



NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

Office of Aviation Safety
Washington, D.C. 20594

April 24, 2015

Addendum 2 – FAA Compliance Letters

OPERATIONAL FACTORS

DCA15MA019



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

Commercial Space Transportation

800 Independence Ave., SW.
Washington, DC 20591

NOV 08 2013

Mr. Kevin Mickey
President
Scaled Composites, LLC
1624 Flight Line
Mojave, CA 93501-1663

Dear Mr. Mickey:

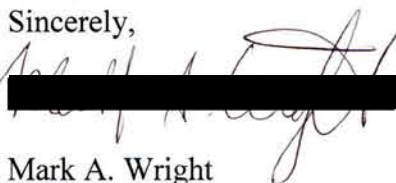
The Federal Aviation Administration's Office of Commercial Space Transportation (AST) conducted compliance monitoring activities on September 5, 2013, related to the Scaled Composites SpaceShipTwo (SS2) permitted operation from the Mojave Air & Spaceport, California. Mr. Jesse Hanson and Mr. Ed Springer conducted this inspection.

The primary focus of the inspection was to observe the Scaled Composites SpaceShipTwo launch and recovery operations, ensure compliance with Experimental Permit No. EP-12-007 and its terms and conditions, and verify continued accuracy of representations contained in the experimental permit application.

Based upon our observations during this inspection, AST finds Scaled Composites in compliance with 14 CFR part 437 and the terms and conditions of the experimental permit.

Please direct any questions or concerns to Mr. David Gerlach at (202) 493-5377.

Sincerely,



Mark A. Wright
Manager
Safety Inspection Division



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

Commercial Space Transportation

800 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20591

FEB 11 2014

Mr. Kevin Mickey
President
Scaled Composites, LLC
1624 Flight Line
Mojave, CA 93501-1663

Dear Mr. Mickey:

The Federal Aviation Administration's Office of Commercial Space Transportation (AST) conducted compliance monitoring activities from 6 January to 10 January, 2014, related to the Scaled Composites SpaceShipTwo (SS2) permitted operation from the Mojave Air & Spaceport in Mojave, California. Mr. David A. Gerlach and Mr. Jeff Claxton conducted this inspection.

The primary focus of the inspection was to observe the Scaled Composites SpaceShipTwo launch and recovery operations, ensure compliance with Experimental Permit No. EP-12-007 and its terms and conditions, and verify continued accuracy of representations contained in the experimental permit application.

Based upon our observations during this inspection, AST finds Scaled Composites in compliance with 14 CFR part 437 and the terms and conditions of the experimental permit. If we become aware of any non-compliance, we will notify you in writing.

Please direct any questions or concerns to Mr. David A. Gerlach at (202) 493-5377 or Mr. Jeff Claxton at (805) 605-6344.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to be "Mark A. Wright". The signature is partially obscured by a black redaction bar.

Mark A. Wright
Manager
Safety Inspection Division



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

Commercial Space Transportation

800 Independence Ave, S.W., Rm 331
Washington, D.C. 20591

JAN 22 2015

Mr. Kevin Mickey
President
Scaled Composites, LLC
1624 Flight Line
Mojave, CA 93501-1663

Dear Mr. Mickey:

We conducted compliance monitoring activities on October 31, 2014, related to the Scaled Composites SpaceShipTwo (SS2) permitted operation from the Mojave Air and Space Port located in Mojave, CA. Mr. Jeff Claxton and Mr. Ed Springer conducted this inspection.

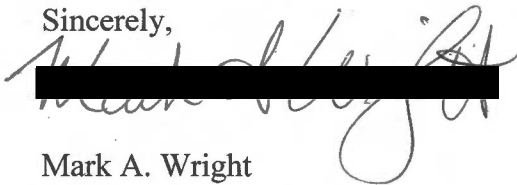
The primary focus of the inspection was to observe the SS2 launch and recovery operations, ensure compliance with experimental permit No. EP-12-007 (Rev2) and its terms and conditions, and verify continued accuracy of representations contained in the experimental permit application.

Based upon our observations during this inspection, we find Scaled Composites in compliance with 14 CFR part 437 and the terms and conditions of the experimental permit, however, we identified the following issues:

1. A non-verbal go or no-go for launch. The Safety Inspectors observed a "thumbs-up" procedure indicating all positions are go or no-go for launch. This procedure can be confusing and misleading to the mission director and may not adequately communicate readiness status.

Please direct any questions or concerns to Mr. Jeff Claxton at (805) 605-6344 or Mr. Ed Springer at (321) 494-9326.

Sincerely,



Mark A. Wright
Manager
Safety Inspection Division