

caption **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT.** Please specify whether a paper copy or an e-mailed copy is needed.

### Discussion

The proposed revisions to the advisory circular (AC) provide a convenient source of current policies, guidance, and practices for U.S. airworthiness certification and acceptance of civil aeronautical products imported to the U.S. Since the publication of current AC 21-23 in 1987, a new format of bilateral aviation agreement, the Bilateral Aviation Safety Agreement (BASA), has been established. A BASA consists of an Executive Agreement, signed by the Department of State and its foreign counterpart, and one or more Implementation Procedures (e.g., for airworthiness, maintenance, flight simulators, environmental approval) signed by the FAA and its foreign civil aviation counterpart. Both a BASA and its predecessor, a Bilateral Airworthiness Agreement (BAA), are intended to facilitate reciprocal airworthiness certification of civil aeronautical products imported or exported between the two signatory countries. Both are based on a high degree of mutual confidence in the technical competence and regulatory capability of the aviation authority of the exporting country for performing aircraft certification functions within the scope of the agreements, but a BASA is more flexible, because it allows for later expansion into other FAA regulatory disciplines. The FAA's objective in issuing this proposed revised AC is to provide guidance on the current procedures and requirements for design and airworthiness approvals of aviation products imported to the United States, including requirements in BASA Implementation Procedures for Airworthiness.

Issued in Washington, DC, on March 3, 2000.

**Mary Cheston,**

*Manager, International Airworthiness Programs Staff, AIR-4.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Railroad Administration

#### Petition for Waiver of Compliance

In accordance with Part 211 of Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), notice is hereby given that the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) received

a request for a waiver of compliance with certain requirements of its safety standards. The individual petition is described below, including the party seeking relief, the regulatory provisions involved, the nature of the relief being requested, and the petitioner's arguments in favor of relief.

#### Metro-North Commuter Railroad & Connecticut Department of Transportation

[Docket Number FRA-2000-6778]

Metro-North Commuter Railroad (MNCW) and the Connecticut Department of Transportation (CDOT) seek a temporary waiver of compliance with the Passenger Equipment Safety Standards, 49 CFR Part 238.235, which requires that by December 31, 1999, each power operated door that is partitioned from the passenger compartment shall be equipped with a manual override adjacent to that door. They request that the waiver be granted for 159 passenger coaches equipped with power operated side doors outside the passenger compartment. The waiver if granted would grant an extension of time until July 1, 2001, for the installation manual overrides.

Interested parties are invited to participate in these proceedings by submitting written views, data, or comments. FRA does not anticipate scheduling a public hearing in connection with these proceedings since the facts do not appear to warrant a hearing. If any interested party desires an opportunity for oral comment, they should notify FRA, in writing, before the end of the comment period and specify the basis for their request.

All communications concerning these proceedings should identify the appropriate docket number (e.g., Waiver Petition Docket Number FRA-2000-6778) and must be submitted to the Docket Clerk, DOT Central Docket Management Facility, Room PL-401, Washington, DC. 20590-0001. Communications received within 45 days of the date of this notice will be considered by FRA before final action is taken. Comments received after that date will be considered as far as practicable. All written communications concerning these proceedings are available for examination during regular business hours (9:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.) at the above facility. All documents in the public docket are also available for inspection and copying on the Internet at the docket facility's Web site at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

Issued in Washington, DC, on February 24, 2000.

**Grady C. Cothen, Jr.,**

*Deputy Associate Administrator for Safety Standards and Program Development.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Railroad Administration

#### Petition for Waiver of Compliance

In accordance with Part 211 of Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), notice is hereby given that the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) received a request for a waiver of compliance with certain requirements of its safety standards. The individual petition is described below, including the party seeking relief, the regulatory provisions involved, the nature of the relief being requested, and the petitioner's arguments in favor of relief.

#### Mount Dora Scenic Railway Company

[Docket Number FRA-2000-6850]

Mount Dora Scenic Railway Company seeks a permanent waiver of compliance from certain provisions of the Safety Glazing Standards, 49 CFR 223.9, which requires certified glazing, for two locomotives (self propelled railway motor cars) utilized in excursion service on the Mount Dora Scenic Railway in Mount Dora, Florida. Mount Dora indicates that they would provide front and rear facing windows with FRA Type I glazing but would like to equip the side facing windows with safety glazing. They state that the two motor cars are not air conditioned, and the passenger compartment side windows can be opened.

Interested parties are invited to participate in these proceedings by submitting written views, data, or comments. FRA does not anticipate scheduling a public hearing in connection with these proceedings since the facts do not appear to warrant a hearing. If any interested party desires an opportunity for oral comment, they should notify FRA, in writing, before the end of the comment period and specify the basis for their request.

All communications concerning these proceedings should identify the appropriate docket number (e.g., Waiver Petition Docket Number 2000-6850) and must be submitted to the Docket Clerk, DOT Docket Management Facility, Room PL-401 (Plaza Level), 400 7th Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20590. Communications received within 45 days of the date of this notice will