

AGING TRANSPORT SYSTEMS RULEMAKING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
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November 14, 2003

Mr. Nicholas A. Sabatini
Associate Administrator
Regulation and Certification AVR-1
Federal Aviation Administration
Room 1000 West
800 Independence Ave. SW
Washington, DC 20591

Dear Mr. Sabatini:

As part of our current tasking into EWIS R&D Technology Transfer, ATSRAC has begun to investigate and evaluate numerous technologies and techniques related to the Non Destructive Inspection (NDI) of aircraft electrical systems.

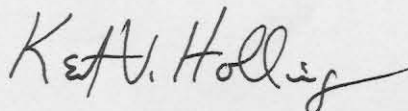
From the Committee's initial studies, it appears that no single technology will be capable of completely detecting and analyzing all potential defects in an aircraft EWIS. Therefore, it will most likely be necessary to collate and compare the results from several techniques in order to adequately assess the health of an installed EWIS.

Since the envisioned future technologies will most likely be supplied by differing vendors, the Committee believes that it is extremely important that there be a common method of describing the routing of the EWIS, as well as defining any defects found. Also, since it is still early in the development stage for most of these technologies, now is the time to define an industry standard for describing the EWIS that will allow for the combination and analysis of results from various NDI suppliers. Therefore, ATSRAC recommends that:

The FAA should pursue development of an industry standard for a digital description of EWIS routing, termination, and other characteristics for use by NDI test equipment and other potential applications.

Thank you for your consideration of this recommendation.

Sincerely,



Kent V. Hollinger
ATSRAC Chairman

Cc: James Ballough
Brenda Courtney

John Hickey
Charles Huber