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R E Ward
Director of Engineering
Marshall Aerospace
The Airport
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CB5 8RX

Your Reference:
REW/031-07/VC
Our Reference:
Herc/2/6/3
Date:
Jan 2008

Dear Bob

DESIGN AUTHORITY/ ORGANISATION ISSUES

References:

- A Marshall Aerospace Letter REW/031-07/VC dated 19 Dec 07
- B Email from DES SEAir-DMSD-TA dated 12 Dec 07 15:14

1. Thank you for your letter at Reference A, outlining your concerns over the position taken by DMSD at Reference B concerning Design Authority and Design Organisation issues for the C-130K. I understand your concerns and will be addressing them forthwith.

2. The issue seems to be centred on historic definitions of Design Authority, Sister Design Authority, the more modern use of Design Organisation and how they relate to the approvals already granted to your company. I agree that there is a need for us all to have a single common understanding of the terminology being used and for your company to have clear unambiguous guidance on what the MOD expects of your organisation. To this end I have requested that DMSD reassess the current Marshall Aerospace DAOS approval to recognise that your company is competent to act as the Design Organisation for the whole C-130K aircraft.¹

¹ Subject to you seeking advice from the Original Equipment Manufacturer when you consider it necessary.

3. Once this work is complete I intend to nominate Marshall Aerospace as the Design Organisation for the entire C-130K aircraft. Of course you will understand that I cannot do that until DMSD have conducted their audit and provided a recommendation to me. However, having worked closely with your company for many years myself I do not anticipate that there will be any difficulties with you demonstrating your competence to act in this regard. This should regularise a situation that has been the norm for many years.

Yours Sincerely

Mark Hobbs