

- Anticipated new funds for this program
- Expected Federal contribution
  - Budget request
- Total of all Funds Available for Action Plan
- Projected budget for mid-term and long-term (5-year and beyond) Air Service Improvement Strategies
- Expected local contribution
  - Actual funds from all sources, including local government (budgeted amount, current and projected for the proposed life of the Grant Agreement), local businesses and organizations (contributions), airlines, airport users.
  - Value and description of in-kind services
- Expected state contribution
  - Actual funds from current programs
  - Anticipated new funds for this program

#### How Can Pilot Program Funds Be Used?

Pilot Program funds can be used to cover the expenses of any new advertising or promotional activities that can reasonably be related to improving the scheduled air service to the community. Funds may be used for any type of new media advertising; for new studies designed to measure air service deficiencies, or to measure traffic loss or bleed to other communities; for new expenses associated with conducting promotional activities; and for the employment of new dedicated air service development staff on a long-term basis, advertising or public relations agencies, universities, and consulting firms.

#### Design of Pilot Program

This Small Community Air Service Development Pilot Program is designed to help individual communities address a variety of service issues. Indeed, because air service problems can run the gamut of issues from low frequency and wrong equipment to high fares and wrong markets, there is no one program that will be "right" for every community. Certain things are well known, however, that will allow the Department to channel the limited grant resources in this Pilot Program to those communities where it will do the most good.

#### Why Are Large and Medium Hubs not Included in the Pilot Program?

Congress limited eligibility to small hubs and smaller airports based on calendar year 1997 designations.

#### What Is an Appropriate Local Share of the Project's Cost?

A local share is not required to receive a grant under the Pilot Program, although it will be considered a positive element. To the extent that a grant under this program would enhance a community's ongoing effort to improve its local air service, a local share would be appropriate and may help the Department to extend the benefits of the program to a larger pool of communities. We would anticipate that larger airports would seek a larger grant amount and submit proposals showing a larger local/state share.

#### Grant Application Checklist

- Airport and community name
- Address
- Contact person w/phone number
- Additional community members

#### Addresses

- Contact persons w/phone numbers
- Project Sponsor (If different from above)
- Address
- Contact person w/phone number
- Project Proposal
  - Project description
  - Project duration
  - Project elements
  - Project Cost
  - Local share
  - Public funds
  - Private funds
  - State share
  - Federal share
  - Total Cost \$
- Proposed evaluation criteria

[FR Doc. 02-5635 Filed 3-7-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-62-P

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Office of the Secretary; North American Free Trade Agreement Conference

**AGENCY:** Office of the Secretary, DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice (1) announces a DOT-sponsored North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) information conference, to be held at the Westin Riverwalk Hotel in San Antonio, Texas, May 29-31, 2002, (2) provides information about the conference for prospective attendees; and (3) identifies a dedicated website that will provide continuously updated information about the conference including registration information. U.S., Canadian, and Mexican government officials representing agencies that have inspection, security and other defined responsibilities affecting the clearance of cross-border transport operations will conduct panel sessions that convey information about their agency requirements affecting the operations of commercial truck and bus companies engaged in cross-border operations. This conference was originally scheduled to take place in October 2001, but was postponed following the terrorist attacks on the United States on September 11, 2001.

#### Background

Since 1982, the operation of most Mexican motor carriers in the United States has been limited by a statutory moratorium on DOT's granting of authority to those carriers to operate outside the commercial zones along the U.S.-Mexico border. The North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) created a timetable for the gradual lifting of that moratorium over six years from entry into force of the agreement, and it provided for

liberalizing investment restrictions on trucking companies established in Mexico and the United States. Liberalized access was to have begun in 1995, but the United States postponed implementation due to safety concerns. A NAFTA dispute resolution panel subsequently ruled that the U.S. blanket prohibition on processing Mexican motor carrier applications for authority to operate throughout the United States violated the NAFTA.

Since 1995, the United States has taken steps to augment its ability to assure compliance with U.S. motor carrier safety regulations. In addition, as part of DOT's FY-2002 appropriations act, the Congress specified a number of actions that the Department must take prior to processing Mexican motor carrier applications for authority to operate throughout the United States. In anticipation of a Presidential order lifting the moratorium, the Department is currently taking steps to comply with the provisions of the appropriations act and expects to be ready to process Mexican motor carrier applications for authority to operate throughout the United States by June 30, 2002. All foreign motor carriers operating in the United States are subject to the same federal and state regulations and procedures that apply to U.S. carriers. These include safety regulations, insurance requirements, tariff requirements, and payment of all taxes and fees. In addition, foreign motor carriers and drivers must comply with applicable customs and immigration laws and regulations. Under the NAFTA, these compliance obligations are completely reciprocal so that U.S. carriers and drivers are similarly obligated to comply with Canadian and Mexican statutory and regulatory requirements while conducting operations in those countries.

While U.S. and Canadian carriers have been conducting operations in each other's respective countries for some time, Mexican motor carriers will be operating in the United States for the first time once the NAFTA's access provisions are implemented. Similarly, operations into Mexico will be a new experience for most U.S. and Canadian motor carriers. The many federal and state regulatory requirements and the multiplicity of federal and state agencies imposing them may be confusing and intimidating to these first-time entrants and could discourage them from attempting to take advantage of the NAFTA's transportation provisions. For this reason, the Department of Transportation, in cooperation with Canada, Mexico, and other federal agencies will host a NAFTA information

conference in San Antonio, Texas, May 29–31, 2002 to promote an understanding of the requirements for legal cross-border motor carrier operations among the three NAFTA countries. The Department will be assisted in preparing for the conference by the Free Trade Alliance San Antonio.

#### Who Should Attend

This conference will be beneficial for government lawyers, commercial truck carriers, bus operators, customs brokers, shippers, and other companies and/or associations that have an interest in the conduct of cross-border business that will involve transport operations.

#### Meetings and Deadlines

The NAFTA conference will include panels that convey information about: (1) Applying for federal motor carrier operating authority; (2) immigration requirements for drivers operating outside of their own country; (3) Customs requirements for foreign trucks engaged in international operations; (4) agriculture regulations applicable to imported commodities; (5) tax obligations for companies operating commercial vehicles outside their own country; (6) motor carrier safety standards; (7) hazardous materials transportation safety regulations; (8) vehicle weight and dimensions standards; and other requirements. Other panels may be added as preparations for the conference progress. Representatives from the various agencies will be available following panel discussions to address questions from conference attendees. Finally, each attendee will be provided a resource book from each country containing additional information, contact names, e-mail and phone numbers that may be used to obtain additional information.

#### Languages

All conference sessions will be conducted either in English or Spanish with simultaneous translation. To the extent possible, agency representatives who address specific questions from attendees outside the formal panel sessions will be bilingual.

#### Updated Information and Hotel Registration

To provide a continuous source of updated conference information, the Department of Transportation's Office of International Transportation & Trade has established a Web site for prospective attendees and other interested parties. The DOT Web site will contain an updated schedule of events, guest speakers, and agendas for

the panel sessions as they are developed. The Web site can be accessed by going to the DOT homepage at [www.dot.gov/NAFTA](http://www.dot.gov/NAFTA).

The DOT Web site also has a link to the Free Trade Alliance San Antonio's Web site, where a registration form for the conference can be accessed and completed online. Registration forms can also be downloaded from the Web site and completed manually. Forms completed manually should be returned to the Free Trade Alliance, 203 South St. Mary's Street, Suite 130, San Antonio, Texas 78205, or faxed to 210–229–9724. Registration forms and information about the conference, hotel accommodations, and the city of San Antonio can also be obtained by writing to the Free Trade Alliance or by telephoning 210–229–9036.

All participants are requested to fill out a conference registration form. A block of rooms has been reserved at the Westin Riverwalk Hotel, 420 West Market Street, San Antonio, Texas 78205. Interested parties can contact the hotel by telephone at 210–224–6500 or by fax at 210–444–6000. Further information about accommodations can be found on the Free Trade Alliance Web site at [www.freetradealliance.org](http://www.freetradealliance.org).

#### Address and Phone Numbers

For further information please contact Eddie Carazo, U.S. Department of Transportation, OST/X–20, Room 10300, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590, telephone (202) 366–2892, or fax (202) 366–7417.

Dated: February 28, 2002.

**Bernestine Allen,**

*Director, Office of International Transportation and Trade.*

[FR Doc. 02–5625 Filed 3–7–02; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910–62–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Aviation Administration

[Policy Statement Number ANM–01–02]

#### FAA Policy on Type Certification Assessment of Thrust Management Systems

**AGENCY:** Federal Aviation Administration, DOT.

**ACTION:** Final policy statement.

**SUMMARY:** This document announces an FAA policy applicable to the type certification of transport category airplanes. This document advises the public, in particular manufacturers of transport category airplanes and their suppliers, that the FAA intends to adopt

a new policy concerning the type certification assessment of thrust management systems.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mike McRae, Federal Aviation Administration, Transport Airplane Directorate, Transport Standards Staff, Propulsion/Mechanical Systems Branch, ANM–112, 1601 Lind Avenue SW., Renton, WA 98055–4056; telephone (425) 227–2133; fax (425) 227–1320; e-mail: [mike.mcrae@faa.gov](mailto:mike.mcrae@faa.gov).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Background

The FAA traditionally has certified automated thrust management features, such as autothrottles and “target rating” displays, on the basis that they are only conveniences to reduce crew workload and do not relieve the crew of any responsibility for assuring proper thrust management. Consequently, even when the crew is no longer directly involved in performing a given thrust management function, they must be “aware” when this function is not being performed safely. Further, when they do become “aware” of any thrust management malfunction, they must be capable of taking appropriate corrective action to safely address that malfunction.

For most thrust management systems (TMS) that the FAA has certified to date, this crew “awareness” has been accepted as coming from:

a. Inherent aircraft operational cues (for example, failure of the throttles to properly respond to an autothrottle command is usually assumed to be detectable by improper movement of the throttle levers, engine indications, or other inherent aircraft responses); or

b. Adherence to training and procedures (for example, crews are trained to cross-check the TMS “target rating” against the Quick Reference Handbook rating or the rating on a dispatch sheet); or

c. Dedicated failure detection and annunciation (for example, if the autothrottle detects that it cannot perform its function, under some circumstances it will automatically disconnect itself and announce that fact through a crew alerting feature).

#### Service History Involving TMS Issues

There have been at least two recent accidents related to TMS effects:

1. *March 31, 1995, Taron Airbus Model A310–300, Bucharest, Hungary:* The airplane crashed shortly after takeoff. The Romanian investigating team indicated that the probable cause of the accident was the combination of an autothrottle failure that generated