FAA Extends Inspection Authorization Renewal Period to Two Years

FAA is amending the regulations for the Inspection Authorization (IA) renewal period. The current IA regulation has a one-year renewal period. This rulemaking changes the renewal period to once every two years. "This will reduce the burden on both FAA and on the mechanic holding the IA," says ASI Kim Barnette (AFS-350). The amendment to § 65.92(a) changes the expiration date of an inspection authorization from March 31 of each year to March 31 of each odd-numbered year. Barnette says the rulemaking is in response to concerns regarding the administrative burden associated with the renewal of inspection authorizations under § 65.93. The final rule is posted with an effective date of March 1, 2007, the same date that comments close. Barnette advises that if significant negative comments are received, the rule may have to be withdrawn. In the meantime, Barnette is developing implementation guidance that will be available prior to March 1.

In a <u>Direct Final Rule</u>, the FAA has extended the Inspection Authorization ("IA") renewal period under FARs <u>65.92</u> and <u>65.93</u> from one year to two years. The FAA believes the final rule will reduce the renewal administrative costs for both the FAA and mechanics holding the IA by 50%. The final rule does not change the requirements of the prior rule for annual activity (work performed, training, or oral examination).

The final rule is effective March 1, 2007. Comments to the final rule must be submitted no later than March 1, 2007 for inclusion in the final rule's docket. I f you would like more information on the final rule you may contact Kim Barnette, AFS-350, 800 Independence Ave, SW., Washington, DC 20591. Telephone: (202) 493-4922; e-mail: kim.barnette@faa.gov; Fax: (202) 267-5115.