



U. S. Department  
of Transportation

**Federal Aviation  
Administration**

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File No: 8400-95-3  
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March 1, 2018

Dear [REDACTED]

Inspector Jeff Rees, Aircrew Program Manager, (APM) met with you, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] on January 29, 2018 to relay my concern regarding the level of standardization among SWA Check Airman and Instructors teaching the 2018 Extended Envelope Training (EET). Following that meeting Inspector Rees reported back to me that you, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were in agreement that a Standards Check Airman (SCKA) or Subject Matter Expert (SME) would observe each SWA Check Airman/Instructor during their first EET teaching event. This observation was intended to provide a standardization check, ensuring the risk of negative transfer of training to the SWA flight crews during EET would be minimized. I instructed the APMs to monitor SWA follow through and to report back at regular intervals.

During regular updates I have received from the APMs it appears that SWA has not consistently followed through on this commitment. This letter is clarification of my requirement in this area from SWA. EET is a high priority training event requirement that meets new FAA regulatory requirements. The risk of negative transfer of training to SWA line pilots when first conducting full stall recovery training is substantial. The caliber of instructor, level of standardization and verification of the quality of SWA EET training must be verified. CMO APMs have reported several EET observations when Instructor standardization has been inadequate requiring them to intervene with on the spot corrections.

Therefore, I am requiring SWA to follow through on your SCKA/SMEs observation plan observing every Instructor (CKA or Simulator) who is qualified/conducting EET training. Further, I am requiring this observation occur prior to the fourth time they teach an EET event. Finally, I am requesting a monthly report of the CKA/Instructors observed, any trends or deficiencies identified, how they were addressed, and if you identify needed changes to the SWA EET Instructor training programs. I look forward to your transparency and support to ensure that SWA delivers high quality standardized EET training to your flight crews.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Principal Operations Inspector

ecc: [REDACTED], Agent for Service