



Aviation Technician Education Council
2090 Wexford Court
Harrisburg, PA 17112
Telephone (717) 540-7121

MARCH, 1995

RE: UPDATE
TO: All ATEC Members
FROM: Charles White

ATEC REQUESTS CHANGE IN DME STANDARDS

A number of ATEC members called regarding the restrictive nature of the new DME standards.

ATEC contacted the FAA asking for relief from the limitation that only one test may be given at a time.

The FAA is considering the request.

We will alert you of any change in that provision.

EPA - COAST GUARD GRANT

ATEC attended a meeting at Coast Guard headquarters concerning a special grant funding. The grant would develop procedures for stripping thin aluminum (.032 and less) aircraft structures that would minimize hazardous waste. ATEC would provide "outreach" services. This project has a number of steps to complete before more specific information on ATEC's participation can be finalized.

FAA VIDEO TAPE

A review of a video tape was completed for FAA inspectors on NDI and corrosion. It was a good tape and ATEC was able to get the FAA to provide a copy of the tape to each ATEC member institution. ATEC member schools should have received their copies by now.

COUNCIL ON AVIATION ACCREDITATION (CAA)

ATEC has been in discussion with the CAA regarding their goal to begin an accreditation process for associate degree, college based aviation programs.

ATEC has sent suggestions to the CAA on the proposed accreditation standards for aviation maintenance programs. ATEC has also asked for ongoing input into the development of the standards. The ATEC Board also expressed concern about the prohibitive cost of this type of program accreditation for two year schools.

ATEC MEMBERSHIP

Year to Date as of February 22, 1995, ATEC had 149 Institutional, 10 Individual, 20 Associate and 11 Life memberships for a total of 190.

1993-94 Membership this time last year was 145 Institutional, 12 Individual, 21 Associate and 11 Life for a total of 189.

ATEC STRATEGIC PLAN

The strategic plan for ATEC is currently being updated. All members will be receiving a survey requesting your input on where ATEC should be spending its resources and time.

The results of the survey will be announced at the annual conference in Las Vegas on April 20th.

ARAC PART 65 WORKING GROUP REPORT

The following is a summary update of the changes being contemplated in the rewrite of PART 65.

THE PART 65 JOB TASK ANALYSIS (JTA) is being done in two phases. Completion of the job task analysis is expected in August of 1995. Results to be possibly used for review, and possible modification, of Part 147.

THE "RETURN TO SERVICE" statement will be changed to "APPROVED FOR RETURN TO SERVICE".

THE SUPER "IA" will be discussed at the Part 65 meeting in Washington DC on April 11-13, 1995.

GRANDFATHERING: When the A&P is grandfathered, it was decided that there would be no loss of privileges for the A&P.

SURRENDER PRESENT CERTIFICATE: The A&P will be required to surrender their present certificate. It was suggested that the new certificates (AMT) be issued with the original issuance date of the A&P.

COMPOSITE TECHNICAL STANDARDS: SAE is interested in being the qualifying agency for specialities such as composite, NDT and Avionics.

AMT-T: Dick Yetter of USAir, presented to the ATA Panel, the AMT-T curriculum compiled by the ATA Subgroup. The committee accepted the curriculum as the product.

PHASE I AND PHASE II: A delay in the implementation of Phase I has caused Phase II to catch up to Phase I, causing the two to be combined before implementation. Phase II will be finalized and Phase I will be reopened for comments. This combined product is scheduled to be completed by April 95.

AMTS INSTRUCTOR RATING: Consideration is being given to changing Part 147 to accommodate the AMTS Instructor Rating.

REVIEW OF COMMENTS ON PHASE I, PART 65

16-hours of training requirement will be amplified and options discussed in an Advisory Circular.

Change the 1000 hour requirement for currency back to the six month requirement as presently stated.

Changing the mechanic name to technician will stand.

Change the current draft to allow for IA Renewals over a 24-month period, eliminating the need for all IA's to be renewed on March 31.

ADD, Self-testing for PART 147 schools.

ADD, Transport Canada Agreement for granting credit for previous education in a certified Canadian School.

EXPANSION OF THE ARS: ARS 4 will be added for special categories. The AMT is not required to hold the ARS when working at a certified repair station.

RESTRICTED CERTIFICATION AUTHORITY: Rationale for considering a RCA is that the rule making cannot cover every situation, Congress has said to "use exemptions".

PHASE II ISSUES

The AMT Certificate will be single rating. For the current single rated A&P, their AMT Certificate will have a Limitation Statement. The AMT that has a Limitation Statement cannot get the AMT-T certificate.

Within the 16-hours of recurrent training there will be a minimum of one hour devoted to the study of regulations as per Part 61.56(a)(1).

PAMA/ATEC FOUNDATION

Discussions with PAMA regarding the development of an R&D Foundation are ongoing. Surveys of the field were completed. Although the returns were not many, aviation associations, industry operators and corporate maintenance managers expressed support for the Foundation which would help develop training and education materials and curricula for schools.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (DOT) SAFETY MEETINGS

Because of recent airplane accidents, the DOT is holding safety meetings to address the problem.

ATEC will be contacting people in the FAA to offer ATEC services on this and other issues that the FAA wants to pursue.

SEE YOU IN LAS VEGAS AT ATEC '95!!



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LAST CALL FOR ATEC '95

PLACE: Aladdin Hotel
Las Vegas, Nevada

DATE: April 19-22, 1995

DEADLINES: Make your lodging reservation by **MARCH 18TH**
Make your "early bird" conference registration by
APRIL 3RD for \$175
(After April 3rd the registration cost will be \$200)

EXHIBITORS: Come see the latest aviation maintenance training products and materials from the following companies:

Aircraft Technical Publishers
AniJet Software
ASA
Avotek
Chadwick-Helmuth Co.
Composite Educational Services
Danaher Tool Company
Dynamic Solutions Systems

Galaxy Scientific Corporation
Glencoe/McGraw-Hill
Heatcon Composite Systems
Jeppesen
Pyrometric Service Co.
The Turbine Group
Wing Aero Products

CONFERENCE

BROCHURE: Included in this mailing.

DRESS: Dress for the Conference is casual. The Friday night banquet is jacket and tie.



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MAY 1995

RE: UPDATE
TO: ALL ATEC MEMBERS
FROM: CHARLES WHITE

ATEC '95: A SUCCESS IN LAS VEGAS

Participants rated their satisfaction with the overall ATEC '95 conference a 4.32 average out of 5. Speakers and academic papers were all rated high with the only low score (3.4 average out of 5) going to the Future of Aviation panel presentation. Food was rated as consistently outstanding and the exhibitor area received high praise.

Many member suggestions were received for future conference topics and the locations for future ATEC conferences receiving the highest numbers of votes were Washington, DC - Orlando, FL - Las Vegas, NV and St. Louis, MO.

Thanks for your attendance and your suggestions. See you in San Antonio in 1996.

ATEC RECEIVES INTERIM DME TEST LETTER

The attached letter allows certain DME's to test two students at the same time. Please read the letter carefully and alert your local FSDO.

ATEC BOARD ELECTED

A copy of the 1995-96 ATEC Board of Directors is attached. Please contact any board member or officer if you have a question or issue that affects the schools. A copy of the ATEC committees for 1995-96 is also attached.

COMPUTERIZED TESTING IS HERE

The FAA will cease all paper and pencil testing on June 15, 1995. All A&P tests will be electronic after June 15th.

To help fill that need, ATEC developed an agreement with Sylvan Technology Centers for special discounts on computer tests.

Contact Shaun Doherty at (410) 880-8751 for more information.

ATEC MEMBERSHIP

As of the conference ATEC institutional membership stands at 150 schools.

The 1995-96 dues invoice has been sent to all schools.

ATEC STRATEGIC PLAN

A preliminary report on the long range plan was presented to the membership at the Las Vegas conference. A complete report will be mailed to all members in the next few months.

ATEC INSTRUCTOR OF THE YEAR

The Ivan D. Livi Outstanding Aviation Maintenance Educator Award for 1995 was presented to Charles Rodriguez, Southern Illinois University, at the annual conference banquet in Las Vegas. The award carries with it two grants for additional training from Flight Safety and Jeppesen-Sanderson (IAP).

SUMMER AND FALL PREVIEW

Several major reports and regulations are due out shortly. They include:

- * PART 65/66 NPRM
- * The Job Task Analysis on AMT's
- * A new composites curriculum is being reviewed by the industry.
- * National standards for electronics, AMT's, etc.

ATEC will be providing input to these new reports. Whenever possible, we will solicit input from the membership. Please respond quickly when we ask for your suggestions.



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Aviation
Administration**

800 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20591

MAR 22 1995

Mr. Charles W. White
President, Aviation Technician
Education Council
2090 Wexford Court
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17112

Dear Mr. White:

Thank you for your letter concerning the recent changes in the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Order 8610.4E, Aviation Mechanic Examiner Handbook. Your letter indicated that the recent change that allows the oral and practical test by designated mechanic examiners (DME) to be given to only one student at a time causes a considerable burden on the aviation maintenance technician schools (AMTS).

In view of the examples you gave, we have reconsidered our position and revised our policy in a March 9 letter to be incorporated into FAA Order 8610.4E at the next revision. The policy letter states, in part, that a Federal Aviation Regulations Part 147 AMTS with affiliated DME's may administer the oral and practical test to no more than two applicants at a time. Independent DME's may administer the oral and practical test to one applicant at a time.

This letter will serve as interim guidance until the next revision of FAA Order 8610.4E.

If we can be of further assistance, please let us know.

Sincerely,

Thomas C. Accardi
Director, Flight Standards Service



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SEPTEMBER 1995

RE: UPDATE
TO: ALL ATEC MEMBERS
FROM: CHARLES WHITE, PRESIDENT

ATEC President, Charles White, made a presentation to the National Research Council Commission on Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education: Committee on Education and Training for Civilian Aviation Careers. His report focused on the enrollment decreases in AMT training.

The following is a short excerpt from that presentation. (For a complete copy of his testimony, fax your request to ATEC (717) 540-7121.)

"The following table shows enrollment and graduations at ATEC member AMT programs:

	1989	1990	1991	1994-95
ENROLLMENT	23,484	25,448	26,850	13,425 *
GRADUATES	9,542	10,536	11,692	5,846 *

Note: *estimate based on phone survey of ATEC members 2nd quarter 1995

As you can see from this table there has been a dramatic decrease in enrollments. A number of schools reported decreases as high as 70%.

This is the single most critical challenge facing aviation maintenance education. The drop in enrollment means that there will be a shortage of graduates in the near future. Many schools have stated that they have job offers for students that are going unfilled.

Why is there this major decrease in enrollment? No one knows for sure and there is no formal research on this subject. The reason most aviation educators point to is the lack of positive media exposure. The only time the general public is exposed to aviation is through media reports of crashes, layoffs, and bankruptcies. Even when Boeing launched the 777 recently to positive coverage it was closely followed by announcements of major layoffs. It's been almost 10 years since the Voyager Aircraft flew nonstop around the world. The last well-publicized positive aviation event.

All members of the aviation community must work to present aviation in a positive light. We must upgrade present material and create new material that can be used by teachers and counselors to showcase aviation careers. We must get to our local schools and work with teachers. We must make our aviation facilities available to teachers for tours, to local Girl Scout and Boy Scout troops, and to civic groups."

ATEC BOARD APPOINTS INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVE

Mr. Vince Jones, Manager; MT Support & Industry Affairs at Boeing Commercial Airplane Company, was appointed to complete the unexpired term of Jim Lukins who recently retired.

ATEC CONFERENCE '96 - MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

ATEC will hold its 1996 annual conference in San Antonio, Texas on the Riverwalk on March 24, 25, 26, 1996 (that's a Sunday, Monday, Tuesday). The annual banquet will be held Monday night to allow people to leave for home on Tuesday afternoon/evening.

The agenda will be mailed out on October 30th.

INSTRUCTOR OF THE YEAR 1996

The application material for ATEC Instructor of the Year was mailed to all schools. If you did not receive a packet, fax your request to ATEC (717) 540-7121.

The award will be presented on Monday night, March 25, 1996 in San Antonio.

ATEC BOOTH APPEARANCES

The ATEC display booth which promotes careers in aviation maintenance appeared and will appear in the following locations:

PAMA 95 - May 8-12, 1995 in Cincinnati, OH

EAA 95 - July/August, 1995 in Oshkosh, WI. Schools were encouraged to send their program information to the EAA for display at the UAA/ATEC booth.

Jefferson County Career Fair - October 29, 1995 in Louisville, KY. Booth will not be taken but materials from ATEC will be available to the public.

ATEC DIRECTORY

School updates for the 1996 ATEC Directory will be mailed out shortly. Please complete your updated information and return it to the ATEC office.

PART 66

The ATEC Board at its September meeting completed a section by section analysis of the PART 66 July draft. A draft position will be developed and sent to the Board for additional comment then sent to the membership for their input before a final ATEC position is sent to the FAA.

ATEC STRATEGIC PLANNING SURVEY

The attached are the responses received from members regarding our Strategic Plan for the future direction of ATEC.

Sixty-seven schools responded. The percentages of responses are included along with some preliminary ATEC Board discussion.

The Strategic Planning Committee will determine the final goals and propose action plans for those goals at the ATEC Winter Board meeting.

If you have additional comments or suggestions, please fax them to ATEC (717) 540-7121.

- IMPORTANT NOTE -

In an effort to keep our costs down, the Update will now be included in the ATEC Journal only. This will be the last Update mailed separately.

If you would like other people on your staff to receive the ATEC Journal (with the Update included), please fax their names and addresses using the form below to ATEC (717) 540-7121.

Please send the ATEC Journal to the following:

NAME:

ADDRESS:

FAX TO (717) 540-7121

ATEC STRATEGIC PLANNING SURVEY

n=67

SECTION I. ATEC THE ORGANIZATION

1. Do you feel that ATEC represents your school well with the FAA?

Yes (65%) No (11%) Unsure (24%)

The Board felt that we need to keep our presence strong with the FAA as they consider regulatory changes that may affect our students and schools.

2. Do you think that ATEC needs to expand its role at the National Level? (Wash. D.C.)

Yes (50%) No (15%) Unsure (35%)

3. Would you support an increase in dues that would provide funding for ATEC to expand its role on a National level?

Yes (50%) No (26%) Unsure (24%)

Items 2 and 3 need to be considered together. While 50 percent of the people responding supported a stronger presence in Washington, there was not strong support for funding the expansion of our activities in Washington.

4. Do you support formation of a joint PAMA-ATEC Foundation for research and development in aviation maintenance training?

Yes (72%) No (18%) Unsure (10%)

While this item received strong support, the ATEC Board has had to place this project on hold due to Federal funding cuts, the current transition state of PAMA and the general state of the entire aviation industry. There was some support for an ATEC Foundation, with no other organization involvement.

5. Overall, do you feel that ATEC is an effective organization?

Yes (70%) No (4%) Unsure (26%)

The Board will examine ways to increase our effectiveness.

SECTION II. INDUSTRY RELATIONSHIPS

1. Do you feel that ATEC provides an effective liaison with industry?

Yes (40%) No (21%) Unsure (39%)

This was an area where the Board felt that ATEC could be doing a great deal more. The Strategic Planning Committee will be developing some action plans to address this area.

2. Should ATEC join and participate in the Aviation Professional Standards Coalition?

Yes (57%) No (4%) Unsure (39%)

ATEC needs to define its role within this new coalition and explain that role to members.

3. Does your school have any placement agreements with maintenance organizations? (major airlines, regional commuters, etc.)

Yes (12%) No (88%) Unsure (0%)

4. Should ATEC become more involved in providing placement information to member schools?

Yes (78%) No (15%) Unsure (7%)

5. Would you be willing to participate in yearly studies on enrollment, retention, and placement rates?

Yes (86%) No (11%) Unsure (3%)

With the development of the new School to Work initiatives at the state and Federal level, ATEC needs to develop information and programs to help schools expand their student placement possibilities. Items 3-5 should be looked at together.

SECTION III. GOVERNMENT RELATIONSHIPS

1. Do you support the proposed changes to Part 65/66?

Yes (52%) No (15%) Unsure (33%)

ATEC will be sending to schools this winter, its draft position on PART 66. All schools are encouraged to comment.

2. Do you support Certification of AMT Instructors?

Yes (61%) No (31%) Unsure (7%)

PART 66 contains language for the certification of instructors. ATEC will provide that draft language and its position to all schools in the next 4 months.

3. Would you support hiring a lobbyist to monitor FAA Regulatory issues in Washington?

Yes (24%) No (46%) Unsure (30%)

The ATEC Board has decided not to pursue this activity.

SECTION IV. SCHOOL RELATIONSHIPS

1. Is your school a member of:

CAA - Council on Aviation Accreditation?	Yes (18%)	No (82%)
UAA - University Aviation Association?	Yes (25%)	No (75%)
AEA - Aircraft Electronics Association?	Yes (25%)	No (75%)
AAE - Association of Avionics Educators?	Yes (22%)	No (78%)

2. Does your school currently offer internship or co-op opportunities for students?

YES (45%) NO (52%) UNSURE (3%)

As mentioned earlier, ATEC needs to be doing more for its member schools in the area of student placement.

3. Do you support the proposed transport rating for the AMT?

Yes (37%) No (27%) Unsure (36%)

4. Would your school be able to provide training for the proposed AMT-T rating?

Yes (46%) No (27%) Unsure (27%)

PART 66 contains this rating proposal. The ATEC Board believes that a great deal more needs to be done to define and clarify the AMT-T rating in PART 66.

5. Do you support the accrediting of aviation programs by an independent body, other than the FAA?

Yes (28%) No (48%) Unsure (24%)

6. Is there anything more ATEC can do regarding training/educational materials?

Yes (45%) No (15%) Unsure (40%)

The ATEC Board will be examining ways to provide more curriculum and instruction materials to member schools.