

**Docket No. SA-509**

**Exhibit No. 2M**

**NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD**

**WASHINGTON, D.C.**

**FAA ORDER 1320.50  
MODERNIZATION & STANDARDIZATION OF AVIATION STANDARDS  
FIELD INSPECTOR HANDBOOKS**



10/10/85

MODERNIZATION AND STANDARDIZATION OF  
SUBJ: AVIATION STANDARDS FIELD INSPECTOR HANDBOOKS

1. PURPOSE. This order describes a new method of development, presentation, and issuance of field inspector handbooks to provide for modernization and standardization. It also establishes a Handbook Standardization Committee with primary responsibility for assuring consistent interoffice and interdivisional application of the provisions in this order.
2. DISTRIBUTION. This order is distributed to the Associate Administrator for Aviation Standards; to the Director, Rotorcraft Program Office; to division level in the Offices of Civil Aviation Security and Aviation Medicine; to branch level in the Offices of Flight Standards, Airworthiness, and Program and Regulations Management; and the Aviation Standards Branch of the FAA Academy. This order is also distributed to the division level in the regional Flight Standards, Aviation Medical, Civil Aviation Security, and Aircraft Certification Divisions for information purposes only.
3. BACKGROUND. The results from such recent efforts as the National Air Transportation Inspection program, the flight standards Job Task Analysis (JTA) project, and preliminary results from the General Aviation Safety Audit all indicate an urgent and practical need to modernize, coordinate, and standardize the handbooks used by Aviation Standards (AVS) field inspectors. As part of the JTA project, overview panels studied the feasibility of modernizing and standardizing the format and presentation of the handbooks used by general aviation and air carrier operations inspectors, general aviation and air carrier airworthiness inspectors, and manufacturing inspectors. These panels recommended that such a project be undertaken. Other deliberations in connection with the Aviation Safety Analysis and Functional Evaluation (SAFE) project indicate a need to modernize and standardize the handbooks as soon as possible because of the impact these documents have on the many subprojects associated with project SAFE.
4. DEFINITIONS. The definitions outlined herein provide standard terms and titles to be used in writing the handbooks.

a. Handbook is an order (directive) designed to provide essential overall instructions, guidance, and requirements for operations, airworthiness, and manufacturing field personnel to accomplish their job functions.

b. Directive Information is information that is considered directive in nature and will contain terms such as "shall," "must," and means that the actions are MANDATORY. A "shall not" means that the action is PROHIBITED. The use of these terms will leave no flexibility and their direction shall be followed unless otherwise authorized by headquarters division managers. (Reference: Order 1320.1C, FAA Directives System, paragraph 72.)

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