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## EAA Encourages Members to Comment on Convoluted Proposal for Enforcement of "51% Rule"

**September 4, 2008** — In mid-July the FAA published a proposed policy for interpreting and enforcing the "51% Rule," the requirement that an amateur aircraft builder personally perform a majority of the tasks involved in constructing an experimental amateur-built aircraft. When it published this proposal, the FAA said that it would allow comments for only 30 days. In response, your EAA legislative-affairs representatives asserted the need for, and secured, an extension until Sept. 30.

This extension gives us all time to **respond to a troublesome element of the FAA's proposal** — the suggestion that, for every amateur aircraft-building project, the builder's work must include a minimum proportion of tasks in a *fabrication* category and a minimum proportion of tasks in an *assembly* category.

The FAA proposes to break down its evaluation of the amateur builder's contribution to the project in the following manner:

- at least 20% of total construction tasks must be fabrication done by the amateur;
- at least another 20% of total construction tasks must be assembly done by the amateur; and
- that leaves another 11% of tasks for the amateur to complete from either category, to ensure a total 51% contribution to the project.

If you agree with EAAers who believe such "breakdown" requirements unnecessarily complicate and confuse the matter of the amateur builder's hands-on construction obligations, please make your voice heard before Sept. 30.

To assist you in preparing your own statement, [EAA is providing guidance](#).



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