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Simplifying Attitude Indicator Replacements

On September 14, 2015, the FAA published policy statement [PS-ACE-03-08](#), “Replacement of Vacuum Driven Attitude Indicators in 14 CFR, Part 23/CAR 3 Airplanes.” The policy clarifies that most vacuum driven attitude indicators can easily be replaced with new electronically driven attitude indicators utilizing the minor alteration process.

Many pilots and operators prefer to replace their outmoded vacuum-driven attitude indicators with new electronically driven systems. The new systems provide for increased reliability and decreased maintenance costs in relation to vacuum-driven systems. In addition, electronically driven systems provide more precise attitude indication, greater internal error-checking ability, and internal redundancy — improving functionality.

This non-regulatory policy statement is part of the FAA’s effort to increase the flexibility of improving aircraft safety quickly and efficiently with new technological advancements. Stay tuned for additional policies from the FAA that will allow owners and operators to improve the safety of their general aviation aircraft.