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**Federal Aviation
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with Change 1

SPORT PILOT

Practical Test Standards

for

- **Airplane**
 - **Gyroplane**
 - **Glider**
 - **Flight Instructor**

December 2004

FLIGHT STANDARDS SERVICE
Washington, DC 20591

SPORT PILOT

Practical Test Standards

2004

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Washington, DC 20591**

NOTE

Material in FAA-S-8081-29 will be effective December 1, 2004.

Record of Changes

Change 1—6/9/2006

1. Deleted the additional category/class matrix; applicants for an additional category/class privileges must take a complete practical test.
2. Added weather elements for inadvertent entry into IMC on pages 1-2 and 2-2.
3. Deleted the ATC light signal requirements from airport operations pages 1-10 and 2-9.
4. Deleted all references to repositionable landing gear, multiple pages.
5. Added the requirement for selecting a suitable emergency landing area to airplane ground reference maneuvers, page 1-24.
6. Deleted gyroplane short field takeoff and landing (formerly page 2-13) TASKs.
7. Added proficiency check materials to flight instructor characteristics and responsibilities page 4-15.
8. Created category specific examiner/instructor checklists for the flight instructor with a sport pilot rating pages 4-xx to replace the flight instructor matrix.
9. Deleted the flight instructor matrixes. See above.

FOREWORD

The Sport Pilot Practical Test Standards for Airplane, Gyroplane, Glider, and Flight Instructor has been published by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to establish the standards for the knowledge and skills necessary for the issuance of a Sport Pilot Certificate and a Flight Instructor Certificate with a Sport Pilot rating.

FAA inspectors, designated pilot examiners, and flight instructors must conduct instruction, proficiency checks, and practical tests in compliance with these standards. Flight instructors and applicants should find these standards helpful during training and when preparing for the practical test or proficiency check.

/s/ 12-20-2004

Joseph K. Tintera, Manager
Regulatory Support Division
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INTRODUCTION

General Information

The Flight Standards Service of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has developed this practical test book as the standard that shall be used by FAA inspectors and designated pilot examiners (DPEs) when conducting sport pilot and flight instructor with a sport pilot rating practical tests or proficiency checks.

The word “examiner” is used throughout the standards to denote either the FAA inspector or an FAA designated pilot examiner who conducts an official practical test or proficiency check. When an examiner conducts a proficiency check they are acting in the capacity of an authorized instructor.

A proficiency check is an evaluation of aeronautical knowledge and flight proficiency IAW Title 14 of the Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR) part 61, section 61.321 or 61.419. A proficiency check must be administered using the appropriate practical test standard (PTS) for the category of aircraft when a pilot or a flight instructor adds new category/class privileges. Upon successful completion of the proficiency check the authorized instructor will endorse the applicant’s logbook indicating the added category/class of equipment that the applicant is authorized to operate. When an examiner conducts a proficiency check they are acting in the capacity of an authorized instructor.

DPEs must have designation authority to conduct sport pilot initial evaluations (Sport Pilot Examiner [SPE]) and flight instructors with a sport pilot rating initial evaluations (Sport Pilot Flight Instructor Examiner [SFIE]) per FAA Order 8710.7, Sport Pilot Examiner’s Handbook.

Authorized instructors must use this PTS when preparing applicants for practical tests or proficiency checks and when conducting proficiency checks. Applicants should be familiar with this book and refer to these standards during their training.

Information considered directive in nature is described in this practical test book in terms, such as “shall” and “must” indicating the actions are mandatory. Guidance information is described in terms, such as “should” and “may” indicating the actions are desirable or permissive, but not mandatory.

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The FAA gratefully acknowledges the valuable assistance provided by many individuals and organizations throughout the aviation community who contributed their time and talent in assisting with the development of this practical test standard.

This PTS may be purchased from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO), Washington, DC 20402-9325, or from <http://bookstore.gpo.gov>. This PTS is also available for download, in pdf format, from the Flight Standards Service web site at www.faa.gov.

The U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Aviation Administration, Airman Testing Standards Branch, AFS-630, P.O. BOX 25082, Oklahoma City, OK 73125 publishes this PTS. Comments regarding this PTS should be sent, in e-mail form, to AFS630comments@faa.gov.

Practical Test Standards Concept

14 CFR part 61.311 specifies the AREAS OF OPERATION in which knowledge and skill must be demonstrated by the applicant before the issuance of a Sport Pilot Certificate or privileges. The CFRs provide the flexibility to permit the FAA to publish practical test standards containing the AREAS OF OPERATION and specific TASKs in which pilot competency shall be demonstrated. The FAA shall revise this practical test standard whenever it is determined that changes are needed in the interest of safety. **Adherence to the provisions of the regulations and the practical test standards is mandatory for practical tests and proficiency checks.**

Practical Test Book Description

This test book contains the following Sport Pilot Practical Test Standards.

Section 1—Airplane Single-Engine Land and Sea

Section 2—Gyroplane

Section 3—Glider

Section 4—Flight Instructor (The flight instructor section contains a separate introduction in section 4.)

The Sport Pilot Practical Test Standards include the AREAS OF OPERATION and TASKs for the issuance of an initial Sport Pilot Certificate and for the addition of sport pilot category/class privileges. It also contains information on how to obtain an initial Flight Instructor Certificate with a sport pilot rating and for the addition of flight instructor category/class privileges.

Practical Test Standards Description

AREAS OF OPERATION are phases of the practical test or proficiency check arranged in a logical sequence within each standard. They begin with Preflight Preparation and end with Postflight Procedures. The examiner may conduct the practical test or proficiency check in any sequence that will result in a complete and efficient test. An authorized instructor may conduct a proficiency check in any sequence that will result in a complete and efficient test. However, the ground portion of the practical test or proficiency check shall be accomplished before the flight portion.

TASKs are specific knowledge areas, flight procedures, or maneuvers appropriate to an AREA OF OPERATION. The abbreviation(s) within parentheses immediately following a TASK refer to the appropriate class of aircraft. The meaning of each class abbreviation is as follows:

ASEL Airplane Single-engine Land

ASES Airplane Single-engine Sea

When administering a test using section 1, 2, 3, or 4 of this PTS, the TASKs appropriate to the class aircraft (ASEL and ASES) used for the test shall be included in the plan of action. The absence of a class indicates the TASK is for all classes.

NOTE is used to emphasize special considerations required in the AREA OF OPERATION or TASK.

REFERENCE identifies the publication(s) that describe(s) the TASK. Descriptions of TASKs are not included in these standards because this information can be found in the current issue of the listed reference. Publications other than those listed may be used for reference if their content conveys substantially the same meaning as the referenced publications.

These practical test standards are based on the following references.

14 CFR part 43	Maintenance, Preventive Maintenance, Rebuilding, and Alteration
14 CFR part 61	Certification: Pilots, Flight Instructors, and Ground Instructors
14 CFR part 67	Medical Standards Certification
14 CFR part 71	Designation of class A, B, C, D, and E airspace
14 CFR part 91	General Operating and Flight Rules
AC 00-6	Aviation Weather
AC 00-45	Aviation Weather Services
AC 60-22	Aeronautical Decision Making
AC 60-28	English Language Skill Standards

AC 61-65	Certification: Pilot and Flight Instructors and Ground Instructors
AC 61-67	Stall and Spin Awareness Training
AC 61-84	Role of Preflight Preparation
AC 61-134	General Aviation Controlled Flight Into Terrain Awareness
AC 90-23	Aircraft Wake Turbulence
AC 90-48	Pilots' Role in Collision Avoidance
AC 90-66	Recommended Standard Traffic Patterns and Practices for Aeronautical Operations At Airports Without Operating Control Towers
AC 91-13	Cold Weather Operation of Aircraft
AC 91-69	Seaplane Safety for FAR Part 91 Operations
AC 120-51	Crew Resource Management Training
FAA-H-8083-1	Aircraft Weight and Balance Handbook
FAA-H-8083-3	Airplane Flying Handbook
FAA-H-8083-9	Aviation Instructor's Handbook
FAA-H-8083-13	Glider Flying Handbook
FAA-H-8083-21	Rotorcraft Flying Handbook
FAA-H-8083-23	Seaplane, Skiplane, and Float/Ski Equipped Helicopter Flying Handbook
FAA-H-8083-25	Pilot's Handbook of Aeronautical Knowledge
AIM	Aeronautical Information Manual
AFD	Airport Facility Directory
NOTAMs	Notices to Airmen
Other	Pilot Operating Handbook/ FAA-Approved Flight Manual Aeronautical Navigation Charts Seaplane Supplement

The Objective lists the important elements that must be satisfactorily performed to demonstrate competency in a TASK. The Objective includes:

1. specifically what the applicant should be able to do;
2. conditions under which the TASK is to be performed;
3. acceptable performance standards; and
4. safety considerations, when applicable.

Abbreviations

14 CFR	Title 14 of the Code of Federal Regulations
AC	Advisory Circular
ADM	Aeronautical Decision Making
AFD	Airport Facility Directory
AFM	Airplane Flight Manual
AFSS	Automated Flight Service Station
AGL	Above Ground Level
AIM	Aeronautical Information Manual

ASEL	Airplane Single Engine Land
ASES	Airplane Single Engine Sea
ASOS	Automated Surface Observing System
ATC	Air Traffic Control
ATIS	Automatic Terminal Information Service
AWOS	Automated Weather Observing System
CFIT	Controlled Flight into Terrain
CRM	Cockpit Resource Management
CTAF	Common Traffic Advisory Frequency
FA	Area Weather Forecast
FAA	Federal Aviation Administration
GPO	Government Printing Office
IMC	Instrument Meteorological Conditions
METAR	Meteorological Aviation Report (Routine)
NOTAM	Notices to Airmen
NTSB	National Transportation Safety Board
PPC	Powered Parachute
POH	Pilot Operating Handbook
PTS	Practical Test Standard
RPM	Revolutions per Minute
SS	Single-seat
SUA	Special Use Airspace
TAF	Terminal Aviation Forecast
TFR	Temporary Flight Restrictions
VFR	Visual Flight Rules
WSC	Weight-shift Controlled

Use of the Practical Test Standards Book

The FAA requires that all sport pilot and sport pilot flight instructor practical tests and proficiency checks be conducted in accordance with the appropriate sport pilot practical test standards and the policies set forth in this INTRODUCTION. Applicants must be evaluated in **ALL** TASKs included in each AREA OF OPERATION of the appropriate practical test standard, unless otherwise noted.

An applicant, who holds at least a Sport Pilot Certificate seeking additional aircraft category/class privileges at the sport pilot level, must be evaluated in all the AREAS OF OPERATION and TASKs listed in the PTS.

In preparation for each practical test or proficiency check, the examiner or authorized instructor shall develop a written "plan of action." The "plan of action" shall include all TASKs in each AREA OF OPERATION, unless noted otherwise. If the elements in one TASK have already been evaluated in another TASK, they need not be repeated.

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For example, the “plan of action” need not include evaluating the applicant on complying with markings at the end of the flight, if that element was sufficiently observed at the beginning of the flight. **Any TASK selected for evaluation during a practical test or proficiency check shall be evaluated in its entirety.** Exception: examiners evaluating single-seat applicants from the ground shall evaluate only those TASK **elements** that can be accurately assessed from the ground.

The examiner or authorized instructor is not required to follow the precise order in which the AREAS OF OPERATION and TASKs appear in this book. The examiner or authorized instructor may change the sequence or combine TASKs with similar Objectives to have an orderly and efficient flow of the practical test or proficiency check events.

The examiner’s or authorized instructor’s “plan of action” shall include the order and combination of TASKs to be demonstrated by the applicant in a manner that will result in an efficient and valid test.

The examiner or authorized instructor is expected to use good judgment in the performance of simulated emergency procedures. The use of the safest means for simulation is expected. Consideration must be given to local conditions, both meteorological and topographical, at the time of the test, as well as the applicant’s workload, and the condition of the aircraft used during the practical test or proficiency check. **If the procedure being evaluated would jeopardize safety, it is expected that the applicant will simulate that portion of the maneuver.**

Special Emphasis Areas

Examiners and authorized instructors shall place special emphasis upon areas of aircraft operations considered critical to flight safety. Among these are:

1. positive aircraft control;
2. procedures for positive exchange of flight controls;
3. stall and spin awareness (if appropriate);
4. collision avoidance;
5. wake turbulence and low level wind shear avoidance;
6. runway incursion avoidance;
7. controlled flight into terrain (CFIT);
8. aeronautical decision making/risk management;
9. checklist usage;

10. spatial disorientation;
11. temporary flight restrictions (TFR);
12. special use airspace (SUA);
13. aviation security; and
14. other areas deemed appropriate to any phase of the practical test or proficiency check.

Although these areas may not be specifically addressed under each TASK, they are essential to flight safety and will be evaluated during the practical test or proficiency check. In all instances, the applicant's actions will be evaluated in accordance to the standards of the TASKs and the ability to use good judgment with reference to the special emphasis areas listed above.

Sport Pilot—Practical Test Prerequisites (Initial)

An applicant for a Sport Pilot Certificate is required by 14 CFR part 61 to:

1. be at least 17 years of age (or 16 if applying to operate a glider or balloon);
2. be able to read, speak, write, and understand the English language. If there is a doubt, use AC 60-28, English Language Skill Standards;
3. have passed the appropriate sport pilot knowledge test since the beginning of the 24th month before the month in which he or she takes a practical test;
4. have satisfactorily accomplished the required training and obtained the aeronautical experience prescribed;
5. possess a current and valid U.S. driver's license or a valid Airman Medical Certificate issued under 14 CFR part 67;
6. have an endorsement from an authorized instructor certifying that the applicant has received and logged training time within 60 days preceding the date of application in preparation for the practical test, and is prepared for the practical test; and
7. have an endorsement certifying that the applicant has demonstrated satisfactory knowledge of the subject areas in which the applicant was deficient on the airman knowledge test.

Sport Pilot—Practical Test Prerequisites (Registered Ultra-Light Pilots)

If you are a registered ultra-light pilot with an FAA-recognized ultra-light organization on or before September 1, 2004, and you want to apply for a Sport Pilot Certificate, then you must, not later than January 31, 2007 (14 CFR part 61, section 61.329):

1. meet the eligibility requirements in 14 CFR part 61, sections 61.305 and 61.23, but **not** the aeronautical knowledge requirements specified in section 61.309, the flight proficiency requirements specified in section 61.311, and the aeronautical experience requirements specified in section 61.313;
2. pass the knowledge test for a Sport Pilot Certificate specified in 14 CFR part 61, section 61.307;
3. pass the practical test for a Sport Pilot Certificate specified in 14 CFR part 61, section 61.307;
4. provide the FAA with a certified copy of your ultra-light pilot records from an FAA-recognized ultra-light organization, and those records must—
 - a. document that you are a registered ultra-light pilot with that FAA-recognized ultra-light organization; and
 - b. indicate that you are recognized to operate each category and class of aircraft for which you seek sport pilot privileges.

Sport Pilot—Additional Privileges

If you hold a Sport Pilot Certificate or higher and seek to operate an additional category or class of light-sport aircraft (14 CFR part 61, section 61.321), you must:

1. receive a logbook endorsement from the authorized instructor who trained you on the applicable aeronautical knowledge areas specified in 14 CFR part 61, section 61.309 and areas of operation specified in section 61.311. The endorsement certifies you have met the aeronautical knowledge and flight proficiency requirements for the additional light-sport aircraft privileges you seek;
2. successfully complete a proficiency check from an authorized instructor other than the one who trained you on the aeronautical knowledge areas and areas of operation specified in 14 CFR part 61, sections 61.309 and 61.311 for the additional light-sport aircraft privilege you seek;

3. complete an application for those privileges on a form in a manner acceptable to the FAA and present this application to the authorized instructor who conducted the proficiency check specified in above paragraph;
4. receive a logbook endorsement from the instructor who conducted the proficiency check specified in 2 above, certifying you are proficient in the applicable areas of operation and aeronautical knowledge areas and that you are authorized for the additional category and class light-sport aircraft privilege.

Aircraft and Equipment Required for the Practical Test/Proficiency Check

The applicant for a Sport Pilot Certificate is required in accordance with 14 CFR part 61, section 61.45, to provide an aircraft that has a current airworthiness certificate and is in a condition for safe flight, for use during the practical test or proficiency check. This section further requires that the aircraft must:

1. be of U.S., foreign or military registry of the same category, class, and type, if applicable, for the certificate or privileges for which the applicant is applying;
2. have fully functioning dual controls, except as provided for in 14 CFR part 61, section 61.45(c), (e), and (f); and
3. be capable of performing all AREAS OF OPERATION appropriate to the privileges sought and have no operating limitations, which prohibit its use in any of the AREAS OF OPERATION, required for the practical test or proficiency check.
4. have an altitude and an airspeed indicating system, as appropriate, for all tasks that require demonstration of skill within an altitude/airspeed.

The aircraft utilized for sport pilot and sport pilot flight instructor practical tests and proficiency checks must be a light-sport aircraft as defined in 14 CFR part 1.

Single-Seat Aircraft Practical Test

Applicants for a Sport Pilot Certificate may elect to take their test in a single-seat aircraft. The FAA established in 14 CFR part 61, section 61.45(f) specific requirements to allow a practical test for a Sport Pilot Certificate only. This provision does not allow a practical test for a Flight Instructor Certificate or Recreation Pilot Certificate or higher to be conducted in a light-sport aircraft that has a single-pilot seat.

With certain limitations, the practical test for a Sport Pilot Certificate may be conducted from the ground by an examiner. The examiner must agree to conduct the practical test in a single-seat aircraft and must ensure that the practical test is conducted in accordance with the sport pilot practical test standards for single-seat aircraft. **Knowledge of all TASKs applicable to their category/class of aircraft will be evaluated orally.** Single-seat sport pilots shall demonstrate competency in those specific TASKs identified by a NOTE in the AREA OF OPERATION for a single-seat practical test and any other TASKs selected by the examiner. Examiners evaluating single-seat applicants from the ground shall evaluate only those TASK **elements** that can be accurately assessed from the ground.

The examiner **must maintain radio contact** with the applicant and be in a position to observe the operation of the aircraft while evaluating the proficiency of the applicant from the ground.

Sport pilots taking the practical test in a single-seat aircraft will have the limitation, "No passenger carriage and flight in a single-pilot seat aircraft only" placed on their pilot certificate, per 61.45 (f) (3), limiting their operations to a single-seat light-sport aircraft and no passenger carriage will be authorized.

Only an examiner is authorized to remove this limitation when the sport pilot takes a complete practical test in a two-place light-sport aircraft. This practical test may be conducted in the same or additional category of aircraft.

Upon successful completion of the practical test, the limitation will be removed, and the sport pilot is authorized to act as pilot in command in all categories of light-sport aircraft that he or she has a make and model endorsement within a set of aircraft to operate. The limitation can also be removed if the sport pilot completes the certification requirements in an aircraft with a minimum of two places, for a higher certificate or rating.

Single-Seat Aircraft Proficiency Check

Sport pilot proficiency checks may be performed in a single-seat aircraft. The FAA believes it is appropriate for an instructor to perform a proficiency check for an additional category/class privilege to a Sport Pilot Certificate or higher, in accordance with 14 CFR part 61, section 61.321, using a single-seat light-sport aircraft, providing the authorized instructor is an examiner. When an examiner conducts a proficiency check they are acting in the capacity of an authorized instructor.

The authorized instructor must agree to conduct the practical test in a single seat light-sport aircraft and must ensure that the proficiency check is conducted in accordance with the sport pilot practical test standards for single-seat aircraft. Knowledge of all TASKs applicable to the category or class of aircraft will be evaluated orally. Those pilots seeking sport pilot privileges in a single-seat light-sport aircraft shall demonstrate competency in those specific TASKs identified by a NOTE in the AREA OF OPERATION for a single-seat proficiency check and any other TASKs selected by the authorized instructor. Authorized instructors evaluating single-seat applicants from the ground shall evaluate only those TASK **elements** that can be accurately assessed from the ground.

The authorized instructor must have radio contact and be in a position to observe the operation of the light-sport aircraft and evaluate the proficiency of the applicant from the ground.

On successful completion of a proficiency check, the authorized instructor will issue an endorsement with the following limitation “No passenger carriage and flight in a single-pilot seat aircraft only (add category/class/make and model)” limiting his or her operations to a single-seat aircraft in this category, class, make, and model. The authorized instructor must sign this endorsement with his or her flight instructor and examiner number.

This limitation can be removed by successfully completing a proficiency check, accomplishing the additional TASKs identified in the practical test standards in a two-place light-sport aircraft in that specific category and class, in accordance with 14 CFR part 61, section 61.321. This proficiency check must be conducted in the same category and class of light-sport aircraft. Upon successful completion of the proficiency check, the applicant will be given an endorsement for the aircraft privilege sought.

Those recreational pilots or higher exercising sport pilot privileges will be required to have an endorsement for only the category and/or class of light-sport aircraft they are now authorized to act as pilot in command. A sport pilot will be required to have an endorsement for the category, class, make, and model within a set of aircraft in which he or she is now authorized to act as pilot in command.

Flight Instructor Responsibility

An appropriately rated flight instructor is responsible for training the sport pilot applicant to acceptable standards in **ALL** subject matter areas, procedures, and maneuvers included in the TASKs within each AREA OF OPERATION in the appropriate sport pilot practical test standard.

Because of the impact of their teaching activities in developing safe, proficient pilots, flight instructors should exhibit a high level of knowledge, skill, and the ability to impart that knowledge and skill to students.

Throughout the applicant's training, the flight instructor is responsible for emphasizing the performance of effective visual scanning and collision avoidance procedures.

Examiner Responsibility

The examiner conducting the practical test or authorized instructor conducting the proficiency check is responsible for determining that the applicant meets the acceptable standards of knowledge and skill of each TASK within each appropriate AREA OF OPERATION. Since there is no formal division between the "oral" and "skill" portions of the practical test or proficiency check, this oral portion becomes an ongoing process throughout the test. Oral questioning, to determine the applicant's knowledge of TASKs and related safety factors, should be used judiciously at all times, especially during the flight portion of the practical test or proficiency check. Examiners and authorized instructors shall test to the greatest extent practicable the applicant's correlative abilities rather than mere rote enumeration of facts throughout the practical test or proficiency check.

If the examiner or authorized instructor determines that a TASK is incomplete, or the outcome uncertain, the examiner may require the applicant to repeat that TASK, or portions of that TASK. This provision has been made in the interest of fairness and does not mean that instruction, practice, or the repeating of an unsatisfactory TASK is permitted during the certification process. When practical, the remaining TASKs of the practical test or proficiency check phase should be completed before repeating the questionable TASK.

The examiner or authorized instructor shall use scenarios when applicable to determine that the applicant can use good risk management procedures in making aeronautical decisions. Examples of TASKs where scenarios would be advantageous are weather analysis, performance planning, and runway/landing area selection.

Throughout the flight portion of the practical test or proficiency check, the examiner or authorized instructor shall evaluate the applicant's knowledge and practical incorporation of special emphasis areas.

Initial Check—Sport Pilot-Satisfactory Performance

Satisfactory performance of TASKs to meet the requirements for sport pilot certification are based on the applicant's ability to safely:

1. perform the TASKs specified in the AREAS OF OPERATION for the certificate or privileges sought within the approved standards;
2. demonstrate mastery of the aircraft with the successful outcome of each TASK performed never seriously in doubt;
3. demonstrate satisfactory proficiency and competency within the approved standards;
4. demonstrate sound judgment in aeronautical decision making/risk management; and
5. demonstrate single-pilot competence in an aircraft with a single pilot station (if applicable).

Initial Check—Sport Pilot-Unsatisfactory Performance

The tolerances represent the performance expected in good flying conditions. If, in the judgment of the examiner, the applicant does not meet the standards of performance of any TASK performed, the associated AREA OF OPERATION is failed and therefore, the practical test is failed.

The examiner or applicant may discontinue the test at any time when the failure of an AREA OF OPERATION makes the applicant ineligible for the certificate. **The test may be continued ONLY with the consent of the applicant.**

If the test is discontinued, the applicant is entitled credit for only those AREAS OF OPERATION and their associated TASKs satisfactorily performed. However, during the retest, and at the discretion of the examiner, any TASK may be re-evaluated, including those previously passed.

The following are typical areas of unsatisfactory performance and grounds for disqualification.

1. Any action or lack of action by the applicant that requires corrective intervention by the examiner to maintain safe flight.
2. Failure to use proper and effective visual scanning techniques to clear the area before and while performing maneuvers.

3. Consistently exceeding tolerances stated in the Objectives.
4. Failure to take prompt corrective action when tolerances are exceeded.

When a Notice of Disapproval is issued, the examiner shall record the applicant's unsatisfactory performance in terms of the AREA OF OPERATION and specific TASK(s) not meeting the standard appropriate to the practical test conducted. The AREA(s) OF OPERATION/TASK(s) not tested and the number of practical test failures shall also be recorded. If the applicant fails the practical test because of a special emphasis area, the Notice of Disapproval shall indicate the associated TASK. For example, SECTION 1, VIII. AREA OF OPERATION: SLOW FLIGHT AND STALLS (ASEL and ASES), TASK A: MANEUVERING DURING SLOW FLIGHT, failure to use proper collision avoidance procedures.

Proficiency Check—Sport Pilot-Satisfactory Performance when Adding an Additional Category/Class

Satisfactory performance of TASKs to add category/class privileges is based on the applicant's ability to safely:

1. perform the TASKs specified in the AREAS OF OPERATION for the certificate or privileges sought within the approved standards;
2. demonstrate mastery of the aircraft with the successful outcome of each TASK performed never seriously in doubt;
3. demonstrate satisfactory proficiency and competency within the approved standards;
4. demonstrate sound judgment in aeronautical decision making/risk management; and
5. demonstrate single-pilot competence.

When an applicant is adding a category/class privileges to his or her Sport Pilot Certificate, the authorized instructor, upon satisfactory completion of the proficiency check, shall endorse the applicant's logbook indicating that the applicant is qualified to operate the additional sport pilot category/class of aircraft. The authorized instructor shall forward FAA Form 8710-11 to Airman Registry within 10 days.

Proficiency Check—Sport Pilot-Unsatisfactory Performance when Adding an Additional Category/Class

When the applicant's performance does not meet the standards in the PTS, the examiner or authorized instructor conducting the proficiency check shall annotate the unsatisfactory performance on the FAA Form 8710-11 and forward it to Airman Registry within 10 days. A Notice of Disapproval will **NOT** be issued in this instance; rather, the applicant should be provided with a list of the AREAS OF OPERATION and the specific TASKs not meeting the standard, so that the applicant may receive additional training.

When the applicant receives the additional training in the AREAS OF OPERATION and the specific TASK(s) found deficient during the proficiency check, the recommending instructor shall endorse the applicant's logbook indicating that the applicant has received additional instruction and has been found competent to pass the proficiency check. The applicant shall complete a new FAA Form 8710-11, and the recommending instructor shall endorse the application. The authorized instructor, other than the one who provided the additional training, shall evaluate the applicant on all TASKS required by the PTS. When the applicant successfully accomplishes a complete proficiency check, the authorized instructor, shall forward the FAA Form 8710-11 to Airman Registry within 10 days and endorse the applicant's logbook indicating the airman's additional category/class privileges.

Single-Pilot Resource Management

Single-Pilot Resource Management refers to the effective use of ALL available resources: human resources, hardware, and information. It is similar to Crew Resource Management (CRM) procedures that are being emphasized in multi-crewmember operations except that only one crewmember (the pilot) is involved. Human resources "... includes all other groups routinely working with the pilot who are involved in decisions that are required to operate a flight safely. These groups include, but are not limited to: dispatchers, weather briefer, maintenance personnel, and air traffic controllers." Single-pilot Resource Management is not a single TASK; it is a set of skill competencies that must be evident in all TASKs in this practical test standard as applied to single-pilot operation.

Applicant's Use of Checklists

Throughout the practical test or proficiency check, the applicant is evaluated on the use of an appropriate checklist (if specified by the manufacturer.) Proper use is dependent on the specific TASK being evaluated. The situation may be such that the use of the checklist, while accomplishing elements of an Objective, would be either unsafe or impractical. In this case, a review of the checklist after the elements have been accomplished would be appropriate. Division of attention and proper visual scanning should be considered when using a checklist.

Use of Distractions During Practical Tests or Proficiency Checks

Numerous studies indicate that many accidents have occurred when the pilot has been distracted during critical phases of flight. To evaluate the applicant's ability to utilize proper control technique while dividing attention both inside and/or outside the cockpit, the examiner or authorized instructor shall cause realistic distractions during the flight portion of the practical test or proficiency check to evaluate the applicant's ability to divide attention while maintaining safe flight.

Positive Exchange of Flight Controls

During flight there must always be a clear understanding between the pilots, of who has control of the aircraft. Prior to flight, a briefing should be conducted that includes the procedure for the exchange of flight controls. A positive three-step process in the exchange of flight controls between pilots is a proven procedure and one that is strongly recommended.

When one pilot wishes to give the other pilot control of the aircraft, he or she will say, "You have the flight controls." The other pilot acknowledges immediately by saying, "I have the flight controls." The first pilot says again, "You have the flight controls." When control is returned to the first pilot, follow the same procedure. A visual check is recommended to verify that the exchange has occurred. There should never be any doubt as to who is flying the aircraft.

Letter of Discontinuance

When a practical test is discontinued for reasons other than unsatisfactory performance (i.e., equipment failure, weather, or illness) FAA Form 8710-11, and, if applicable, the Airman Knowledge Test Report, shall be returned to the applicant. The examiner at that time shall prepare, sign, and issue a Letter of Discontinuance to the applicant. The Letter of Discontinuance should identify the AREAS OF OPERATION and their associated TASKs of the practical test that were successfully completed. The applicant shall be advised that the Letter of Discontinuance shall be presented to the examiner when the practical test is resumed, and made part of the certification file.

Aeronautical Decision Making and Risk Management

The examiner or authorized instructor shall evaluate the applicant's ability throughout the practical test or proficiency check to use good aeronautical decision making procedures in order to evaluate risks. The examiner or authorized instructor shall accomplish this requirement by developing scenarios that incorporate as many TASKs as possible to evaluate the applicants risk management in making safe aeronautical decisions. For example, the examiner or authorized instructor may develop a scenario that incorporates weather decisions and performance planning.