



Aviation Technician Education Council

2090 Wexford Court
Harrisburg, PA 17112
Telephone: (717) 540-7121
www.atec-amt.org

TO: ATEC Members
FROM: Raymond Thompson, President
RE: ATEC October 2013 Update

PRESIDENT’S REPORT – Raymond Thompson

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

The Committee Chair sends encouragement to all, as you work with your FAA Principal Maintenance Inspector (PMI), Principal Avionics Instructor (PAI), other FSDO Airworthiness, Safety Inspectors (ASI), Supervisors and Managers to always stay positive, well-tempered and professional in every way possible.

Recently, there have been several situations where ATEC GRC has been included in ongoing dialogue after AMTs and FSDO personnel have not followed professional practices by adding challenging dynamics for schools to overcome. Fortunately, no enforcement actions have happened in cases we have provided help to date.

There seems to be more FAA inspectors interpreting Part 147 regulations, 8900.2 Handbook and AC 147-3A with greater variance than in recent years. Sometimes this happens due to new inspectors or reassignment of experienced inspectors.

Andrew Smith suspects, due to several key FAA positions shifting in Washington D.C. and Oklahoma City (AFS-300 & AFS-600) different mindsets are at play now. Plus, our national financial challenges relating to FAA funding are in play, too. A point of speculation – possible enforcement actions with civil penalties (fines) could be considered by FAA as a potential revenue stream. Recent example – EAA (AirVenture 2013) is in a challenge with FGAA now about “fees for air space/airport waivers” which was never charged before but hundreds of thousands of dollars are in legal battle now. The best we all can do is be careful and make sure your school is running smoothly and in FAA compliance.

If during surveillance visits issues come up, remain calm, non-committal, stay in a questioning mode, be willing to assist only as requested, indicate you need time to do whatever is asked (copy documents, review records, etc.) Do not allow an inspector’s directness to sway you, make hasty decisions or add pressure to you. And whatever you do, do not become combative.



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If something is unclear, request the inspector to put his/her concern or issue in writing to you. When people lose their cool they tend to go to protection mode and say things they perhaps should not say or they regret later.

Here are recent issues told to AMTS directors by inspectors:

- Combined courses are not acceptable; there must be specific test scores for each of the 44 subject areas and documented accordingly.
- Only multiple choice tests are allowed in 147 curriculums.
- All students “missed time” must be made up; even when it is clear a specific FAA approved AMTS has a policy allowing missed time.
- There is no allowance for “progression of classes” to be interrupted.
- The approved AMTS time/grade sheet must have the same “page numbering” as the example in the operations document.
- You must have a lesson plan for the instructor that demonstrates the laboratory requirement expectation of the student.
- Students cannot pay the AMTS a fee for an Oral & Practical test; they must pay the fee directly to the Designated Mechanic Examiner (DME).

PMI standardization training with AMTS assignments will help stop much of these ongoing challenges and variations of surveillance and interpretation. ATEC continues to move forward with recommendation for the PMI course.

Currently, GRC is working with three schools with FAA/AMTS issues.

If you need assistance contact Andrew Smith atsmith@ksu.edu.

DID YOU UPDATE YOUR SCHOOL PROFILE IN 2013?

Be sure your school’s information is current on the ATEC website.

It’s easy and all electronic.

Go to www.atec-amt.org. Click on “Schools/Members” on the top menu bar. Click on “Member Info Update” in blue. Fill in the information and click “Submit” at the bottom.

We will make the changes on the website once we receive your information.

STUDENT AND EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR AWARDS



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Attached are the criteria for the Jim Rardon Student of the Year and Ivan Livi Educator of the Year awards.

Full application packets can be found at www.atec-amt.org. Click on "Scholarships/Awards."

The deadline for applications is **January 31, 2014**.

ATEC WEBSITE PASSWORD (Keep in a Safe Place)

A protected section of the website has been designed for members only. The password is "atecnew." It will be changed in FY 2014 and given to current members.

ATEC CONFERENCE AGENDA – MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

The April 6-8, 2014 preliminary conference agenda for the Menger Hotel-San Antonio Riverwalk is attached and can also be found at www.atec-amt.org as well as in the ATEC Journal.

A complete conference agenda packet will be uploaded to the Website and mailed to members prior to Thanksgiving.

ATEC BOARD NOMINATIONS

Attached is the Board nomination form which also appears on the website – www.atec-amt.org. Members interested in running for the Board should:

1. be sure they have full support from their Dean or department head to take on a Board role in ATEC
2. be able to attend one Board meeting in September in Washington, DC
3. be committed to bi-monthly conference calls
4. serve actively on at least two Board committees
5. complete the projects they have agreed to work on
6. attend the annual conference/Board meeting in April

CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS DEADLINE

Attached is the Call for Presentations flyer which also appears on the ATEC website. The deadline is

ATEC MEMBERSHIP STABILIZES AND STRENGTHENS



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Since the start of the recession in 2008, ATEC memberships have been trending down. But in 2012, we saw the first positive up-tick. This has continued in 2013.

The following is the membership reports for 2011, 2012, and 2013:

<u>2011</u>		<u>2012</u>		<u>2013</u>	
Institutional	93	Institutional	103	Institutional	102
Individual	7	Individual	3	Individual	22
Industry	14	Industry	21	Industry	20
Life	<u>9</u>	Life	<u>9</u>	Life	<u>9</u>
TOTAL	123	TOTAL	136	TOTAL	153

NEW SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM – AIRCRAFT TECHNICAL BOOK COMPANY

Beginning January 2014 Aircraft Technical Book Company (ATB) will provide a student textbook awards program to all US and Canadian A&P schools with the following criteria:

- ATB will provide for one recipient per year per campus for schools of less than 50 student starts per year and two recipients per year per campus for schools of over 50 starts per year.
- Each donated it should match that school's standard book requirement and be composed of at least 80% of titles published by ATB. For a list of our titles, please see www.ACtechbooks.com/companies/6/.
- If books are normally included with a student's tuition, the school must agree to credit or refund the student's tuition by an amount equal to the wholesale value of the donation.
- Books will be delivered to the school with department personnel making the presentation. Schools who provide books with tuition will receive replacement books to refresh their stock.
- Recipients will be new enrollees selected by each school's admissions office. While ATB's preference is to award more on a basis of financial need than anticipated achievement, the final selection process may be determined by each school.
- Names of awarded students should be provided to ATB by March 21 so that this year's awards may be announced at the ATEC Annual Awards Luncheon on April 7 in San Antonio, Texas.

Schools wishing to participate in these scholarship awards should contact Nancy at Aircraft Technical Book Company at 970-726-5111. Nancy will review your standard required book list to help determine the contents of your school's awarded kits.

INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS COMMITTEE



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AMT Instructional DVDs – The entire (almost 200) ATEC instructional materials library is now fully converted to DVD format. They are available on the ATEC website, www.atec-amt.org (click on Instructional Materials) with a downloadable form.

The numbering system for ordering is still the same with a “check” qualifier after the number to signify the DVD format.

ON-LINE AD POSTINGS – NO COST TO MEMBERS

Don't forget to post your ads, position announcements, swaps and trades on www.atec-amt.org. Click on “Member Services.”

NRF \$SCHOLARSHIP\$ AND EQUIPMENT

Tens of thousands of dollars in scholarships and equipment are available for students, faculty and schools.

Click on “Scholarships” on the ATEC website.

ARE YOU RECEIVING ATEC BULLETINS?

If you have not been receiving ATEC alerts, announcements and webinar information, send your email to info@atec.org. We'll get you on the email list.