

**To The Docket Management System
US Department of Transportation
Room Plaza 401
400 Seventh St. SW
Washington**

**Comments on Proposed Advisory Circular (AC) No. 21.101-1 Change 1,
Advisory Material for the Establishment of the Certification Basis of
Changed Aeronautical Products**

Docket No. FAA-2001-8994

- The recent work in modifying the AC has been useful in clarifying the intent of the rule, in particular that it is applicable only to a small proportion of ‘major’ changes at the ‘product’ level. There now appears to be general acceptance that, in practice, the new rule’s application will lead to outcomes that do not differ from the use of current practices. Nevertheless, there will be an additional, unnecessary burden in demonstrating non-significant for the vast majority of ‘major’ changes. In this context the new rule is unnecessary.
- It is also a concern that in order to clarify the original intent of the rule, the proposed AC will effectively be providing exemptions to the rule and making additional rules itself. This is clearly unacceptable and leaves an applicant vulnerable to the conflicting interpretations of the rule by different Authorities. It is our view, therefore, that only a rule change can properly address this concern.
- The fact that we will likely have some 33 pages of advisory material, several pages of examples and a possible extensive training programme, all of which will confirm that the majority of changes are exempted from the rule, suggests that the real problem actually lies with the rule itself.

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