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- [Question of the Week](#)
- [Short Final](#)
- [Weather](#)
- [What's New](#)

[Articles](#)

- [Aeromedical](#)
- [Airmanship](#)
- [ATIS](#)
- [Aviation Law](#)
- [Avionics](#)
- [Careers](#)
- [Columns](#)

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NTSB Wants CO Detectors

By [Russ Niles](#)*Newswriter, Editor*

Although the text of the recommendation seems vague to us, it appears the NTSB is asking the FAA to require carbon monoxide detectors on most single-engine aircraft. In a [safety recommendation](#) issued Wednesday, the NTSB asks the FAA to "require the installation of CO detectors ... in all single-engine reciprocating-powered airplanes with forward-mounted engines and enclosed cockpits that are already equipped with any airplane system needed for the operation of such a CO detector." That would appear to mean that if the detector needs electricity and your airplane has an electrical system, then the detectors would be mandatory. Before it makes the detectors mandatory, however, it wants some research done to make sure they work properly. The NTSB also wants the FAA to tighten inspection standards for exhaust systems and introduce mandatory replacement intervals for light aircraft exhaust systems. The NTSB says 84 deaths have been caused by CO poisoning in the last 40 years.

