



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Aviation
Administration**

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Memorandum

Date: JUN 10 2010

To: Flight Standards Division Managers- AAL-200, ACE-200, AEA-200, AGL-200, ANM-200, ASO-200, ASW-200, and AWP-200

Cc: AFS-760 Branch Manager, AFS-700

From: Melvin O. Cintron, Manager, Flight Standards General Aviation and Commercial Division, AFS-800

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Subject: N 8900.97 New Section 61.73(g) That Allows Current and Former U.S. Military Instructors to Apply for an FAA Flight Instructor Certificate – No “Center Thrust” Limitation Permitted

Application:

All flight instructor certificates issued on the basis of 14 CFR § 61.73(g) – Military Competence.

Background:

A recent concern was raised by a region regarding the issuance of flight instructor certificates with an AMEL rating and a “center thrust” (CT) limitation issued on the basis of 61.73(g). In particular, the contention is that the FAA does not issue flight instructor certificate with an AMEL rating and a CT limitation. This contention is supported by Order 8900.1 Volume 5 Chapter 2 Section 11, Order 8900.2 Chapter 7, Notice N 8900.97, and Practical Test Standards document FAA-S-8081-6C. However, a conflicting email was sent out from AFS-800 which permitted the issuance of the CT limitation on flight instructor certificates issued on the basis of 61.73(g) (ref: Q & A 836).

14 CFR § 61.73 presumes that an applicant for an unrestricted commercial pilot or flight instructor certificate under § 61.73 meets the certification standards of 14 CFR 61 subparts F and H respectively. The FAA may issue a pilot certificate with AMEL and a CT limitation, which is permitted by Order 8900.1, Order 8900.2 and the practical test standards. However, Order 8900.1, Order 8900.97 and the practical test standards do not permit the

issuance of flight instructor certificate with an AMEL rating and a CT limitation as the flight instructor certificate applicant must be able to meet the standards regarding Vmc demonstration (ref: FAA-S-8081-6C AREA OF OPERATION: EMERGENCY OPERATIONS and AREA OF OPERATION: MULTIENGINE OPERATIONS).

Actions:

- Q&A-836 is withdrawn and is no longer applicable.
- Effective immediately, flight instructor certificates will not to be issued with a "center thrust" (CT) limitation.
- If the applicant only has AMEL CT experience, the applicant will not be issued a flight instructor certificate with an AMEL rating.
- To date, 227 flight instructor certificates with an AMEL rating and a CT limitation have been issued. Due to the relative small number, no action will be taken to withdraw or reissue these certificates without the AMEL rating.
- Flight instructor certificates currently issued with only an AMEL rating and a CT limitation will not be renewed.
- Flight instructor certificates currently with an AMEL rating and a CT limitation and other category and class rating(s) are eligible for renewal without the AMEL rating.
- A notice will be sent to all persons holding a flight instructor certificate with an AMEL rating and a CT limitation that the AMEL rating will not be eligible for renewal.
- Persons currently holding a flight instructor certificate that has an AMEL rating with a CT limitation may renew their certificate with an AMEL rating without the CT limitation provided they took a practical test with a qualified examiner or inspector as an additional AMEL rating.