

**BY ORDER OF THE
SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE**

AIR FORCE POLICY DIRECTIVE 11-3

24 SEPTEMBER 2013

Flying Operations

AIRCREW FLIGHT EQUIPMENT (AFE)



COMPLIANCE WITH THIS PUBLICATION IS MANDATORY

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This publication provides basic policy applicable to the maintenance, acquisition, sustainment and training for aircrew flight equipment for active duty, guard and reserve component units. Ensure that all records created as a result of processes prescribed in this publication are maintained in accordance with AFMAN 33-363, *Management of Records*, and disposed of in accordance with the Air Force Records Disposition Schedule (RDS) located at <https://www.my.af.mil/afrims/afrims/afrims/rims.cfm.Submit> recommended changes to this publication using AF Form 847, *Recommendation for Change of Publication*; route AF Forms 847 through the field through the appropriate functional's chain of command to AF/A3O-AI at afa3oai.workflow@pentagon.af.mil. This publication may not be supplemented.

SUMMARY OF CHANGES

This is a major revision and must be reviewed entirely. The revision changes the title of the directive and includes updates for organizational changes.

1. Overview.

1.1. Protecting and sustaining human life during flight operations is of great importance to the Air Force. The Air Force must have effective flight equipment to preserve the lives of aircrews and passengers. Also, people must be trained to escape from an aircraft, descend safely to the ground, and use life sustaining flight equipment until recovery or return to duty, as-well-as to sustain mission success and survive in Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear (CBRN) warfare environments. Furthermore, personnel must be expertly trained in the proper inspection and maintenance of this critical life-sustaining equipment. Finally, systems must be in place to ensure global equipment accountability, maintenance tracking,

and management as-well-as provide total force visibility and support for life cycle management of AFE equipment. This directive therefore establishes policies for the maintenance, tracking, acquisition and sustainment of aircrew flight equipment, as-well-as aircrew safety/survival equipment and emergency egress training.

2. Policy.

2.1. The Air Force will establish, develop, field, track, maintain, sustain, and improve flight equipment as identified by user-validated operational requirements, operational deficiencies, suggestions, and aircraft mishap recommendations to enhance performance, minimize loss of life, and reduce support cost.

2.2. The Air Force will maintain flight equipment in optimum condition and train aircrews and passengers in procedures to ensure the most effective use of their equipment.

3. Responsibilities.

3.1. The Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition (SAF/AQ) shall provide oversight of the acquisition and sustainment of critical life-sustaining equipment.

3.2. The Deputy Chief of Staff, Operations, Plans and Requirements (AF/A3/5) shall:

3.2.1. Provide oversight of AFE operations, to include, but not limited to, manpower, training, equipment, quality assurance, and general operations guidance and procedures.

3.2.2. Approve departmental publications within this series that establish guidance and procedures, and assign responsibilities for implementing the policy in this Directive.

3.2.3. Establish procedures and systems for the proper total force life cycle management (from requirements to disposal) and tracking of life-sustaining equipment.

3.3. The Assistant Secretary of the Air Force, Installations, Environment and Logistics (SAF/IE) is responsible for policy, resource advocacy, and oversight of the Occupational Safety and Health Program as it pertains to the AFE Program.

3.4. Major commands (MAJCOM), Field Operating Agencies (FOA), Direct Reporting Units (DRU), and Air Reserve Components shall:

3.4.1. Identify AFE resource requirements, evaluate AFE program effectiveness and implement policies designed to ensure the qualification and training of assigned personnel.

3.4.2. Lead commands for weapons systems are contained in AFPD 10-9, *Lead Command Designation and Responsibilities for Weapon Systems*. Lead command assignments for specific AFE items/types will be listed in AFI 11-301 series publications.

3.4.3. Shall comply with applicable publications guidance, IAW AFI 33-360, *Publications and Forms Management*.

Eric K. Fanning
Acting Secretary of the Air Force

Attachment 1

GLOSSARY OF REFERENCES AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION

References

AFPD 10-9, *Lead Command Designation and Responsibilities for Weapon Systems*, 8 Mar 2007

AFI 33-360, *Publications and Forms Management*, 7 Feb 2013

AFMAN 33-363, *Management of Records*, 1 Mar 2008

Adopted Form

AF Form 847, *Recommendation for Change of Publication*

Abbreviations and Acronyms

AFE—Aircrew Flight Equipment

AFI—Air Force Instruction

AFMAN—Air Force Manual

AFPD—Air Force Policy Directive

CBRN—Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear

IAW—In Accordance With

MAJCOM—Major Command

RDS—Records Disposition Schedule

USAF—United States Air Force