

PART 31—AIRWORTHINESS STANDARDS: MANNED FREE BALLOONS**Subpart A—General****Subpart A—General**

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APPENDIX A TO PART 31—INSTRUCTIONS FOR CONTINUED AIRWORTHINESS

AUTHORITY: 49 U.S.C. 106(g), 40113, 44701–44702, 44704.

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§ 31.1 Applicability.

(a) This part prescribes airworthiness standards for the issue of type certificates and changes to those certificates, for manned free balloons.

(b) Each person who applies under Part 21 for such a certificate or change must show compliance with the applicable requirements of this part.

(c) For purposes of this part—

(1) A captive gas balloon is a balloon that derives its lift from a captive lighter-than-air gas;

(2) A hot air balloon is a balloon that derives its lift from heated air;

(3) The envelope is the enclosure in which the lifting means is contained;

(4) The basket is the container, suspended beneath the envelope, for the balloon occupants;

(5) The trapeze is a harness or is a seat consisting of a horizontal bar or platform suspended beneath the envelope for the balloon occupants; and

(6) The design maximum weight is the maximum total weight of the balloon, less the lifting gas or air.

[Doc. No. 1437, 29 FR 8258, July 1, 1964, as amended by Amdt. 31-3, 41 FR 55474, Dec. 20, 1976]

Subpart B—Flight Requirements**§ 31.12 Proof of compliance.**

(a) Each requirement of this subpart must be met at each weight within the range of loading conditions for which certification is requested. This must be shown by—

(1) Tests upon a balloon of the type for which certification is requested or by calculations based on, and equal in accuracy to, the results of testing; and

(2) Systematic investigation of each weight if compliance cannot be reasonably inferred from the weights investigated.

(b) Except as provided in § 31.17(b), allowable weight tolerances during flight testing are +5 percent and –10 percent.

[Amdt. 31-4, 45 FR 60179, Sept. 11, 1980]

§ 31.14 Weight limits.

(a) The range of weights over which the balloon may be safely operated must be established.