



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS AERONAUTICAL SYSTEMS CENTER (AFMC)
WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE OHIO

31 JAN 2006

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: MQ-1 Weapon Systems Airworthiness Certification

References: (a) AFPD 62-6, 1 Oct 00, USAF Aircraft Airworthiness Certification
(b) MIL-HDBK-516 (USAF), 28 Mar 03

1. The purpose of this memorandum is to provide a restricted airworthiness certification for the MQ-1 weapon system in accordance with USAF Aircraft Airworthiness Certification policy, reference a.
2. The MQ-1 weapon system is a legacy air system as defined in MIL-HDBK-516, reference b. According to reference b, the Predator System Program Director (SPD) may grant initial airworthiness certification if the following conditions are met:
 - a. Airworthiness certification criteria exist for the MQ-1 weapon system. The MQ-1 flight manuals correctly characterize aircraft performance, and maintenance and repair technical orders are adequate and up to date.
 - b. There are no open deficiency reports (DR) or safety recommendations that suggest the MQ-1 weapon system is not performing within the acceptable level of risk to which the aircraft will be managed and in accordance with MQ-1 technical data.
3. MQ-1 airworthiness criteria have been developed and coordinated with ASC/EN. However, the aircraft does not fully comply with the certification basis as defined in Tailored Airworthiness Certification Criteria document which was derived from MIL-HDBK-516. The operational risk associated with the non-compliance has been accepted by the United States Air Force.
4. Flight manuals and technical orders for the MQ-1 weapon system are accurate, validated, verified, and current. There are no open DRs, safety recommendations, or other system indicators to suggest that the MQ-1 weapons system is not operating within acceptable levels or risk or in accordance with approved technical data.
5. Therefore, the MQ-1 weapon system is hereby formally granted a restricted airworthiness certification in compliance with reference a. This certification applies to aircraft owned, operated, or under contract with the USAF.

6. Questions regarding this airworthiness certification should be directed to (b) (6)

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