Outline of the Airworthiness Requirements in Japan

Item (i) under paragraph (4) of Article 10 of the CAL (Civil Aeronautics Law) stipulates that airworthiness requirements in Japan are standards as specified by Ordinances of the MLIT (Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism) with regard to strength, structure and performance to ensure the safety of aircraft. Also, paragraph (1) of Article 14 of the CAR (Civil Aeronautics Regulations) stipulates that standards provided in item (i) under paragraph (4) of Article 10 of the CAL shall be standards specified by Annex No.1 (in the case of components and parts, they shall be standards specified by Annex No.1 or the types or the specifications approved by the MLIT).

On the other hand, ICAO has adopted Annex 8 "Airworthiness of Aircraft" to the Convention on International Civil Aviation, which contains standards and recommended practices for the airworthiness of aircraft. The standards specified by CAR Annex No.1 has been established based on the ICAO Annex 8. CAR Annex No.1 categorizes aircraft into airworthiness categories, and specifies the standards for performance, flying characteristics, strength, structure, powerplant and equipment etc. which aircraft are required to comply with.

Airworthiness Inspection Manual (AIM), issued by Director-General of the JCAB, has been established as standards to be used by the MLIT officials to examine whether aircraft or equipment is complying with the CAR Annex No.1 "Standards for Strength, Structure and Performance to Ensure Safety of Aircraft and Equipment." As shown in the table below, the AIM is prepared based on the foreign authorities' standards such as FAR in the U.S., therefore those contents are same in principle.

Part	Title	Referenced standards of foreign authorities
Ⅰ	Definitions	FAR Part 1
Ⅱ	Airplanes whose airworthiness category is Airplane - normal N	FAR Part 23
Ⅲ	Airplanes whose airworthiness category is Airplane - transport T	FAR Part 25
Ⅲ-2	Continued airworthiness and safety improvements	FAR Part 26
Ⅲ-3	Fuel tank system fault tolerance evaluation requirements	FAR Part 21 SFAR No.88
Ⅳ	Rotorcraft whose airworthiness category is Rotorcraft - normal N	FAR Part 27
Ⅴ	Rotorcraft whose airworthiness category is Rotorcraft - transport T Category A or B	FAR Part 29
Ⅵ	Glider whose airworthiness category is Glider - acrobatic A or Glider - utility U, and Motor glider whose airworthiness category is Motor glider - acrobatic A or Motor glider - utility U	EASA CS-22
Ⅶ	Aircraft engines	FAR Part 33
Ⅷ	Propellers	FAR Part 35
Ⅸ	Soft airships	a standard developed by former West Germany
Ⅹ	Radio communication equipment	N/A