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Standard Specification for National Air Medical Transport Units Resources Catalog[1]

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INTRODUCTION

Committee F30 was established on a voluntary basis to edit, update, and create, where necessary, voluntary standards for all facets of emergency medical services (EMS).

Task Group F30.01.02 is responsible for water and air vehicles and has prepared standards that cover the medical transport units for the three levels of general patient care, namely basic, advanced, and specialized.

This specification complements these standards in that it presents a unique method of cataloging EMS resources. It consists of a format that, when completed and submitted by the air ambulance providers, will give a complete catalog of medical air transport capabilities. The catalog will be known as the "National Air Medical Transport Units Resources Catalog." The short title "Resources Catalog" may be used when the meaning is clear.

The "Resources Catalog" is designed for use by planners, particularly in the time of a major national emergency. The format contained in this specification provides a standard method of presenting the key data so that communications during a stressful time will be quicker and easier.

Special attention has been taken to identify that information that is needed for immediate reference. For example, the concern during an emergency will be for the numbers of patients that can be carried, and at what level of care, rather than the commercial details about a particular name brand.

1. Scope

1.1 This specification provides the format and guidelines for producing a catalog of current resources of air medical transport units, showing the patient care capability of each, in standard form.

1.2 This specification applies to all the air transports involved in patient care that meet one or more applicable ASTM medical transport unit specifications.

1.3 This specification incorporates only the information that is considered essential for use by the planners during an emergency. The intent is to provide information on what is available, what level of care it can provide, where it is, and the earliest it can respond, so that the most efficient use can be made of each unit, in accordance with the emergency plans.

1.4 Information contained in the unit's operations manual,[2] such as the weight and balance calculations for the "Specialized Medical Resources" listed in Appendix X1, is not included in the catalog but it will be available to the planners, on request.

2. Significance and Use

2.1 The intent of the "Resources Catalog" is to tabulate the national capability for medical air transportation and to enumerate the level of patient care that each unit can provide. The level of care is based on the ASTM Specifications related to each type of medical air transport.

2.2 The "Resources Catalog" will provide a resource with which the emergency planners can identify the capability, availability, and response times for those units outside their local areas. With such up-to-date information, they can request the air medical transport unit that most closely meets the mission profile within the time frame required.

[1] This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee F30 on Emergency Medical Services and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee F30.01 on EMS Equipment.

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[2] See FAA Advisory Circular 135-14 for recommended content and layout of the unit operation manual. Available from Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402.

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2.3 This catalog will increase public awareness of the availability and the high standard of emergency medical transportation.

3. Format

3.1 Appendix X1 is the format to be completed for each individual unit that meets one or more of the ASTM rotary wing or fixed wing medical transport standards. The format will be completed by the air ambulance provider and the unit's medical director and submitted to the state EMS director (or equivalent official).

3.2 Using this same procedure, the format will be updated by the air ambulance provider[3] annually and each time significant changes occur that affect operational or patient care capability. (This does not include temporary changes such as maintenance down-time.)

3.3 The completed formats will be reviewed by the state EMS director (or equivalent official) and, with state (or equivalent) approval, will be submitted to the F30.01.02 Task Group Chairman for consolidation into this specification. Annual updates will be forwarded to the Task Group Chairman prior to the Committee F30's regular year-end meeting.

3.4 The task group will assemble the formats, as submitted, provide a comprehensive index and a map showing the locations and declared areas.

3.5 The catalog will be updated by the task group at the regular year-end meeting and will be published annually by ASTM.

4. Keywords

4.1 air-medical; national resource catalog

[3] *Air Ambulance Provider*—The individual or entity that holds the air ambulance provider certificate and is responsible for and manages the operation of the fixed wing medical transport unit.

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