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Acting Manager, Small Airplane Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service.

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14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. 95-CE-21-AD]

Airworthiness Directives; Piper Aircraft Corporation Model PA-31T2 Airplanes

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM).

SUMMARY: This document proposes to adopt a new airworthiness directive (AD) that would apply to certain Piper Aircraft Corporation (Piper) Model PA-31T2 airplanes that have a Parker Hannifin Wheel and Brake Conversion Kit 199-111 installed in accordance with Supplemental Type Certificate (STC) SA599GL. The proposed action would require rerouting the landing gear emergency extension air line. Three incidents of the brake cylinder contacting the landing gear emergency extension air line on both wheels prompted the proposed action. The actions specified by the proposed AD are intended to prevent the brake cylinder from chafing against the landing gear emergency extension air line when the gear is in the up and locked position, which, if not detected and corrected, could result in damage to the air line and subsequent loss of emergency gear extension capability.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before June 19, 1995.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments in triplicate to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Central Region, Office of the Assistant Chief Counsel, Attention: Rules Docket No. 95-CE-21-AD, Room 1558, 601 E. 12th Street, Kansas City, Missouri 64106. Comments may be inspected at this location between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, holidays excepted.

Service information that applies to the proposed AD may be obtained from the Parker Hannifan Corporation, Aircraft Wheel & Brake, 1160 Center Road, P.O. Box 158, Avon, Ohio 44011; telephone (216) 937-6211; facsimile (216) 937-5409. This information also may be examined at the Rules Docket at the address above.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Nick Miller, Aerospace Engineer, Chicago Aircraft Certification Office,

FAA, 2300 East Devon Avenue, Room 232, Des Plaines, Illinois 60018; telephone (708) 294-7379; facsimile (708) 294-7834; or Mr. Charles Perry, Aerospace Engineer, FAA, Atlanta Aircraft Certification Office, Campus Building, 1701 Columbia Avenue, suite 2-160, College Park, Georgia 30337-2748; telephone (404) 305-7362; facsimile (404) 305-7348.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Comments Invited

Interested persons are invited to participate in the making of the proposed rule by submitting such written data, views, or arguments as they may desire. Communications should identify the Rules Docket number and be submitted in triplicate to the address specified above. All communications received on or before the closing date for comments, specified above, will be considered before taking action on the proposed rule. The proposals contained in this notice may be changed in light of the comments received.

Comments are specifically invited on the overall regulatory, economic, environmental, and energy aspects of the proposed rule. All comments submitted will be available, both before and after the closing date for comments, in the Rules Docket for examination by interested persons. A report that summarizes each FAA-public contact concerned with the substance of this proposal will be filed in the Rules Docket.

Commenters wishing the FAA to acknowledge receipt of their comments submitted in response to this notice must submit a self-addressed, stamped postcard on which the following statement is made: "Comments to Docket No. 95-CE-21-AD." The postcard will be date stamped and returned to the commenter.

Availability of NPRMs

Any person may obtain a copy of this NPRM by submitting a request to the FAA, Central Region, Office of the Assistant Chief Counsel, Attention: Rules Docket No. 95-CE-21-AD, Room 1558, 601 E. 12th Street, Kansas City, Missouri 64106.

Discussion

The FAA has received three reports of the brake cylinder chafing against the landing gear emergency extension air line of both wheels on Piper Model PA-31T2 airplanes that have a Parker Hannifin Wheel and Brake Conversion Kit 199-111 installed in accordance with STC SA599GL. As the brake linings become worn through regular

usage, the brake cylinder repositions. Then, when the landing gear is in the up and locked position, the brake cylinder chafes against the air line. This condition, if not detected and corrected, could result in damage to the landing gear emergency extension air line and subsequent loss of emergency gear extension capability.

Parker Hannifan has issued Service Bulletin SB7034, dated April 23, 1994, which specifies procedures for rerouting the landing gear emergency extension air line on these Piper Model PA-31T2 airplanes that have a Parker Hannifin Wheel and Brake Conversion Kit 199-111 installed in accordance with STC SA599GL.

After examining the circumstances and reviewing all available information related to the incidents described above, the FAA has determined that AD action should be taken to prevent the brake cylinder from chafing against the landing gear emergency extension air line when the gear is in the up and locked position, which, if not detected and corrected, could result in damage to the air line and subsequent loss of emergency gear extension capability.

Since an unsafe condition has been identified that is likely to exist or develop in other Piper Model PA-31T2 airplanes of the same type design that have a Parker Hannifin Wheel and Brake Conversion Kit 199-111 installed in accordance with STC SA599GL, the proposed AD would require rerouting the landing gear emergency extension air line. The proposed action would be accomplished in accordance with the ACCOMPLISHMENT INSTRUCTIONS section of Parker Hannifan Service Bulletin SB7034, dated April 23, 1994.

The FAA estimates that there are 62 Piper Model PA-31T2 airplanes in the U.S. registry that could incorporate a Parker Hannifin Wheel and Brake Conversion Kit 199-111 (in accordance with STC SA599GL), that it would take approximately 4 workhours per airplane to accomplish the proposed action, and that the average labor rate is approximately \$60 an hour. Parts cost approximately \$20 per airplane. Based on these figures, the total cost impact of the proposed AD on U.S. operators could be as much as \$16,120 if all affected airplanes had the referenced conversion kit installed.

Parker Hannifan has informed the FAA that it has distributed 31 kits to Piper Model PA-31T2 airplane owners/operators. Based on each of the 31 kits being incorporated on an affected airplane, the cost impact of the proposed AD on U.S. owners and operators would be reduced 50 percent from \$16,120 to \$8,060. The reduction

results from the difference between the 62 airplanes that are type certificated to have a Parker Hannifan Wheel and Brake Conversion Kit 199-111 installed (in accordance with STC SA599GL) and the owners/operators of the 31 of the 62 airplanes that have received these kits.

The regulations proposed herein would not have substantial direct effects on the States, on the relationship between the national government and the States, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government. Therefore, in accordance with Executive Order 12612, it is determined that this proposal would not have sufficient federalism implications to warrant the preparation of a Federalism Assessment.

For the reasons discussed above, I certify that this action (1) is not a "significant regulatory action" under Executive Order 12866; (2) is not a "significant rule" under DOT Regulatory Policies and Procedures (44 FR 11034, February 26, 1979); and (3) if promulgated, will not have a significant economic impact, positive or negative, on a substantial number of small entities under the criteria of the Regulatory Flexibility Act. A copy of the draft regulatory evaluation prepared for this action has been placed in the Rules Docket. A copy of it may be obtained by contacting the Rules Docket at the location provided under the caption ADDRESSES.

List of Subjects in 14 CFR Part 39

Air transportation, Aircraft, Aviation safety, Safety.

The Proposed Amendment

Accordingly, pursuant to the authority delegated to me by the Administrator, the Federal Aviation Administration proposes to amend part 39 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR part 39) as follows:

PART 39—AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVES

1. The authority citation for part 39 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 49 U.S.C. App. 1354(a), 1421 and 1423; 49 U.S.C. 106(g); and 14 CFR 11.89.

§ 39.13 [Amended]

2. Section 39.13 is amended by adding a new AD to read as follows:

Piper Aircraft Corporation: Docket No. 95-CE-21-AD.

Applicability: Model PA31-T2 airplanes (serial numbers 31T-8166001 through 31T-1166062), certificated in any category, that have a Parker Hannifin Wheel and Brake Conversion Kit 199-111 installed in

accordance with Supplemental Type Certificate (STC) SA599GL.

Note 1: This AD applies to each airplane identified in the preceding applicability provision, regardless of whether it has been modified, altered, or repaired in the area subject to the requirements of this AD. For airplanes that have been modified, altered, or repaired so that the performance of the requirements of this AD is affected, the owner/operator must use the authority provided in paragraph (c) of this AD to request approval from the FAA. This approval may address either no action, if the current configuration eliminates the unsafe condition, or different actions necessary to address the unsafe condition described in this AD. Such a request should include an assessment of the effect of the changed configuration on the unsafe condition addressed by this AD. In no case does the presence of any modification, alteration, or repair remove any aircraft from the applicability of this AD.

Compliance: Required within the next 100 hours time-in-service after the effective date of this AD, unless already accomplished.

To prevent the brake cylinder from chafing against the landing gear emergency extension air line when the gear is in the up and locked position, which, if not detected and corrected, could result in damage to the air line and subsequent loss of emergency gear extension capability, accomplish the following:

(a) Reroute the landing gear emergency extension air line in accordance with the ACCOMPLISHMENT INSTRUCTIONS section of Parker Hannifan Service Bulletin SB7034, dated April 23, 1994.

(b) Special flight permits may be issued in accordance with §§ 21.197 and 21.199 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR 21.197 and 21.199) to operate the airplane to a location where the requirements of this AD can be accomplished.

(c) An alternative method of compliance or adjustment of the compliance time that provides an equivalent level of safety may be approved by the Manager, Chicago Aircraft Certification Office (ACO), FAA, 300 East Devon Avenue, Room 232, Des Plaines, Illinois 60018. The request shall be forwarded through an appropriate FAA Maintenance Inspector, who may add comments and then send it to the Manager, Chicago ACO.

Note 2: Information concerning the existence of approved alternative methods of compliance with this AD, if any, may be obtained from the Chicago ACO.

(d) All persons affected by this directive may obtain copies of the document referred to herein upon request to the Parker Hannifan Corporation, Aircraft Wheel & Brake, 1160 Center Road, P.O. Box 158, Avon, Ohio 44011; or may examine this document at the FAA, Central Region, Office of the Assistant Chief Counsel, Room 1558, 601 E. 12th Street, Kansas City, Missouri 64106.

Issued in Kansas City, Missouri, on April 11, 1995.

Dwight A. Young.

Acting Manager, Small Airplane Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service.

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14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. 94-NM-185-AD]

Airworthiness Directives; British Aerospace Model BAC 1-11-200 and -400 Series Airplanes

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM).

SUMMARY: This document proposes the adoption of a new airworthiness directive (AD) that is applicable to certain British Aerospace Model BAC 1-11-200 and -400 series airplanes. This proposal would require various inspections to detect discrepancies of fuselage frames at certain stations, and correction of discrepancies; and rework to limit the maximum differential operating pressure of the fuselage. This proposal would also require eventual modification of fuselage frames at certain stations, which would terminate the repetitive inspection requirements. This proposal is prompted by reports of fatigue cracking in certain fuselage frames in the vicinity of the passenger door at floor level due to fatigue-related stress. The actions specified by the proposed AD are intended to prevent such fatigue-related cracking, which could result in reduced structural integrity of the fuselage pressure vessel and possible decompression of the pressurized cabin.

DATES: Comments must be received by May 26, 1995.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments in triplicate to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Transport Airplane Directorate, ANM-103, Attention: Rules Docket No. 94-NM-185-AD, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington 98055-4056. Comments may be inspected at this location between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

The service information referenced in the proposed rule may be obtained from British Aerospace, Airbus Limited, P.O. Box 77, Bristol BS99 7AR, England. This information may be examined at the FAA, Transport Airplane Directorate, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington.