

§ 29.307 Proof of structure.

(a) Compliance with the strength and deformation requirements of this subpart must be shown for each critical loading condition accounting for the environment to which the structure will be exposed in operation. Structural analysis (static or fatigue) may be used only if the structure conforms to those structures for which experience has shown this method to be reliable. In other cases, substantiating load tests must be made.

(b) Proof of compliance with the strength requirements of this subpart must include—

- (1) Dynamic and endurance tests of rotors, rotor drives, and rotor controls;
- (2) Limit load tests of the control system, including control surfaces;
- (3) Operation tests of the control system;
- (4) Flight stress measurement tests;
- (5) Landing gear drop tests; and
- (6) Any additional tests required for new or unusual design features.

(Secs. 604, 605, 72 Stat. 778, 49 U.S.C. 1424, 1425)

[Doc. No. 5084, 29 FR 16150, Dec. 3, 1964, as amended by Amdt. 29-4, 33 FR 14106, Sept. 18, 1968; Amdt. 27-26, 55 FR 8001, Mar. 6, 1990]

§ 29.309 Design limitations.

The following values and limitations must be established to show compliance with the structural requirements of this subpart:

- (a) The design maximum and design minimum weights.
- (b) The main rotor r.p.m. ranges, power on and power off.
- (c) The maximum forward speeds for each main rotor r.p.m. within the ranges determined under paragraph (b) of this section.
- (d) The maximum rearward and side-ward flight speeds.
- (e) The center of gravity limits corresponding to the limitations determined under paragraphs (b), (c), and (d) of this section.
- (f) The rotational speed ratios between each powerplant and each connected rotating component.
- (g) The positive and negative limit maneuvering load factors.

FLIGHT LOADS

§ 29.321 General.

(a) The flight load factor must be assumed to act normal to the longitudinal axis of the rotorcraft, and to be equal in magnitude and opposite in direction to the rotorcraft inertia load factor at the center of gravity.

(b) Compliance with the flight load requirements of this subpart must be shown—

(1) At each weight from the design minimum weight to the design maximum weight; and

(2) With any practical distribution of disposable load within the operating limitations in the Rotorcraft Flight Manual.

§ 29.337 Limit maneuvering load factor.

The rotorcraft must be designed for—

(a) A limit maneuvering load factor ranging from a positive limit of 3.5 to a negative limit of -1.0; or

(b) Any positive limit maneuvering load factor not less than 2.0 and any negative limit maneuvering load factor of not less than -0.5 for which—

(1) The probability of being exceeded is shown by analysis and flight tests to be extremely remote; and

(2) The selected values are appropriate to each weight condition between the design maximum and design minimum weights.

[Doc. No. 5084, 29 FR 16150, Dec. 3, 1964, as amended by Amdt. 27-26, 55 FR 8002, Mar. 6, 1990]

§ 29.339 Resultant limit maneuvering loads.

The loads resulting from the application of limit maneuvering load factors are assumed to act at the center of each rotor hub and at each auxiliary lifting surface, and to act in directions and with distributions of load among the rotors and auxiliary lifting surfaces, so as to represent each critical maneuvering condition, including power-on and power-off flight with the maximum design rotor tip speed ratio. The rotor tip speed ratio is the ratio of the rotorcraft flight velocity component in the plane of the rotor disc to the rotational tip speed of the rotor blades, and is expressed as follows: