

AGING TRANSPORT SYSTEMS RULEMAKING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
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January 21, 2005

Mr. Nicholas A. Sabatini
Associate Administrator
Regulation and Certification AVR-1
Federal Aviation Administration
Room 1000 West
800 Independence Ave. SW
Washington, DC 20591

Dear Mr. Sabatini:

At our January 2005 meeting, the Aging Transport Systems Rulemaking Advisory Committee (ATSRAC) reviewed the status of Harmonization Working Group #12 (HWG#12) and learned that HWG#12 is on schedule to complete their original workplan in October 2005. The question was raised whether HWG#12 should begin to identify new technologies and knowledge in order to make further recommendations to the FAA and industry. While it was recognized that public input to the research and development process is very valuable, the Committee had concerns that this would be an ongoing activity and could preclude ATSRAC from disbanding upon the completion of the Committee's work next year. Therefore, after a lengthy discussion, the Committee voted unanimously to make the following recommendation to the FAA:

FAA should form a new industry-wide body to identify, review, screen, transfer and implement technologies and knowledge that enhance the safety and continued airworthiness of aircraft systems. The scope of this body would include procedures, equipment and systems to design, monitor, analyze, inspect, test and maintain aircraft systems. This body should be in place by October 2005 so that it may commence upon the completion of ATSRAC HWG#12's tasking.

Thank you for your consideration of this recommendation.

Sincerely,

Kent V. Hollinger
ATSRAC Chairman

Cc: James Ballough
Brenda Courtney

John Hickey
Charles Huber