

NOTICE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

N 8700.26

10/10/03

Cancellation
Date: 10/10/04

**SUBJ: AUTHORIZATION OF AIRCRAFT AND OPERATORS FOR FLIGHT IN
REDUCED VERTICAL SEPARATION MINIMUM AIRSPACE**

1. PURPOSE. This notice has two purposes:

a. Provides Updated Guidance. This notice provides updated guidance for aviation safety inspector (ASI) authorization of operators and aircraft to conduct flight in airspace where a Reduced Vertical Separation Minimum (RVSM) is applied.

9. RVSM AUTHORIZATION PROCESS AND POLICY.

f. Operations Programs. IG 91-RVSM, paragraph 11d(3), Operations Training Programs and Operating Practices and Procedures, and 11d(4), Operations Manuals and Checklists, provide specific guidance on RVSM operations programs. Both pilot knowledge programs and RVSM operations documents/manuals must incorporate RVSM policy and procedures detailed in appendix 4, appendix 5 (if applicable), and documents applicable in individual areas of operation such as Notices to Airmen (NOTAM). Documents containing RVSM operational policy/procedures including those for individual areas of operation are posted on the RVSM Documentation Web page.

(1) Pilot Knowledge. Inspectors should consider any one of the options listed below to be an acceptable method for the operator to show the FAA that pilot knowledge of RVSM policy/procedures is adequate prior to operating in RVSM airspace. The inspector may:

- (a) Accept 14 CFR part 142 training center certificates without further evaluation.
- (b) Accept certificates documenting completion of a course of instruction on RVSM policy and procedures.
- (c) Accept an operator's in-house training program.
- (d) Evaluate a training course prior to accepting a training certificate by reviewing the syllabus, attending the course, or administering a written or oral exam.