

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
AVIATION MANAGEMENT
TECH BULLETIN**

PILOT CERTIFICATES

February 24, 2009

NUMBER: 09-01
DISTRIBUTION: All DOI Fleet Pilots
SUBJECT: Pilot Certificates: English Endorsement, Plastic Certificate, Updates

1. In February 2008, the FAA issued a final rule that will require **all pilots** to replace their paper airmen certificate with a counterfeit-resistant **plastic certificate by March 31, 2010**.
2. The English language endorsement applies to all **pilots who plan to fly in Canada or Mexico**.

Effective March 5, 2008, the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) required the **certificate holders listed below who operate internationally** to have a certificate stating that the holder is proficient in the use of the English language. The ability to read, speak, write, and understand English is already a United States regulatory eligibility requirement. The Federal Aviation Administration Registry began issuing all new certificates with this endorsement on February 11, 2008. The U.S. has notified ICAO that it filed a difference that will extend the **U.S. compliance date** until **March 5, 2009**, to give all affected U.S. airmen certificate holders sufficient time to comply with the ICAO language proficiency airmen certificate endorsement requirement.

Certificate holders:

- Private, commercial, and airline transport pilots with powered aircraft ratings
 - Flight engineers and flight navigators
 - Control tower operators
3. Use your dollars wisely (\$2.00): Update your address and change your number (if your Social Security number is on your certificate(s)) at the same time that you meet the above requirements. You can do all of this online at http://www.faa.gov/licenses_certificates/airmen_certification/airmen_services.
 4. Please fax (208-433-5085) or mail (do not e-mail) a copy of your new certificate(s) per 351 DM 3.5C to Aviation Management Directorate, Attention: Fleet Assistant, 300 E. Mallard Drive, Suite 200, Boise ID 83706.

FLY SAFE

/s/ Allen P. Rice
Chief, Division of Technical Services