

SACAA PRESS RELEASE

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**THE UNITED STATES FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION RECONFIRMS
SOUTH AFRICA'S CATEGORY 1 STATUS**

Johannesburg. The South African Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA) is proud to announce that South Africa's Category 1 status has been reconfirmed by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). This follows the visit by the FAA on July 30, 2008, to review the work accomplished by the SACAA since the re-audit conducted on the Authority in December 2007.

"This couldn't have come at a better time for the country and the Authority. This month we are celebrating our 10 years in regulating civil aviation safety and security, and the country is gearing up for the FIFA World Cup in just over 600 days," says Captain Colin Jordaan, CEO / Commissioner for Civil Aviation.

The news was delivered in writing to the Authority this week by the FAA. "I am pleased to advise you that, as a result of the extensive work completed by your government and the positive results from our July 30 visit, we have determined that the SACAA continues to meet the applicable requirements in regard to safety oversight under the international standards of the Chicago Convention. As such, the International Aviation Safety Assessment category for South Africa shall continue to be released to the public as Category 1," said Mr. Nicholas Sabatini, Associate Administrator for Aviation Safety at the US Department of Transportation.

This outcome, together with the results of the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) Universal Safety Audit Programme (USOAP) which the Authority undertook in July 2007, reconfirms South Africa as an ideal country to host the world's biggest sporting event. This also comes at an opportune time when the country is celebrating October

Transport Month, where we are showcasing the current state of readiness of the various modes of transport infrastructure and our preparedness in hosting an event of this magnitude.

“I must hasten to acknowledge the support shown by the Ministry of Transport during our preparation for these two major international audits. The men and women employed by the Authority demonstrated a patriotic spirit as we worked as a team in achieving positive results in both audits,” said Capt Jordaan.

The SACAA is committed to ensuring that we meet and exceed expectations in achieving our mandate, amid challenges of global skills shortages in our industry. We have managed to recruit a considerable array of skills in the past 18 months and we have a robust training framework in place that will ensure that we continuously maintain the correct levels of skills in the Authority, whilst developing a robust pipeline of new entrants to our industry.

Our industry is faced with many challenges such as the rising cost of fuel, which makes it increasingly difficult for our industry players to run profitable operations. The SACAA has decided to up its game, as illustrated by its new vision of ensuring that it becomes the world leader in aviation safety and security.

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