 2003. Volume 2, Chapter 5 contains guidance on RVSM maintenance programs. Section 1, paragraph 9 and Section 2, paragraph 5 contain information on maintenance program content and on inspector actions. Chapter 5 also contains guidance on inspector determination of aircraft RVSM compliance. Chapter 5 is published under FAA Inspector Guidance on the RVSM Documentation Webpage.

5. **Operations Training, Manuals and Checklists.** The following documents can be found on the RVSM Documentation Webpage. They are references for the development of training programs and manuals:

- a. 91-RVSM Appendix 4: Practices/procedures applicable to all RVSM operations
- b. 91-RVSM Appendix 5: Practices/procedures applicable to oceanic RVSM operations
- c. Area of Operations Specific Information. Operational policies and procedures for specific areas of operation can be found in RVSM Documentation under the individual area headings. Procedures listed include: contingency procedures, weather deviation procedures and track offset procedures. Policies include: policies for flight planning and for operation of non-RVSM aircraft.
- d. DRVSM Area of Operations Operational Policy/Procedures. An FAA Notice **(Oct 27, 2004)** containing operational policy and procedures for RVSM in the domestic U.S., Alaska, Offshore Airspace and the San Juan FIR is posted in the North American RVSM section of the RVSM Documentation webpage.
- e. Pilot Training for Using TCAS Version 7.0 in RVSM airspace.
- f. TCAS II Version 7.0 Modifications.
- g. Dispatcher Guidance for RVSM Operations.
- h. Acceptance of Part 91 Operator Pilot Knowledge and Operations Documents. See inspector guidance in N 8700.26 paragraph 9f.

6. **Monitoring Requirements and Procedures.** See the “Monitoring Requirements and Procedures” section of the RVSM Documentation Webpage.
  - a. See “Instructions for Using the Minimum Monitoring Charts and Procedures from Different Regions”.
  - b. See “Monitoring Procedures for US Operators” document.
7. **RVSM Area New to the Operator.** Requirements and policies for operators that have received initial approval in one area of operations and are starting operations in another are reviewed in the “RVSM Area New to the Operator” document published on the website under Documents Applicable to All RVSM Approvals.
8. **Part 91 Appendix G Provision for TCAS II Version 7.0.** Appendix G, Section 2, paragraph (g) was revised in 2001 to state:

“After March 31, 2002, unless otherwise authorized by the Administrator, if you operate an aircraft that is equipped with TCAS II in RVSM airspace, it must be a TCAS II that meets TSO C-119b (Version 7.0), or a later version”.