

# Rules and Regulations

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This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains regulatory documents having general applicability and legal effect, most of which are keyed to and codified in the Code of Federal Regulations, which is published under 50 titles pursuant to 44 U.S.C. 1510.

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## OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT ETHICS

### 5 CFR Part 2635

RIN 3209-AA04

#### Standards of Ethical Conduct for Employees of the Executive Branch; Exception for Gifts From a Political Organization

**AGENCY:** Office of Government Ethics (OGE).

**ACTION:** Final rule.

**SUMMARY:** The Office of Government Ethics is adopting as final without change an interim rule revising the Standards of Ethical Conduct for Employees of the Executive Branch to conform with the Hatch Act Reform Amendments of 1993.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** March 17, 1997.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Stuart D. Rick, Associate General Counsel, Office of Government Ethics, Suite 500, 1201 New York Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20005-3917; telephone: 202-208-8000; TDD: 202-208-8025; FAX: 202-208-8037.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On September 27, 1996, at 61 FR 50689-50691, the Office of Government Ethics published an interim rule amending various sections of the Standards of Ethical Conduct for Employees of the Executive Branch, 5 CFR part 2635, to conform with the Hatch Act Reform Amendments of 1993, Public Law 103-94, as amended by section 315 of the 1997 Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, Public Law 104-197. Comments were invited from the public, to be received by OGE on or before November 26, 1996. No comments were received, and OGE has determined that no changes are needed to the interim rule amendments in adopting them as final.

Executive Order 12866

In promulgating these final rule amendments, the Office of Government

Ethics has adhered to the regulatory philosophy and the applicable principles of regulation set forth in section 1 of Executive Order 12866, Regulatory Review and Planning. These amendments have also been reviewed by the Office of Management and Budget under that Executive order.

#### Regulatory Flexibility Act

As Director of the Office of Government Ethics, I certify under the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. chapter 6) that this final amendatory rule will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities because it primarily affects Federal executive branch employees.

#### Paperwork Reduction Act

The Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. chapter 35) does not apply because these amendments do not contain information collection requirements that require the approval of the Office of Management and Budget.

#### List of Subjects in 5 CFR Part 2635

Conflict of interests, Executive branch standards of conduct, Government employees, Political activities (Government employees).

Accordingly, for the reasons set forth in the preamble, the Office of Government Ethics is adopting the interim rule amending 5 CFR part 2635 which was published at 61 FR 50689-50691 on September 27, 1996, as a final rule without change.

Dated: December 18, 1996.  
Stephen D. Potts,  
*Director, Office of Government Ethics.*  
[FR Doc. 97-6572 Filed 3-14-97; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE** 6345-01-U

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Aviation Administration

#### 14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. 95-NM-158-AD; Amendment 39-9965; AD 97-06-08]

RIN 2120-AA64

#### Airworthiness Directives; de Havilland Model DHC-7 Series Airplanes

**AGENCY:** Federal Aviation Administration, DOT.

**ACTION:** Final rule.

**SUMMARY:** This amendment adopts a new airworthiness directive (AD), applicable to all de Havilland Model DHC-7 series airplanes, that requires certain structural inspections, and repair, if necessary. This amendment is prompted by a structural re-evaluation, which identified certain significant structural items to inspect for fatigue cracking as these airplanes approach and exceed the manufacturer's original design life. The actions specified by this AD are intended to prevent fatigue cracking in these areas which, if not detected and corrected in a timely manner, could reduce the structural integrity of these airplanes.

**DATES:** Effective April 21, 1997.

The incorporation by reference of certain publications listed in the regulations is approved by the Director of the Federal Register as of April 21, 1997.

**ADDRESSES:** The service information referenced in this AD may be obtained from de Havilland, Inc., Garratt Boulevard, Downsview, Ontario M3K 1Y5, Canada. This information may be examined at the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Transport Airplane Directorate, Rules Docket, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington; or at the FAA, New York Aircraft Certification Office, Engine and Propeller Directorate, 10 Fifth Street, Third Floor, Valley Stream, New York; or at the Office of the Federal Register, 800 North Capitol Street, NW., suite 700, Washington, DC.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Sol Maroof, Aerospace Engineer, Airframe and Propulsion Branch, ANE-171, FAA, New York Aircraft Certification Office, Engine and Propeller Directorate, 10 Fifth Street, Third Floor, Valley Stream, New York 11581; telephone (516) 256-7522; fax (516) 568-2716.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** A proposal to amend part 39 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR part 39) to include an airworthiness directive (AD) that is applicable to all de Havilland Model DHC-7 series airplanes was published in the Federal Register on May 22, 1996 (61 FR 25598). That action proposed to require that operators incorporate, into their FAA-approved maintenance inspection program, the inspections specified in DHC-7 Maintenance Manual (PSM 1-7-2),