




Memorandum

Date: November 14, 2019

From: Steve Dickson, Administrator 

To: Ali Bahrami, Associate Administrator, Aviation Safety (AVS-1)

Subject: Continuing Work on 737 MAX Return to Service

Thank you and your AVS team for your tireless efforts in managing a thorough, deliberate, data-driven process for the safe ungrounding of the Boeing 737 MAX aircraft. As this work continues, I want to underscore my commitment to our shared promise that this effort is not guided by a calendar or schedule. Safety is the driving consideration.

The FAA fully controls the approval process. I unequivocally support the dedicated professionals of the FAA in continuing to adhere to a data-driven, methodical analysis, review, and validation of the modified flight control systems and pilot training required to safely return the MAX to commercial service. We will maintain that approach, and your team should take whatever time is needed to do that work. I am committed to backing you all up on this.

As you and I have said so many times, the FAA's return-to-service decision for the MAX will rest solely on FAA's assessment of whether Boeing's proposed software updates and pilot training address the known issues for grounding the aircraft. I am not going to sign off on this aircraft until I fly it myself and am satisfied that I would put my own family on it without a second thought. I know you all share that commitment.

I stand with you and your team in continuing to move at the pace of safety in order to ensure the safe return to service of the MAX aircraft. Please let your team know they have my full support.