



MITSUBISHI HEAVY INDUSTRIES AMERICA, INC.
AIRCRAFT PRODUCT SUPPORT DIVISION

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FAA SFAR Training Program for the MU-2 Contributes to Best Safety Record

Nearly all of the MU-2 turboprop pilots in the US are SFAR trained with safety and pilot proficiency as priorities

Orlando, FL, October 2009 — Mitsubishi Heavy Industries America, Inc. (MHIA), Aircraft Product Support Division in cooperation with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) implemented a standard training Special Federal Aviation Regulation (SFAR) number 108 for the MU-2. To date, over five-hundred-and eighty training events have occurred (according to reports by training providers). There have been no fatal MU-2 accidents at all in over three years. The SFAR was published in February 2008 and took effect February 5, 2009. Pilots not trained to SFAR guidelines cannot legally fly the MU-2.

MHIA General Manager in charge of the MU-2 program, Noel Takayama, says the MU-2's outstanding safety record since the SFAR program began confirms predictions.

“The MU-2 is a very safe aircraft when trained pilots operate according to FAA publicized standardized procedures. The outstanding safety record, after that kind of training has been enforced, is exceptionally pleasing for everyone involved in the program,” according to Mr. Takayama.

The FAA has always acknowledged that the MU-2 meets all certification and safety standards; proper mandated state-of-the-art training has been the reason for the SFAR. Airmanship is the primary concentration.

MU-2 pilots, owners and operators are very happy with the results of the SFAR program. MU-2 owner and pilot Larry Roth, for instance, uses the MU-2 for business and personal travel and says, “the SFAR has been a great refresher course for high-time pilots to polish

(more)

skills and has created an efficient learning structure for newer pilots.”

The mandated training program is available through some thirty certified SFAR instructors at locations including: SimCom International of Orlando, Florida; Howell Enterprises of Smyrna, Tennessee; and Professional Flight Training of Salina, Kansas. It includes standardization of classroom and flight activities, as well as simulator training which is provided by SimCom.

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Mitsubishi Heavy Industries America, Inc. (MHIA's) Aircraft Product Support Division provides ongoing support including parts, publications, service engineering, etc. for nearly 400 MU-2 aircraft in service outside of Japan. More than 300 MU-2 aircraft are operating in North America.