

**Helicopter Safety Enhancement (H-SE) 30:
Develop/Publish ACS Rotorcraft-Helicopter Series**

<p>Safety Enhancement Action:</p>	<p>Policy: FAA, with support from industry, to develop and publish the new Airman Certification System (ACS) Rotorcraft-Helicopter series to replace the current Practical Test Standards (PTS) for internal and external industry stakeholders for airman certification.</p>
<p>Expected Implementers:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FAA (e.g., AFS-630, AFS-800) • Aviation Rulemaking Advisory Committee (ARAC) – Airman Certification Systems (ACS) Working Group (WG) Committee • Helicopter Association International (HAI) Training Committee (TC) • USHST Special Emphasis Area (SEA) Training Team • FAA Safety Team (FAAST) • Flight training providers (GAMA to coordinate)
<p>Statement of Work:</p>	<p>To help prevent fatal accidents during airman training and certification, the FAA will develop the new ACS series for Rotorcraft-Helicopter to replace the PTS for airman certification. Support from this effort will include diverse expertise from the helicopter community and other industry stakeholders. The new helicopter ACS will contribute to safety by making practical tests meaningful and relevant to actual operations and contribute to the standardization of teaching, learning and testing.</p> <p>Currently, the FAA and industry, through the ACS WG, has developed and published several new ACS for fixed-wing certification. Building on that success, the new ACS for helicopter will be designed to communicate the aeronautical knowledge, risk management, and flight proficiency standards for a more integrated and systematic approach to certification of helicopter pilots. This approach will provide both safety risk management and safety assurance processes through which internal and external stakeholders identify and evaluate regulatory changes, safety recommendations and other factors that require modification of airman testing and training materials. The new helicopter ACS will promote safety in the form of ongoing engagement with both external stakeholders of the aviation training industry and FAA policy division. Development of an ACS and associated guidance in collaboration with a diverse group of aviation training experts will provide a systematic approach to all components of the airman certification system, including knowledge test question development and conduct of the practical test.</p> <p>Project:</p>

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. FAA and industry to develop new ACS for Rotorcraft-Helicopter series to replace the current PTS. 2. Implement and conduct outreach to transition from Rotorcraft-Helicopter PTS to new ACS. <p>From within the USHST’s dataset of 52 LOC-I, UIMC, and LALT fatal accidents from 2009-2013, there was one fatal accident that occurred during an airman certification flight that led to this H-SE. The USHST LOC-I, UIMC, and LALT working group found that contributing factors to this accident indicated a need to develop and implement an ACS for helicopter certification. The following fatal accident prompted this safety enhancement: ERA10FA283</p>																
Relation to Current Aviation Community Initiatives:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GA-JSC (LOC WG 1 and LOC WG 2) pursued the following comparable outcomes through SE-32 (Airman Certification Standards): An integrated Airman Certification Standards (ACS) document that aligns the aeronautical knowledge testing standards required by 14 CFR Part 61 with the flight proficiency standards (“Areas of Operation”) set out in 14 CFR Part 61 and the existing Practical Test Standards (PTS). Once this Safety Enhancement is fully implemented, the goal of introducing risk management into airman testing and training will be realized. • Fixed-wing ACS information is available at https://www.faa.gov/training_testing/testing/acs/. 																
Performance Goal Indicators:	Release of new ACS for Rotorcraft-Helicopter series to replace the current PTS.																
Key Milestones:	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 30%;"></th> <th style="width: 20%; text-align: center;"><u>Total Months</u></th> <th style="width: 20%; text-align: center;"><u>Start Date</u></th> <th style="width: 30%; text-align: center;"><u>End Date</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Output 1:</td> <td style="text-align: center;">24–36</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Jan. 1, 2018</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Jan. 1, 2021</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Output 2:</td> <td style="text-align: center;">12</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Jan. 1, 2021</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Jan. 1, 2022</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Completion:</td> <td colspan="3" style="text-align: center;">36 to 48 months</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		<u>Total Months</u>	<u>Start Date</u>	<u>End Date</u>	Output 1:	24–36	Jan. 1, 2018	Jan. 1, 2021	Output 2:	12	Jan. 1, 2021	Jan. 1, 2022	Completion:	36 to 48 months		
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Output 1:	24–36	Jan. 1, 2018	Jan. 1, 2021														
Output 2:	12	Jan. 1, 2021	Jan. 1, 2022														
Completion:	36 to 48 months																
Potential Obstacles:	Funding for all facets of the effort.																
Detailed Implementation Plan Notes:	The FAA has developed the ACS through policy so this H-SE would not require regulatory rulemaking. The current ACS WG consists of the FAA and a diverse group of industry stakeholders. The addition of helicopter industry stakeholders to the ACS WG is essential to contribute to the development and implementation of a new ACS for Rotorcraft-Helicopter. The FAA and industry ACS WG will																

	meet quarterly to discuss progression and further develop the new ACS Rotorcraft-Helicopter series.
CICTT Code:	LOC-I
Output 1:	
Description:	Develop new ACS for Rotorcraft-Helicopter series to replace the current PTS.
Lead Organization:	FAA – AFS-630
Supporting Organizations:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ARAC ACS WG Committee • AFS-800 • Flight training providers (GAMA to coordinate) • USHST SEA Training Team
Actions:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. If not already completed, add agenda item for the ARAC - ACS WG quarterly meeting, to introduce new helicopter industry participants and discuss efforts and roles within the WG for the new ACS. 2. Establish timelines and address progression of each ACS. 3. Conduct review of each helicopter ACS and address comments and required changes before release to industry.
Output Notes:	
Time Line:	24–36 months
Target Completion Date:	Jan. 1, 2021
Output 2:	
Description:	Implement and conduct outreach to transition from Rotorcraft-Helicopter PTS to new ACS.
Lead Organization:	FAA – AFS-630
Supporting Organizations:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AFS-800 • FAAST • HAI • USHST SEA Training Team • Flight training providers (GAMA to coordinate)
Actions:	<p>Nearing completion of ACS, conduct promotion to industry via FAA ACS outreach using the following media:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Airman Certification Standards Briefing • (https://www.faa.gov/training_testing/testing/acs/media/acs_briefing.pdf) • Airman Certification Standards FAQ • (https://www.faa.gov/training_testing/testing/acs/media/acs_faq.pdf)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Airman Certification Standards Brochure • (https://www.faa.gov/training_testing/testing/acs/media/acs_brochure.pdf) • ACS Tips for Evaluators • (https://www.faa.gov/training_testing/testing/acs/media/acs_tips.pdf) • Previously Recorded Webinars, which explain how to use the ACS • (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8uTXkiahw2k) <p>Supporting organizations for Output 2 should use every opportunity to promote this message to the helicopter community, whether it be through mass industry events (e.g., Heli-Expo), regional FAAST seminars, or smaller, locally organized events. The USHST SEA Training Team should use their networks and connections in the instructional/training sector to maximize promotion of this information. In addition to face to face events, all other forms of media should be utilized to ensure the broadest possible promotion effort.</p>
Output Notes:	
Time Line:	12 months (<i>to establish an initial promotion effort following completion of Output 1; promotion will be ongoing after 12 months</i>)
Target Completion Date:	Jan. 1, 2022