

# General Aviation Awards Evaluation Guidelines

## Aviation Maintenance Technician

### Aviation Maintenance Technician of the Year

Aviation Maintenance Technicians (AMTs) are not only individuals who inspect and repair aircraft, but equally important, they affect aviation safety by reaching out to aircraft owners and junior maintenance technicians to provide them mentoring and leadership. AMTs strengthen general aviation as an industry by acting as positive role models and promoting good citizenship among their employers, subordinates, and customers.

An Aviation Maintenance Technician of the Year MUST:

- ✓ Hold a current Airframe and Powerplant certificate with Inspection Authorization (A&P/IA).
- ✓ Actively promote aviation safety and regulatory compliance, must possess extensive professional knowledge of maintenance regulations and acceptable methods, techniques and practices for inspection and repair, and must have earned an excellent reputation in the aviation community. They must exhibit leadership qualities and have the ability to work and coordinate well with others. They must be held to high standards; as an example for others.
- ✓ Have a positive, professional working relationship with FAA personnel, particularly his Principal Maintenance Inspector (PMI). The AMT is often a liaison between the aircraft owners and the FSDO. The AMT may also be a Designated Airworthiness Representative, (DAR) Designated Mechanic Examiner (DME), and/or a FAAS Team Rep. Judges for this award should give significant weight to activities and letters of recommendation that demonstrate as strong relationship with the local FAA office.
- ✓ Be actively engaged as a maintenance technician. At a minimum, he or she must meet the definition of “actively engaged” in FAA Order 8900.1 Volume 5 Chapter 5 Section 7, “must have an active role in exercising the privileges of an A&P mechanic certificate, including inspection, overhaul, repair, preservation or replacement of parts on an aircraft, or supervision (direction or inspection) of those activities.” As a judge in this category, you may also award high scores for activities in maintenance management, consulting or production.
- ✓ Complete advanced training, certifications or college coursework. High scores should be awarded for activities completed in the past three years, for example:
  - Equipment manufacture’s training, authorizations and seminars.
  - WINGS credits, AMT Awards, FAASafety.gov courses with AMT credit or other self-study activities.
  - Involvement, not just membership in, aviation professional organizations such as PAMA and AMT Society, EAA, AOPA, and others.
  - Attend professional meetings, workshops, seminars, and conference symposia.
  - Attend air shows, tradeshow or aviation symposiums.
  - Other aviation training, such as: pilot certifications, (Sport, Private, Commercial, Instrument, etc) FCC ratings, (GROL, Radar Endorsement, etc) avionics credentials (NCATT, etc.) and FAAS Team annual training, etc.

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The most important attribute of the Aviation Maintenance Technician of the Year is his or her outreach activities to share maintenance and safety knowledge. Your highest scores should go to those activities completed in the past three years that are beyond the strict scope of a technician's job to influence maintenance safety. This may include activities such as:

- Conduct/participate in maintenance-safety activities in their business and airport.
- Offer maintenance-safety knowledge to pilot/owner groups and at events.
- Host and/or participate in local safety seminars.
- Participate in local or Federal safety committees.
- Aid in the dissemination of changes to maintenance regulations, Airworthiness Directives, service bulletins, malfunction and defect reports, and/or operational procedures.
- Identify hazards or unsafe conditions and make recommendations.

The Maintenance Technician of the Year is a leader, providing service to the aviation community. High scores should be awarded for valuable activities completed in the past three years such as:

- Teaching and/or mentoring junior AMTs or AMT-students
- Holding a leadership office in an aviation-organization or owner's group such as Cessna Owners Group, MMOPA, Bonanza Society, ect.
- Recommendations to improve maintenance practices
- Designing specialized maintenance activities, tools and equipment or other functions unique to aircraft inspection and maintenance, etc
- Publishing newsletter / newspaper / magazine articles and books etc
- Contributions to aviation maintenance teaching or audio-visual educational materials (PowerPoints, CDs, DVDs)
- Contributions to aviation maintenance Internet materials (websites, online courses, etc)
- Servings on aviation/airport boards, committees, and councils, etc

In the end, the Maintenance Technician of the Year **MUST** be a uniquely qualified professional that you are proud to hold up as an example for others to emulate. A few questions to ask yourself ...

- If you were an aviation employer, would you hire the nominee?
- If you were an aircraft owner, would you want the nominee working on your plane?
- If you were in a position to recommend an AMT, would you recommend the nominee to your best friend or a family member?