



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE

HEADQUARTERS AERONAUTICAL SYSTEMS CENTER (AFMC)

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, OHIO

BULLETIN

AWB-008

8 April 2011


USAF Airworthiness Bulletin AWB-008

Subject: First Flight Executive Independent Review Team (FF EIRT)

Attachment: Glossary of References and Supporting Information

- 1. Purpose:** Address the procedures and practices for first flight executive independent review team (FF EIRT) and flight release activities as required by USAF airworthiness policy.
- 2. Office of Primary Responsibility (OPR):** USAF Airworthiness Office (ASC/EN) is the OPR. Comments, suggestions, or questions on this bulletin should be emailed to the USAF Airworthiness Office Mailbox (ASC.ENSI.Mailbox@wpafb.af.mil).
- 3. Policy:** AFI 62-601, *USAF Airworthiness*, requires FF EIRT assessments for new aircraft development programs and for some reportable modification programs. After all associated risks have been accepted by the proper authorities, the output of the FF EIRT process is a TAA-issued Military Flight Release (MFR).
- 4. Procedures:** As standard practice, the Technical Airworthiness Authority (TAA) will not utilize the FF EIRT to assess readiness to enter flight testing. Program Managers (PMs) for new aircraft development programs and all reportable modification programs requesting a first flight release and authorization to initiate the flight test program shall follow the process outlined in AWB-006.

However, in unique situations, the TAA, in conjunction with the PM or Chief Engineer (CE), may determine the FF EIRT will be utilized instead of the process defined in AWB-006 to issue a first flight release. For these unique cases, the TAA will establish the overall scope and content of the FF EIRT assessment and the FF EIRT Chairperson will document these in a Charter that will be signed by the TAA, PM, and FF EIRT Chair.



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Attachment 1**GLOSSARY OF REFERENCES AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION*****References***

AFI 62-601, *USAF Airworthiness*, 11 June 2010

AWB – 006, *Military Flight Release*

USAF Airworthiness SharePoint website;

<https://cs.eis.afmc.af.mil/sites/AeroEngDisciplines/Systems/Airworthiness/default.aspx>

AFKN USAF Airworthiness CoP;

<https://afkm.wpafb.af.mil/community/views/home.aspx?Filter=OO-EN-KO-11>

Abbreviations and Acronyms

CE—Chief Engineer

FF EIRT— First Flight Executive Independent Review Team

MFR—Military Flight Release

PM—Program Manager

TAA—Technical Airworthiness Authority

Terms

Military Flight Release (MFR)— Documentation which authorizes flight of specific aircraft at specific locations under approved conditions and limitations.

Technical Airworthiness Authority (TAA) – The USAF official authorized to define airworthiness standards, approve the certification basis, issue findings of compliance, and issue Military Type Certificates and other flight releases.