

**30 JULY 2003**



**Maintenance**

**JOINT PROCEDURES FOR  
FUNCTIONAL CHECK FLIGHTS,  
OPERATIONAL CHECK FLIGHTS  
AND HIGH SPEED TAXI CHECKS**

**COMPLIANCE WITH THIS PUBLICATION IS MANDATORY**

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This instruction implements AFD 21-1, *Air and Space Maintenance* and AFI 21-101, *Aerospace Equipment Maintenance Management*. It establishes procedures in the control and utilization of Functional Check Flights (FCF), Operational Check Flights (OCF) and High Speed Taxi Checks. It is applicable to all personnel in the 911<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing.

**SUMMARY OF REVISIONS**

**This document is substantially revised and must be completely reviewed.**

**1. GENERAL**

1.1. Functional Check Flights (FCF) to include Operational Check Flights (OCF) are performed to ensure an aircraft is airworthy and capable of accomplishing its mission. However, FCF's are not flown when a Maintenance Operational Check prescribed by a technical directive can determine the airworthiness of an aircraft. Requirements for FCF's, OCF's and High Speed Taxi Checks will be in accordance with T.O. 1-1-300, *Acceptance/Functional Check Flight and Maintenance Operational Checks* and T.O. 1C-130A-6 section 11, part C, *Functional Check Flights*.

1.2. Operational Check Flights are defined as flights to verify a maintenance condition or to provide additional information to maintenance in troubleshooting an aircrew identified discrepancy. OCF's will be flown by experienced aircrews (not required to be an FCF qualified aircrew) and will be accomplished following the same maintenance criteria as FCF's. Fly OCF's when an operational check is listed as a -1 or -2 requirement.

1.3. High Speed Taxi Checks are defined as a maintenance request for aircraft ground taxi operations at higher than normal taxi speeds. These will be accomplished with Group Commander's authorization. High Speed Taxi Checks will be accomplished with qualified FCF Aircrews. Aircraft will be configured with minimum fuel to minimize brake and tire wear. Aircrews will complete a take-off and data card to show the highest speed to ensure sufficient stopping distance.

## **2. PROCEDURES**

2.1. Maintenance Quality Assurance will provide the necessary communication and coordination between operations and maintenance activities. When notified by quality assurance that an aircraft is prepared for an FCF, OCF or High Speed Taxi Check, operations will provide a qualified flight crew as soon as possible.

2.2. Operational Check Flights will be recommended by Maintenance Group Management, but will not take the place of 6 requirements. Maintenance will provide Quality Assurance with a history of maintenance actions and all AFTO Form 781, ARMS Aircrew/Mission Flight Data Document discrepancies. QA will brief crews on the purpose and previous maintenance problems and discrepancies.

## **3. RESPONSIBILITIES**

### **3.1. Unit Aircraft Maintenance :**

3.1.1. Maintenance Operations Center (MOC) will keep Quality Assurance advised of FCF, OCF and High Speed Taxi Check requirements.

3.1.2. Ensure that the required maintenance is completed including the preflight and other required inspections.

3.1.3. Ensure that AFTO 781 series forms with completed maintenance action are closed out and forwarded to Quality Assurance. An individual having sufficient knowledge of the FCF, OCF or High Speed Taxi requirements and maintenance performed will accompany the forms.

3.1.4. Review aircraft forms in sufficient detail to ensure that no outstanding discrepancies exist that would have an adverse effect on safety of flight or operation of equipment.

3.1.5. Ensure appropriate corrective action is taken on noted FCF, OCF and High Speed Taxi Check discrepancies and that completed AFTO 781 series forms are processed by Quality Assurance.

### **3.2. QUALITY ASSURANCE**

3.2.1. Quality Assurance will review the aircraft forms in sufficient detail to ensure that corrective action entries are complete and that no delayed or open discrepancies exist that would affect safety of flight.

3.2.2. Review aircraft weight and balance documents.

3.2.3. Initiate appropriate FCF checklist requirements.

3.2.4. Provide the required briefing and debriefing of the flight crews in accordance with applicable directives. QA will ensure that the aircrew is briefed on the purpose of the FCF, OCF or High Speed Taxi Check and the previous maintenance problems. The aircraft forms will be retained in Quality Assurance and will be presented to the aircraft commander upon completion of the briefing.

3.2.5. Advise Maintenance Operations Center (MOC) upon completion of the FCF, OCF or High Speed Taxi Check. Return the completed FCF checklist to PS&D upon completion of the debriefing.

### **3.3. AIRLIFT SQUADRON**

3.3.1. When notified by Quality Assurance, Operations will initiate the required action to assemble appropriate flight crews and coordinate with Quality Assurance on briefing and take off times.

3.3.2. The Pilot and Flight Engineer will report to the Quality Assurance Section for the required briefing and to pick up the aircraft forms and the FCF checklist. Upon completion of the FCF, OCF or High Speed Taxi Check report to the Quality Assurance Section to complete the debriefing.

3.3.3. The 758 Airlift Squadron will provide the Maintenance Group Quality Assurance (MXQ) a copy of the current FCF authorization list semi-annually January and July. The 758 AS will promptly notify MXQ if any changes are made to the current designated FCF area.

3.3.4. An FCF release occurs upon the successful completion of all requirements as determined by the FCF crew.

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