



# AV News Update

Specially prepared for FAA Team Members by FAA Aviation News

December 2008

## DC Special Flight Rules Area Final Rule Issued

On December 16, 2008, FAA issued a final rule converting the Washington, DC Metropolitan Area Air Defense Identification Zone (ADIZ) into the Washington, DC Metropolitan Area Special Flight Rules Area (SFRA). The rule is expected to become effective in February 2009. The rule is largely unchanged from the notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) from earlier in 2008. The rule requires all pilots who operate within 60 nautical miles (nm) of the DC SFRA to receive special awareness training, which is available online at [www.faasafety.gov](http://www.faasafety.gov).

The two biggest questions about the new final rule are: "Do I have to take the special awareness training again?" and "Will FAA update the special awareness course again?" According to Susan Parson, special assistant in the General Aviation and Commercial Division of Flight Standards Service, who was involved in the rulemaking, the answers are, "No, the rule states that it is a one-time requirement. However, we strongly recommend that pilots operating under VFR within 60 nm of the DCA VOR/DME review the online course from time to time." Parson continued, "Yes, the course will be updated to be consistent with the Special Flight Rules Area final rule."

The final rule may be viewed at: [http://www.faa.gov/regulations\\_policies/rulemaking/recently\\_published/media/17005.doc](http://www.faa.gov/regulations_policies/rulemaking/recently_published/media/17005.doc).

## New 30-Hour TAF

In November 2008, the National Weather Service changed to a new time and date element in the body of all Terminal Aerodrome Forecasts (TAF). This change was made to conform to international standards. The change also allows for new 30-hour TAFs for certain airports in support of long-haul international operations.

For examples and more information, visit: <http://aviationweather.gov/notice/taf30.php>.

## New Aircraft Upset Training Materials Available

In December 2008, FAA and an industry team, including Boeing and Airbus, released a new revision to the Airplane Upset Recovery Training Aid. While the training materials focus mainly on high-altitude jet operations, some of the topics are of value to other GA operators. Topics include: high altitude aerodynamics, weight and balance effects, icing and the use of anti-ice on performance, and flight techniques for jet aircraft. These things and more play important roles in recovering from upsets.

The training materials are available at: [http://www.faa.gov/other\\_visit/aviation\\_industry/airline\\_operators/training/media/AP\\_UpsetRecovery\\_Book.pdf](http://www.faa.gov/other_visit/aviation_industry/airline_operators/training/media/AP_UpsetRecovery_Book.pdf).

## Coming Soon: FAA Aviation News Special Medical Issue

The January/February 2009 issue of *FAA Aviation News* will focus on medical issues relevant to the GA community with special emphasis on the FAA's aeromedical staff, services, and resources. The issue will be posted in January on the magazine's Web site at: [www.faa.gov/news/aviation\\_news/](http://www.faa.gov/news/aviation_news/). Topics covered include: getting a special issuance medical certificate, medical honesty, inflight medical emergencies, and the use of prescription and non-prescription drugs. This will be the first of several new "focus" issues for *FAA Aviation News*. The magazine's staff welcomes your comments on the magazine and other possible topics for a future focus issue. Current planned topics include technology, sport pilot/light sport aircraft, and certification and maintenance issues for general aviation.

Feedback regarding the AV News Update may be directed to [Aviation-News@faa.gov](mailto:Aviation-News@faa.gov). The FAA Aviation News magazine is available online at: [www.faa.gov/news/aviation\\_news/](http://www.faa.gov/news/aviation_news/).

