



**Cooperative Development of Operational Safety and Continuing Airworthiness  
Under ICAO Technical Co-operation Programme**

**COSCAP-South Asia**



**INFORMATION BULLETIN FOR STATES**

**Subject: ACCESS TO INFORMATION ON SUPPLEMENTAL TYPE CERTIFICATES**

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**Initiated by: COSCAP-SA**

**Information Bulletin No: IB(SA) 001**

**1. PURPOSE**

- a. The purpose of this Information Bulletin is to provide States with information on how to access data from the FAA Website on the availability of Supplemental Type Certificates (STC).
- b. This Bulletin is developed to comply with the decisions of the Project Steering Committee taken at its 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting on 24-25 September, 2002 on 'Supplemental Type Certificates' and implement the SARAST recommendations [Para 6.2 (c) iv of the Minutes refers (SARAST Recommendation 44.4)].

**2. INTRODUCTION**

Air Operators / Approved Maintenance Organizations at times have difficulty in locating a Supplemental Type Certificate (STC) holder when requiring to install additional equipment on their aircraft. This issue / difficulty was highlighted at the 1<sup>st</sup> SARAST Meeting at Bangkok in June, 2002. It was recommended that the STC data should be made available to COSCAP-SA States and that COSCAP-SA assist with procuring the desired information.

**3. BACKGROUND**

- a. A Supplemental Type Certificate is a certificate issued when an applicant has received approval from the concerned regulatory authority to modify an aircraft or equipment from its original design. The STC, which incorporates by reference the related Type Certificate (TC), approves not only the modification, but also how the modification would affect the original design.

- b. FAA and other regulatory authorities issue STCs upon receipt of an application from the designer / manufacturer of the aircraft seeking equipment modification. The applicant's proposal is then examined from all aspects and the regulatory authority e.g. FAA, if satisfied, will issue the STC to the applicant, who then becomes the holder of the STC. The STC is valid for a particular serial number or a series aircraft, as the case may be. FAA maintains a database, available on the FAA web-site, which is a repository of approved STCs. The data is provided for information purposes only. If a person is desirous of obtaining installation approval or additional information about a particular STC, the FAA site advises him to contact the STC holder. The FAA does not release any STC information without authorization from the STC holder.

#### **4. ACCESSING THE FAA WEBSITE**

In order to access the FAA STC database on the internet the following procedure is advised:

- a. On the internet go to the FAA site : "<http://www2.faa.gov/> ".
- b. In the centre of the page, there is a blue box with the words "Certification". Under the box click on the word "aircraft".
- c. The page, <http://www2.faa.gov/certification/aircraft/> will open.
- d. On the left hand side, is a blue column and about 3/4 of the way down click on "Supplementary Type Certificate (STC)". The next page will open.
- e. This page provides information on how to search the STC database by STC number, by category (Manufacturer, make, model), by STC holder, by description.
- f. If you wish to go directly to "SEARCH", you can enter the desired key-word in the description window such as "TAWS". On clicking 'GO', you will be provided information on available STCs with that word in their description. You can also use the 'Search Help' provided on this page to go directly to the desired topic.
- g. Use the "Back" button to go back and enter in some other key word (EGPWS etc) in the description
- h. Using this process, you can find information on STCs that have been issued by FAA for all types of equipment and modifications.

#### **5. SCOPE**

- a. The scope of this Bulletin is designed to provide information only on how to access the FAA website to seek information on STC's issued by the FAA.

- b. Persons or organizations may propose their own design based on similar installation on other similar types of aircraft and seek the regulatory authority's approval in the form of an STC. In such a case, the applicant will be required to submit the detailed design of the installation and the test results, comprising the effects on associated systems including avionics. CAA representatives would invariably witness some of the tests and check the installation process. Upon being satisfied, the CAA may grant an approval or STC to the applicant. In such cases, the views of the manufacturer of aircraft and / or equipment must be taken.