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Subject: ERA25LA204, FAA Proper Maintenance Practices

The FAA regulations that primarily cover proper maintenance practices, including addressing damaged hardware and ensuring airworthiness, are found under 14 CFR Part 43 – Maintenance, Preventive Maintenance, Rebuilding, and Alteration.

Specifically:

14 CFR § 43.13(a) – General performance rules:

This requires that maintenance, preventive maintenance, rebuilding, and alterations must be done in a manner acceptable to the Administrator, using methods, techniques, and practices prescribed in the current manufacturer's maintenance manual or other acceptable data. Importantly, the work must ensure that the aircraft is in a condition for safe operation.

14 CFR § 43.13(b) – Acceptance of maintenance:

The person performing maintenance must use proper parts and materials, and reject any parts that are damaged or unairworthy.

14 CFR § 91.403(a) – General operating and flight rules:

This mandates that no person may operate a civil aircraft unless it is in an airworthy condition.