

Modernization of Special Airworthiness Certificates (MOSAIC) Preview Released

New Light Sport Rules Coming!

By Erik Petersen

FAA released a preview of MOSIAC, changes to light-sport and other proposed changes yesterday, Wednesday, July 19th.

You can see the entire 318 page proposal that will be released for public comments

<https://public-inspection.federalregister.gov/2023-14425.pdf>

I went through the 318 pages and for our membership, these are the changes being proposed that will have the most impact:

- Remove the definition of Light sport aircraft from 14 CFR 1.1 which limits to aircraft weight, seating, stalling speed, maximum speed, engine type, propeller type, etc
- Part 61 will define the parameters of a sport pilot may operate to decouple the certification requirements for light sport category aircraft certification and sport pilot certification
- Persons exercising the privileges of a sport pilot certificate or a flight instructor certificate with a sport pilot rating would no longer be restricted to operating light-sport aircraft as defined in § 1.1
 - Remove gross weight limit
 - Vh not to exceed 250 knots
 - VS1 not to exceed 54
 - Parameters above puts max gross around 3000 pounds and depending on the aircraft, some lighter planes are outside that envelope.
 - Max seating capacity increased to 4 yet only 1 passenger is allowed
 - Allowed to use CS/controlable pitch prop
 - Allowed retractable gear
 - Allow aerial work for light-sport category
 - Allowed night flight
 - Allowed rotorcraft
 - Allowed a certain number of hours in simulator for Sport pilot cert
- * Removal of the word "reciprocating" from § 22.100 to allow for alternate propulsion... bring on the light-sport turbines!
- Remove the requirement for manufacturers to mark category aircraft as "light-sport"
- Creates light-sport repairman training courses
- May allow experimental to operate over dense population for special airworthiness phase I certs (some kit, no plans built)
- Implement language for space support vehicles

- Create a new category: light-sport kit-built aircraft
- Noise certification requirements for new or acoustic altered aircraft

The list above is not exhaustive , focused on what our readers may be interested in. Here are a few articles on the announcement and expect more as we enter into Airventure week:

<https://www.flyingmag.com/faa-releases-mosaic-rule-proposal-for-light-sport-aircraft/>

<https://www.aopa.org/news-and-media/all-news/2023/july/19/light-sport-envelope-expansion-proposed-at-last>

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