

# Aviation Ground Support Equipment: Round II

**W**e all know that our maintainers are the lifeblood of Army aviation. Without their skills, dedication, and endless turning of wrenches, operational readiness would be very low and aviators would have nothing to fly but a desk. No matter how much skill the maintainers have they would not be able to efficiently perform their maintenance tasks without the help of a wide variety of aviation ground support equipment (AGSE).

The custodians of tool rooms and AGSE have a full-time job managing this time-consuming equipment, to say the least. Like the production control office manages aircraft maintenance, the AGSE program is managed to keep required AGSE on hand for all scheduled and unscheduled maintenance. If not properly managed or maintained, the unavailability of appropriate GSE may prevent maintenance task completion to standard. In accordance with (IAW) ATP3-04.7 par 3-18, the aviation maintenance officer (AMO) will monitor battalion aviation resource management of AGSE. Commanders should receive daily status reports for aviation and ground support equipment to maintain combat readiness. Quality control (QC) personnel are required to maintain safety messages separately for all aircraft and associated equipment, night vision devices (NVD), AGSE, and general messages. This ensures the commander's equipment is maintained IAW current standards and any safety messages that might affect the serviceability of the equipment or the equipment it works on.

## Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)

A well-developed SOP for AGSE will need to address proper training, testing, and licensing for each piece of equipment. Ensure your organization is licensing all personnel who operate AGSE on an OF 346 or DA Form 5984-E. Not only do we send aircraft lubricants off for analysis, but our AGSE requires the same regimented inspections since the equipment services our aircraft. Aviation Ground Power Units (AGPUs) and other servicing equipment require scheduled maintenance that your unit GSE Managers/NCOs/Coordinators must document and track. All AGSE used to apply external hydraulic power to Army aircraft shall be inducted into the Army Oil Analysis Program (AOAP) and sampled every 50 hours/30 days, whichever occurs first.



## Who Should Care?

Every maintainer and first-line supervisors should set the example by making sure the units AGSE is serviceable and has current inspection tags attached to the equipment before use. Supervisors should conduct routine spot checks of the hangar and flight line areas to ensure all equipment is being maintained and if not, remove it from service until the equipment is inspected and inform your GSE managers/NCOs/coordinators of the discrepancy. Faulty AGSE could lead to your unit's next accident or incident, so be mindful of your work environment and use all available resources to mitigate risk and provide serviceable equipment to your Soldiers. ■

## AGSE "The Maintainer's Kit Bag for Maintenance"

**Every AGSE Manager should have:**

<https://www.jtdi.mil/group/agse/home>

PS Magazine

<https://www.psmagazine.army.mil/>

AGSE PEO AVN

<https://agse.peoavn.army.mil/AGSEHelpDesk/AGSE>

AMCOM Safety and Maintenance Messages

<https://asmprd.redstone.army.mil/>

## References:

ATP 3-04.7 Army Aviation Maintenance

**CW4 Robert Moran**

**Aviation Mishap Investigator**

**Aviation Division**

**Directorate of Assessments and Prevention**

**United States Army Combat Readiness Center**