



August 28, 2009

Vintage DER Application Process Guidance

Overview: The accumulation of a two-year partnership project between EAA, the FAA, and the Vintage Aircraft Association (VAA) ended on July 24, 2009 when the FAA published Change 5 to FAA Order 8100.8C. Appendix 9 of this change document created the new Vintage Aircraft Designated Engineering Representative (VDER) appointment process.

- Once appointed the authority in this document authorizes a VDER to approve data for only the types of repairs and alterations to vintage airplanes and/or engines that would be eligible for FAA field approvals under FAA Order 8900.1.
- The intent of this authority is to allow individuals who don't meet the conventional DER appointment criteria to become VDERs with limited approval authority in multiple technical specialties for repairs and/or alterations of specific makes of vintage airplanes and/or engines.
- The VDER appointment authority covers vintage airplanes and engines, and that were manufactured before 1973 that meet all the following parameters:
 - Single-engine (certificated under CAR 3 or an earlier certification basis);
 - Maximum five place;
 - Maximum 7,0000 pounds gross takeoff weight;
 - Nonpressurized, and
 - Noncomposite metallic or wood primary structure.
 - Vintage engines are all radial engines and all other piston engines manufactured before 1973.

Base Information: Prior to beginning the VDER application process, you must read and be familiar with:

- FAA Order 8100.8C, with changes 1-4. Key areas include: Chapter 4 (the Application Process); Chapter 5 (the Appointment Process); and Appendix 1 (the Application Packet). [http://rgl.faa.gov/Regulatory_and_Guidance_Library/rgOrders.nsf/0/d12c51d638ad0b9f862574da0050fd35/\\$FILE/8100%208C%20with%20CHG%201-4%20%20incorp.pdf](http://rgl.faa.gov/Regulatory_and_Guidance_Library/rgOrders.nsf/0/d12c51d638ad0b9f862574da0050fd35/$FILE/8100%208C%20with%20CHG%201-4%20%20incorp.pdf) ;
- FAA Order 8100.8C, change 5 **Appendix 9 of this change contains the specific VDER guidance, including modifying the Table 4 application process. <http://www.faa.gov/documentLibrary/media/Order/Order%208100.8%20Ch%205%20Online.pdf>,

- FAA Form 8110-14, and applicable general and technical criteria forms.
<http://forms.faa.gov/forms/faa8110-14.pdf>.
- The VDER application must be submitted to your local FAA Aircraft Certification Office (ACO) - http://www.faa.gov/about/office_org/field_offices/aco/
- Prior to submitting your VDER packet EAA and VAA encourage you to call either of the key FAA VDER program coordinators to ensure your packet contains the correct application information. They are:
 - Dave Swartz, Anchorage ACO (907-271-2671, dave.swartz@faa.gov), or
 - Kevin Kendall, FAA AIR-140 (405-954-7074, kevin.kendall@faa.gov)
 - H.G. Frautschy, EAA VAA (920-426-4825, hgfrautschy@eaa.org) is available to discuss general topics related to the VDER program.

The VDER Application Packet: Prior to submitting the VDER packet to your local FAA Aircraft Certification Office (ACO), you must ensure it contains the following:

- Cover letter requesting your application be reviewed for appointment as a VDER;
- FAA Form 8110-14;
- Evaluation forms for [GENERAL REGULATORY, TECHNICAL, INTERFACE, and STANDARDIZATION](#) criteria along with the supplementary information required for these forms.
- Additional TECHNICAL CRITERIA forms. Submit only the form(s) related to the particular engineering discipline for which you are seeking authority:

[Electrical Systems and Equipment Technical Criteria](#)

[Engine Technical Criteria](#)

[Flight Analyst Technical Criteria](#)

[Flight Test Pilot Technical Criteria](#)

[Mechanical Systems and Equipment Technical Criteria](#)

[Powerplant Installation Technical Criteria](#)

[Structural Technical Criteria](#)

- Resume of your background, including areas attesting to your background that qualifies you as a VDER:
 - You must have at least 12 years of progressively responsible experience performing repairs and alterations on the general type of airplanes for which the VDER appointment is sought (refer to Change 5 to FAA Order 8100.8C for clarification);
 - You must have experience in a direct working relationship with an FAA office (FSDO, MIDO, or ACO)
- Minimum of three (3) (ideally five (5)) technical reference letters from individuals who can substantiate that you possess the required technical expertise for your VDER appointment, including for the make of Vintage aircraft you are seeking VDER appointment;
- Minimum of three (3) (ideally five (5)) character reference letters from individuals who can substantiate that you possess integrity and sound judgement; and

- If you are applying to be appointed as a company/type club or other nonprofit organization VDER, then you must include a letter/statement from that organization attesting to your technical competence:
 - VDERs can be either Company/Type Club or Consultant. A Company/Type Club VDER acts as a representative of the type club. An authorized representative of the type club has to sign on the employer recommendation line of the 8110-4 application form. A consultant VDER acts on their own.