TRI-SERVICE AGREEMENT FOR SUPPORT AND ACCOMPLISHMENT OF
FLIGHT TEST AND ACCEPTANCE, FLIGHT OPERATIONS AND FLIGHT
SAFETY

The following policy statements and procedures for the support and accomplishment of flight test and acceptance, flight operations, and flight safety are herein agreed to by the Defense Contract Management Agency (DCMA) and Departments of the Army, Navy, and Air Force.

a. Per DFARS 242.202, DCMA is assigned DoD contract administration responsibilities at contractor plants/facilities. In this capacity, the Agency manages the flight test and acceptance of Government aircraft, approves contractor flight crews, contractor flights, and the contractor’s flight and ground operating Procedures; and ensures the contractor maintains a flight operations and flight safety program as prescribed by the contract and the combined instruction titled, “Contractor’s Flight and Ground Operations,” (DCMA INST 8210.1, AFI 10-220, AR 95-20, NAVAIRinst 3710.1 (Series), and COMDTINST M13020.3).

b. Flight personnel, Government Flight Representatives (GFRs) and Aviation Maintenance Managers (AMMs) from the Military Departments will be assigned to DCMA activities to perform the responsibilities in paragraph a. above. Assignment of personnel will be based on the specific mission requirements of each DCMA activity and will be held to the minimum required to perform the mission in accordance with the crewmembers’ parent Service directives. Permanent Change of Station (PCS) assignments for specific periods of time will be funded by the Military Departments in accordance with their policies. Prior to requesting additional positions, DCMA will coordinate new billet requirements with the appropriate Program Office. Non-resident GFRs may be assigned to a maximum of six contractor facilities of which he/she may be Primary GFR at no more than four.

c. To assist DCMA in efficiently accomplishing the Agency’s mission, the Military Departments will instruct their procuring offices to provide the earliest possible notification to DCMA of the placement or potential placement of aircraft contracts which involve flight test and acceptance responsibilities.
d. The Military Departments will ensure that properly qualified Contract Management Office (CMO) commanders, aircrews, GFRs, and AMMs are provided to DCMA in a timely manner to fulfill the Agency’s mission. The Military Departments are responsible for funding any enroute training requirements and shall coordinate those training requirements with DCMA HQ. Funding / funding guidance for enroute training will be provided by:

1. Army: Human Resources Command, providing the billet has been validated with regard to duty position training requirements by the Acquisition Support Center. On an exception basis, PEO Aviation through its subordinate Program Managers will fund GFR or AMM training on a case by case basis as required.


2a. USMC: Training and Education Command (TECOM), Marine Corps Combat Development Center (MCCDC), Financial Management (FM) Branch will fund required training. Once TECOM FM approves funding for the enroute training, MMOA/MMEA (Officer Assignments/Enlisted Assignments) writes the orders.


DCMA will not be responsible for establishing or conducting aircrew initial flight qualification training programs.

e. DCMA will exercise reasonable management flexibility in use of assigned personnel to meet mission responsibilities. When the flight test and acceptance workload or special requirements temporarily exceed the capability at a plant/facility, DCMA will draw upon the Agency’s total capability to provide interim support to meet the requirements. DCMA will request personnel from the Military Department, coordinated with the applicable Program Office, to augment DCMA when critical skills are required, short-term peak workloads are anticipated, or when long-term requirements do not justify permanent party aircrews. When DCMA determines the number of assigned
personnel exceeds requirements, personnel will be returned without delay to the Military Department.

f. DCMA will manage military aircraft and other assets associated with its flight activities to ensure their use is consistent with legitimate flight test and acceptance requirements, aircrew training and proficiency, or special Service requirements.

g. DCMA will exercise flight management control of assigned military aircrews and monitor their use. DCMA will publish a flight management instruction detailing responsibilities and procedures in the areas of aviation general provisions, aircraft operations, flight rules, aircrew requirements, training, aviation safety, and standardization. DCMA will coordinate with the Military Departments to provide Service evaluator crews to complete flight standardization and evaluation requirements. DCMA will provide all necessary travel related expenses. DCMA is responsible for assigned aircrew proficiency, currency in the mission aircraft and annual flying minimums (as required).

h. The applicable DCMA field activity will be responsible for preparing agreements with the nearest appropriate military flight operations facility for providing and maintaining flight records, personal flight equipment, and physical examinations for all aircrew personnel.

i. The Military Departments will retain controlling custody responsibilities for all aircraft under DCMA administered contracts.

j. The Military Departments will retain mishap accountability, investigation, and reporting responsibility for aircraft mishaps associated with contracts administered by DCMA. The applicable DCMA activity will ensure the appropriate Military Department’s aircraft custodian is notified of flight, flight-related, and aircraft ground mishaps by the most expedient means of communication. Notifications by DCMA will comply with the requirements of DoDI 6055.7, Accident Investigation, Reporting, and Recordkeeping, and the provisions of Federal Acquisition Regulation 42.301. The appropriate Military Department will be responsible for news releases pertaining to aircraft mishaps.
k. This Agreement will be reviewed at least every three years by the Military Services and DCMA.¹

¹ (Air Force) This Agreement is intended to memorialize the mutual understanding, intent, and agreement of the Military Services and DCMA, but does not itself obligate the expenditure of any funds. The parties’ participation in this Agreement is subject to the availability of appropriated funds for the purposes described in the Agreement.