

Conduct of Part-SFCL FI(S) 9-year Demonstration of Ability - guidance

1. The Regulation

SFCL.360 (a)(2) states that “within the last nine years and in accordance with the procedures established for that purpose by the competent authority, (an FI(S) certificate holder must have) demonstrated the ability to instruct on sailplanes to an FI(S) who is qualified in accordance with point [SFCL.315\(a\)\(7\)](#) and nominated by the Head of Training....”

2. Who Can Conduct a 9-Yr Demonstration of Ability?

A Flight Instructor Coach who has been nominated by their club CFI who satisfies the following criteria:

1. Hold an FI(S) with (a)(7) (or on older licences, ‘FI(S) (i)’ privileges and,
2. Have a minimum of one year’s experience delivering instructor training, or
3. Have other relevant experience in delivering aeroplane instructor training

3. Content of the Demonstration of Ability to Instruct

AMC1 (acceptable means of compliance) SFCL.360(a)(2) states:

- (a) The aim of the demonstration flight is to confirm continued instructor competency.
- (b) The demonstration flight should be arranged to ensure that the FI(S) being checked demonstrates, on the ground and during at least one flight, knowledge, skills and attitudes relevant to the FI(S) task including at least all of the following:
 - (1) technical knowledge;
 - (2) ability to teach a sample of the ground course subjects and air exercises from the SPL training course;
 - (3) a sufficiently high standard of flying;
 - (4) application of instructing principles; and
 - (5) application of TEM.
- (c) The checking instructor should enter the successful completion of the demonstration flight into the log book of the applicant.

Note that SFCL.360 (c) states that if the applicant fails to complete the demonstration of ability to the satisfaction of the checking instructor then he/she shall not exercise the privileges of their FI(S) certificate until he/she has successfully completed an Assessment of Competence.

4. Conduct of the Demonstration of Ability to Instruct

The intention of this Demonstration of Ability is to have a regular assessment of an instructor’s competencies without requiring the formality of an examiner and ‘test’ conditions. The demonstration will be conducted at a local level, in most cases, by instructor coaches from the instructor’s home club.

The content of the demonstration is flexible but must contain the elements within para 3 above. It may consist of one flight if all the required elements can be satisfied, however, more flights may be

flown to achieve the objective. These may be flown in either a pure sailplane or TMG, or a combination of both provided the applicant and the checking instructor are appropriately qualified.

It is important that the demonstration of ability is not treated solely as a test but must include constructive feedback to the applicant such that focussed coaching can be provided to improve any competencies requiring development. Once the checking instructor has assessed the applicant's ability, coaching may be provided as agreed with the applicant to maximise training and development opportunities.

A report form is available for use by the FIC during the demonstration of ability which should be retained by them. It is recommended that a copy is also retained by the instructor's club and by the instructor themselves. Successful completion should be entered and signed in the applicant's logbook; the BGA do not need to be informed.

Recommended logbook entry: "9 yr Demonstration of Ability IAW SFCL.360 (a)(2)" – instructor signature/name/licence no.

If the applicant does not achieve the required standard during the demonstration of ability, they must be debriefed accordingly with clear advice of what training they need to undergo prior to undertaking an Assessment of Competence with an FE(S). The logbook should not be signed.

D Smith

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BGA