TP 9155 MMEL/MEL Policy and Procedures Manual Amendment – CBAA Advocacy at work!

In a recent posting to Slack, Teams and the Weekly Bulletin, we shared Transport Canada's NPA 2023-014 – Amendments to the Master Minimum Equipment List/Minimum Equipment List Policy and Procedures Manual - TP 9155 which is incorporated by reference through Section 605.07(3) of the CARs.

The NPA introduced several changes such as providing operators some flexibility with the repair intervals for inoperative MEL items in response to the challenges facing global supply chains and resulting shipping delays that have particularly impacted the aviation industry. Of note, is an important change that will benefit Association members having MELs and associated Non-Essential Equipment and Furnishings (NEF) lists (e.g., Appendix Q)

Several years ago, the Association had advocated to TC that the acceptance of MEL's for CAR 604 Private Operators be an activity that could be delegated. As a result, the Association sponsored Ed Ratzlaff as a Minister's delegate. TC subsequently agreed with the delegation as a pilot program which has now proven to be very successful. Revision 1 to TP 9155 introduced a requirement for the operator's PMI to accept the NEF list before it could be used by an operator, which created an inefficient time delay for those operators wanting to make use of the provision for the deferral of NEF items. In response, earlier this year, the Association initiated discussions with TC and advocated a proposal to address this shortcoming. We are pleased to report that although TC did not use our proposal in its entirety, the NPA does extend the NEF acceptance authority to the Minister's delegate in alignment with the current MEL delegation under CAR 604.

Members will be notified when the revision to TP 9155 is formally published. Meanwhile, any questions can be sent to membersupport@cbaa.ca or Ed Ratzlaff, minister's delegate at ed@aerofoil.ca.