

Bilateral Aviation Safety Agreement (BASA) – Aircraft Seats Guide

What BASA Is

The Bilateral Aviation Safety Agreement (BASA) is an agreement between the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and Transport Canada Civil Aviation (TCCA). It allows mutual acceptance of aviation products and approvals, reducing duplicate certification work.

Technical Implementation Procedures (TIP)

The TIP defines how articles such as aircraft seats, foam, and upholstery assemblies are approved and accepted between the U.S. and Canada.

Application to Aircraft Seats

Aircraft seats are classified as certified articles. Under BASA and TIP, approvals from one country can be accepted in the other.

1. Mutual Approval Recognition

FAA-approved seats (via TSO or STC) can be accepted by Transport Canada with minimal additional validation, and vice versa.

2. TSO Alignment

Seats approved under FAA TSO standards or Canadian CAN-TSO equivalents can be accepted without full re-certification.

3. STC Acceptance

FAA Supplemental Type Certificates (STCs) can be validated in Canada through a streamlined process, especially for interior refurbishments and seat modifications.

4. Flammability Compliance

Seats must comply with FAR 25.853 (FAA) or CAR 525.853 (Canada). Compliance findings are accepted across both countries under BASA.

Practical Implications for Upholsterers

You may use FAA-approved materials and reference FAA burn test data in Canada, provided proper documentation and traceability are maintained.

Mandatory Requirements

You must maintain traceability, follow approved data (STC, TSO, or repair scheme), and ensure sign-off by a licensed Aircraft Maintenance Engineer (AME).

Limitations

BASA does not remove certification requirements. All work must adhere to approved data and tested configurations, especially for foam and upholstery systems.

Bottom Line

Aircraft seats approved in one country can be accepted in the other without re-certification, provided all regulatory and documentation requirements are met.