

Launch Final Rule Issue Clarification Record

1. Date:
DTG 14JAN2003 1757Z (12:57 Eastern)
2. Subgroup/FAA Person Seeking Clarification:
Flight Safety Analysis/Mark Wright
3. Company/Industry Person Contacted:
Lockheed Martin/John Trivisonno (303) 977-9934
4. Issue:
Padding COLA windows for non-habitable resident space objects. Joint Commenters Document, Appendix A, Tab 4, pg. 64.
5. Discussion:
<p>Mr. Wright asked Mr. Trivisonno for clarification on this item. The comment indicated that padding the launch window wait is conservative, but acceptable for the habitable orbital objects. However, padding the launch window wait is not advisable for the other objects, since the extra conservatism unnecessarily decreases, or possibly eliminates, the launch window.</p> <p>Mr. Wright asked why Industry believed there was a proposed requirement that specified a collision avoidance (COLA) analysis for other than habitable resident space objects. Mr. Trivisonno stated that there were a few instances where derived comments were provided to Industry. In this case, this comment was provided by Aerospace and the wording added to the Industry response. The obvious concern was that Industry did not want an additional requirement for performing a safety COLA on all objects when they currently have one performed for two or three habitable objects. Performing an analysis for all objects would eliminate most or all of a launch window. He wasn't sure, but believed this comment originally came from Industry's NPRM response. The NPRM requirement, as he remembered it, did not distinguish between habitable and non-habitable or was ambiguous.</p> <p>Mr. Wright stated he would go back to the NPRM and SNPRM text and review the requirement on this subject.</p>
6. Conclusion:
Review NPRM text and SNPRM text on this requirement for clarity. Remove any ambiguity from the new proposed rule text. Ensure the requirement for COLA analysis only applies to habitable space objects. The safety offices only require COLA analyses for habitable objects. All other analyses for the remaining resident space objects are for mission assurance COLAs only and do not add to the launch waits.