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ADVISORY CIRCULAR

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

SUBJECT: 1971 ANNUAL AVIATION MECHANIC SAFETY AWARDS PROGRAM

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1. **PURPOSE.** This advisory circular provides the details of the Annual Aviation Mechanic Safety Awards Program. This program is a joint effort of the Federal Aviation Administration, The Flight Safety Foundation, and the aviation community.
 2. **CANCELLATION.** Advisory Circular 60-2G is canceled.
 3. **BACKGROUND.** The Federal Aviation Agency established an Aviation Mechanic Safety Awards Program in 1963 and major segments of the aviation industry have given their cooperative support. The program is now established as an annual event.
 4. **OBJECTIVE OF AWARDS.** The Annual Aviation Mechanic Safety Awards give recognition to THE AVIATION MECHANICS MAKING THE OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS TO AIR SAFETY BY MAINTENANCE PRACTICES. The national effort enables the public to recognize the importance of the mechanic in aviation safety. It also serves to focus the aviation mechanic's attention on the vital safety role he plays in the practice of aviation maintenance.
 5. **NUMBER OF AWARDS.**
 - a. **State Awards.** Fifty awards are made on a state level, one in each state for the general aviation winner. If a winner is located in Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands, additional awards are made. State general aviation mechanic winners become competitively eligible for FAA regional general aviation awards. Air carrier mechanic awards are made on a regional basis only, due to the geographic locations of civil air carrier main bases.
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7. AWARD PRESENTATION. State and regional awards are presented in ceremonies scheduled by the agency regional offices at state capitals, FAA regional offices, or at other selected locations. National awards are presented in Washington, D.C. The agency does not pay travel or per diem costs for winners or their families. Travel arrangements to presentation sites are made by the agency in conjunction with the aviation industry.
8. AWARD GUIDELINES. These guidelines for the selection of winners have been established:
 - a. "For the suggestion of a design or 'improvement' to an aircraft or powerplant or any of its components that led to or resulted in increased reliability and/or safety in aviation."
 - b. "For the suggestion or development of a maintenance and/or inspection procedure that contributed significantly to safety in aviation."
 - c. "For the consistent demonstration of a high level of professionalism and excellence in the performance of his duties as an aviation mechanic that led to or resulted in increased reliability and/or safety in aviation."
9. ELIGIBILITY FOR CONSIDERATION.
 - a. Eligible mechanics may submit their own entry forms. In addition, supervisors or other knowledgeable personnel may submit an entry form for an eligible aviation mechanic. Entries should be made on FAA Form 1210-1, Entry Form - Aviation Mechanic Award, (see Appendix 1, page 1), and submit to the FAA district office having jurisdiction over the geographic area in which the mechanic is employed.
 - b. Winners are selected without regard for race, creed, color, sex, or national origin.
 - c. Aviation mechanics employed outside the continental limits of the United States who are foreign nationals employed by a U.S. company and who hold a valid FAA mechanic certificate are eligible.
 - d. Aviation mechanics actively engaged or employed by aircraft, powerplant, or accessory manufacturers as mechanics performing "flight line" aviation mechanic duties are eligible. (See definition, "Aviation Mechanic," 9k.) Repairman, authorized inspectors (AIs), designated mechanic examiners, and parachute riggers are eligible.
 - e. Aviation mechanics in the Armed Forces are eligible. Their entry should be one that could be applied to civil aviation use.
 - f. Employees of the Federal Aviation Administration and the Flight Safety Foundation are not eligible.

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- g. Contributions developed during the calendar year are eligible for the annual awards. The closing date for the awards will be December 31.
- h. Patented safety contributions are eligible.
- i. Qualified suggestions or developments, which previously have received awards from employers, are eligible.
- j. A contribution developed by the cooperative efforts of more than one person is judged accordingly. In this case, duplicate awards are granted.
- k. An entrant must be working as an active aviation mechanic. For the purpose of this program, the aviation mechanic is defined as an individual who is skilled in the methods, techniques, and practices, necessary for the performance of maintenance, inspection, or alteration of aircraft as a whole or any of the major aircraft subdivisions such as engines, propellers, airframes and appliances. He uses such skills either as the artisan who works with his hands or directly supervises others who work with their hands. This eliminates the professional engineer or the "mechanic" specifically employed, for example, as an airport janitorial service employee or in similar associated positions, which in certain job descriptions could be titled a "mechanic." The eligible aviation mechanic is not required to hold a valid FAA mechanic certificate in order to participate. (In the case of foreign nationals - item 9c above.)

10. SCREENING AND SELECTION OF ENTRIES.

- a. Screening and selection of entries for state and regional awards are made by committees composed of aviation mechanics, FAA personnel, and civil and military aviation personnel possessing the technical qualifications required to evaluate and judge the entrant's contribution. Committee members are selected from within the geographic boundaries of the particular area. Final screening and selection for the national awards are made by a committee composed of nationally prominent aviation people and FAA personnel. This national committee is established and administered by the Flight Safety Foundation.
- b. The screening and selecting committees thoroughly review all entry forms to assure that the entrant's "outstanding contribution" is within the categories specified under "Award Guidelines" (see item 8). This initial review eliminates entrants not within the specified guidelines. No further review is required. The remaining entries are then audited and verified by FAA inspectors prior to final consideration and selection.

- c. In order to qualify, the contribution must be original and significant.
- d. The contribution should have relatively broad application to the aviation field.
- e. In general, the contribution should be important to civil aviation, or, if it is military development, it should be one that could be applied to civil aviation.
- f. The contribution should be clearly attributable to the entrant.
- g. The interest of an entrant in aviation safety by maintenance practices is a guiding criterion; i.e., his imagination and initiative in working beyond the requirements of his job to direct his efforts to aviation safety.
- h. An entrant not selected for an award may apply for reconsideration by a letter of request within 7 days after the winner is announced. This letter is to be directed to the appropriate FAA regional office and originated by the person submitting the entry form in question.
- i. The official entry form is enclosed in Appendix 1, page 1, of this circular. Additional copies of FAA Form 1210-1 may be obtained from the local FAA office, or a reasonable facsimile made by the entrant.
- j. Persons desiring details of winners' contributions should communicate directly with that person for details. The names of the winners and the details of their developments are usually published in trade journals.

11. SCHEDULE OF EVENTS.

- a. July: FAA offices will start to compile and collate entry forms submitted for the calendar year. (The entries are acceptable through December 31.)
- b. State winners will be selected and the Washington Headquarters advised by January 30, (of the following year) and awards will be presented on or after March 5 (of the following year).

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- c. Regional winners will be selected and the Washington Headquarters advised by February 15, and awards will be presented on or after March 30.
- d. National winners will be selected in March, and awards will be presented on dates scheduled by Headquarters during the first six months of the calendar year.
- e. Regional offices will schedule the state and regional award events to suit each office within the established schedule.



Director
Flight Standards Service