USE OF FAA-PMA PARTS (PARTS MANUFACTURING APPROVAL) ON AIRCRAFT WITH MALAYSIAN CERTIFICATE OF AIRWORTHINESS

1. Introduction

1.1 In the FAA system, Parts Manufacturing Approval (PMA) is one of the production approvals granted to manufacturing organizations that want to produce and sell modification or replacement parts directly to the public for installation on type certificated products. PMA is unique as it is actually a combination of both production and design approvals. It also includes installation approval for the PMA parts.

1.2 The engineering approval of the design of the PMA parts can be granted based on substantiation by using means ranging from the normal tests and computations method to reverse engineering. In respect of production, the PMA holder is required to establish a fabrication inspection system. However, there is no requirement in the FARs for the PMA holder to have a Quality Assurance Procedures Manual. Such a manual is considered optional.

1.3 The Bilateral Aviation Safety Agreement (BASA) with Implementation Procedures for Airworthiness (IPA) that Malaysia concluded with the U.S. FAA makes provision for the eligibility of U.S. PMA parts, among other appliances and parts to be imported into Malaysia. The term “eligibility” is not construed as an automatic approval by DCA.

2. Requirements

2.1 DCA will accept installation of FAA-PMA parts or components on aircraft with Malaysian Certificate of Airworthiness subject to the following requirements:

2.1.1 When new parts are received from a manufacturing source located in the USA and appropriately approved by the FAA, the authorized release document will be FAA Form 8130-3, Airworthiness Approval Tag, export airworthiness approval.

Note: An FAA Form 8130-3, which has been issued and used internally within the USA for purposes other than for export is not acceptable for use as an export airworthiness approval.

2.1.2 Aircraft components manufactured in accordance with the Parts Manufacturer Approval of FAR Part 21.303 are only acceptable when intended for fitment to an aircraft, engine or propeller where the FAA is the Primary National Aviation Authority responsible for type design.

2.1.3 The distributing agent for the PMA holder must have in its possession, a copy of the FAA-PMA Letter indicating the initial production approval and the relevant Supplement(s) indicating approval of the design and production of the particular part or component.

2.2 The end user should request from the distributor the associated authorized release document and other relevant document(s) including that stated in paragraph 2.1.3 above to establish the components acceptability prior to installation.

2.3 In all cases, it shall be the end users responsibility to obtain the appropriate release documentation and establish acceptability of the component.