



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

Sacramento Flight Standards District Office
1102 Corporate Way, Bldg B
Sacramento, California 95831
Phone (916) 422-0272

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Dear Experimental Aircraft Enthusiast:

The Sacramento FSDO applauds you for your efforts in producing your own aircraft in an effort to keep general aviation alive while allowing you to do what you love, that is to fly.

In an effort to try to better serve you and to promote aviation safety in the experimental aircraft community the Sacramento FSDO is introducing a new procedure for conducting your initial flights in your aircraft. In the past we have been required by authorities at a higher level to restrict some or all of your initial flights out of some airports. This restriction made it necessary in some cases to remove portions of your completed aircraft in order to trailer your aircraft to a more suitable airport for the test flights. This restriction was mandated to provide an extra level of safety for persons and property on the surface. The analysis of potential airports that would be restricted was based upon aerial over flights of the area surrounding or near the airport as well as the evaluation of the departure and arrival corridors. The primary objective was to ensure the safety of the congested areas of housing and businesses on the surface in the event of some type of malfunction requiring an emergency landing or other catastrophic event.

After a thorough review and an evaluation of your comments it has been determined that other methods could be utilized to provide that same level of safety for persons and property on the surface while also reducing the potential for re-assembly errors when aircraft are moved to another airport. Based upon your recommendations we are now removing the restrictions previously put in place at certain airports. However, we will require that you submit your plan for departure and arrival at your home airport to the Sacramento FSDO for evaluation. The plan must be designed to mitigate any undue hazard to persons or property on the surface in the event of an unforeseen malfunction.

The Sacramento FSDO hopes that this change will better meets the needs of the experimental aircraft community while at the same time increases the level of safety for all involved.

Sincerely,

Gregory L. Michael
Manager, Sacramento Flight Standards District Office