

fleet. The FAA estimates that 100 engines on aircraft of U.S. registry would be affected by the proposed AD, that it would take approximately 300 work hours per engine to accomplish the proposed actions, and that the average labor rate is \$60 per work hour. Replacement parts, if required, would cost approximately \$86,000 per engine. Based on these figures, and assuming that 16 of the inspected HPTR disks will require replacement, the total cost impact of the proposed AD on U.S. operators is estimated to be \$3,176,000. The manufacturer has advised the FAA that certain costs incurred from the inspection and replacement of parts affected by this AD may be borne by the manufacturer, therefore, the total cost impact of this AD to U.S. operators may be less than estimated by the FAA.

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 proposed regulation (1) is not a "significant regulatory action" under Executive Order 12866; (2) is not a "significant rule" under the 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 is contained 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. 106(g), 40101, 40113, 44701.

#### § 39.13 [Amended]

2. Section 39.13 is amended by adding the following new airworthiness directive:

**CFM International:** Docket No. 97-ANE-46-AD.

**Applicability:** CFM International (CFMI) CFM56-2, -2A, -2B, -3, -3B, and -3C series turbofan engines installed on, but not limited to McDonnell Douglas DC-8 series, Boeing 737 series, as well as Boeing E-3, E-6, and KC-135 (military) series aircraft.

**Note 1:** This airworthiness directive (AD) applies to each engine 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 engines that have been modified, altered, or repaired so that the performance of the requirements of this AD is affected, the owner/operator must request approval for an alternative method of compliance in accordance with paragraph (c) of this AD. The request should include an assessment of the effect of the modification, alteration, or repair on the unsafe condition addressed by this AD; and, if the unsafe condition has not been eliminated, the request should include specific proposed actions to address it.

**Compliance:** Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously.

To prevent the potential for an uncontained failure of the high pressure turbine rotor (HPTR) disk, which could result in an inflight engine shutdown, aborted takeoff, or damage to the aircraft, accomplish the following:

(a) Eddy current inspect for cracks or gouges in HPTR disks, Part Numbers 1475M29P01, 1475M29P02, 9514M69P01, 9514M69P04, 9514M69P05, 9514M69P06, and 9514M69P09, with Serial Numbers listed in Table 1 of the applicable Service Bulletin (SB), as follows:

(1) For CFM56-2 engines, in accordance with CFM56-2 SB No. 72-817, dated January 14, 1997, prior to June 30, 1998.

(2) For CFM56-2A engines, in accordance with CFM56-2A SB No. 72-419, Revision 1, dated January 31, 1997, within 500 cycles in service (CIS) after the effective date of this AD, or by December 31, 1999, whichever occurs first.

(3) For CFM56-2B engines, in accordance with CFM56-2B SB No. 72-561, Revision 1, dated January 31, 1997, within 500 CIS after the effective date of this AD, or by December 31, 1999, whichever occurs first.

(4) For CFM56-3, -3B, and -3C engines, in accordance with CFM56-3/-3B/-3C SB No. 72-843, dated January 14, 1997, prior to June 30, 1998.

(b) Remove from service HPTR disks found cracked or gouged, and replace with serviceable parts.

(c) An alternative method of compliance or adjustment of the compliance time that provides an acceptable level of safety may be used if approved by the Manager, Engine Certification Office. Operators shall submit

their request through an appropriate FAA Principal Maintenance Inspector, who may add comments and then send it to the Manager, Engine Certification Office.

**Note 2:** Information concerning the existence of approved alternative methods of compliance with this airworthiness directive, if any, may be obtained from the Engine Certification Office.

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

Issued in Burlington, Massachusetts, on January 8, 1998.

**James C. Jones,**

*Assistant Manager, Engine and Propeller Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service.*

[FR Doc. 98-1484 Filed 1-21-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-U

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Aviation Administration

#### 14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. 97-CE-119-AD]

RIN 2120-AA64

#### Airworthiness Directives; Pilatus Aircraft Ltd. Models PC-12 and PC-12/45 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 Pilatus Aircraft Ltd. (Pilatus) Models PC-12 and PC-12/45 airplanes. The proposed AD would require replacing certain propeller de-icing controllers with ones that are not susceptible to electromagnetic interference (EMI). The proposed AD is the result of mandatory continuing airworthiness information (MCAI) issued by the airworthiness authority for Switzerland. The actions specified by the proposed AD are intended to prevent improper operation of the propeller de-icing controller caused by EMI, which could result in ice build-up on the propeller with possible airplane controllability problems.

**DATES:** Comments must be received on or before February 27, 1998.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit comments in triplicate to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Central Region, Office of the Regional Counsel, Attention: Rules Docket No. 97-CE-119-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 Pilatus Aircraft Ltd., Marketing Support Department, CH-6370 Stans, Switzerland; telephone: +41 41-6196 233; facsimile: +41 41-6103 351. This information also may be examined at the Rules Docket at the address above.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Roman T. Gabrys, Aerospace Engineer, Small Airplane Directorate, Airplane Certification Service, FAA, 1201 Walnut, suite 900, Kansas City, Missouri 64106; telephone: (816) 426-6932; facsimile: (816) 426-2169.

#### 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. 97-CE-119-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 Regional Counsel, Attention: Rules Docket No. 97-CE-119-AD, Room 1558, 601 E. 12th Street, Kansas City, Missouri 64106.

##### Discussion

The Federal Office for Civil Aviation (FOCA), which is the airworthiness authority for Switzerland, notified the FAA that an unsafe condition may exist on certain Pilatus Models PC-12 and PC-12/45 airplanes. The FOCA of Switzerland reports that part number (P/N) 968.29.13.223 (BFG 4E3163-1) propeller de-icing controllers are susceptible to electromagnetic interference (EMI). This condition was identified during component qualification testing at the factory.

This condition, if not corrected in a timely manner, could result in improper operation of the de-icing controller, leading to ice-buildup on the propeller with possible airplane controllability problems.

##### Relevant Service Information

Pilatus has issued Service Bulletin No. 30-002, dated August 19, 1996, which specifies procedures for identifying an affected propeller de-icing controller, P/N 968.29.13.223 (BFG 4E3163-1); serial number U999 or lower that does not have "SB30-1" marked on it, and replacing this controller with one that is not susceptible to EMI.

The FOCA of Switzerland classified this service bulletin as mandatory and issued Swiss AD HB 96-416, dated September 30, 1996, in order to assure the continued airworthiness of these airplanes in Switzerland.

##### The FAA's Determination

This airplane model is manufactured in Switzerland and is type certificated for operation in the United States under the provisions of section 21.29 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR 21.29) and the applicable bilateral airworthiness agreement. Pursuant to this bilateral airworthiness agreement, the FOCA of Switzerland has kept the FAA informed of the situation described above.

The FAA has examined the findings of the FOCA of Switzerland; reviewed all available information, including the service information referenced above; and determined that AD action is necessary for products of this type design that are certificated for operation in the United States.

##### Explanation of the Provisions of the Proposed AD

Since an unsafe condition has been identified that is likely to exist or develop in other Pilatus Models PC-12 and PC-12/45 airplanes of the same type design registered in the United States, the proposed AD would require replacing certain propeller de-icing controllers with ones that are not

susceptible to EMI. Accomplishment of the proposed installation would be in accordance with the service information previously referenced.

##### Cost Impact

The FAA estimates that 53 airplanes in the U.S. registry would be affected by the proposed AD, that it would take approximately 2 workhours per airplane to accomplish the proposed replacement, and that the average labor rate is approximately \$60 an hour. Parts will be provided by the manufacturer free of charge. Based on these figures, the total cost impact of the proposed AD on U.S. operators is estimated to be \$6,360.

##### Compliance Time of the Proposed AD

While the condition described in this proposed AD is unsafe while the airplane is in operation, it is not a direct result of airplane operation. For example, the unsafe condition exists or could develop on an airplane with 500 hours time-in-service (TIS) the same as one with 10 hours TIS. For this reason, the FAA has determined that a compliance based on calendar time should be utilized in the proposed AD in order to assure that the unsafe condition is addressed on all airplanes in a reasonable time period.

##### Regulatory Impact

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. 106(g), 40113, 44701.

**§ 39.13 [Amended]**

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

**Pilatus Aircraft Ltd:** Docket No. 97-CE-119-AD.

*Applicability:* Models PC-12 and PC-12/45 airplanes, serial numbers MSN 101 through MSN 153, certificated in any category.

**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 request approval for an alternative method of compliance in accordance with paragraph (d) of this AD. The request should include an assessment of the effect of the modification, alteration, or repair on the unsafe condition addressed by this AD; and, if the unsafe condition has not been eliminated, the request should include specific proposed actions to address it.

*Compliance:* Required as indicated in the body of this AD, unless already accomplished.

To prevent improper operation of the propeller de-icing controller caused by electromagnetic interference (EMI), which could result in ice build-up on the propeller with possible airplane controllability problems, accomplish the following:

(a) Within the next 9 calendar months after the effective date of this AD, accomplish the following in accordance with the instructions in Pilatus Service Bulletin No. 30-002, dated August 19, 1996:

(1) Identify the serial number of the affected propeller de-icing controller, part number (P/N) 968.29.13.223 (BFG 4E3163-1) (or FAA-approved equivalent part number);

(2) For those airplanes with a propeller de-icing controller, P/N 968.29.13.223 (BFG 4E3163-1) (or FAA-approved equivalent part number), with a serial number of U999 or lower that does not have "SB30-1" marked on it, replace it with a P/N 500.50.1.109 (BFG SB4E3163-1-30-1) (or FAA-approved equivalent part number) propeller de-icing controller.

**Note 2:** The airplanes affected by this AD could have propeller de-icing controllers installed that have Parts Manufacturer Approval (PMA). For those airplanes having PMA parts that are equivalent (PMA by equivalency) to those referenced in this AD, the phrase "or FAA-approved equivalent part number" means that this AD applies to airplanes with PMA by equivalency propeller de-icing controllers installed.

(b) As of the effective date of this AD, no person may install, on any affected airplane, a propeller de-icing controller, P/N 968.29.13.223 (BFG 4E3163-1) (or FAA-approved equivalent part number), with a serial number of U999 or lower that does not have "SB30-1" marked on it.

(c) Special flight permits may be issued in accordance with sections 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.

(d) An alternative method of compliance or adjustment of the compliance time that provides an equivalent level of safety may be approved by the Manager, Small Airplane Directorate, 1201 Walnut, suite 900, Kansas City, Missouri 64106. The request shall be forwarded through an appropriate FAA Maintenance Inspector, who may add comments and then send it to the Manager, Small Airplane Directorate.

**Note 3:** Information concerning the existence of approved alternative methods of compliance with this AD, if any, may be obtained from the Small Airplane Directorate.

(e) Questions or technical information related to Pilatus Service Bulletin No. 30-002 dated August 19, 1996, should be directed to Pilatus Aircraft Ltd., Marketing Support Department, CH-6370 Stans, Switzerland; telephone: +41 41-6196 233; facsimile: +41 41-6103 351. This service information may be examined at the FAA, Central Region, Office of the Regional Counsel, Room 1558, 601 E. 12th Street, Kansas City, Missouri 64106.

**Note 4:** The subject of this AD is addressed in Swiss AD HB-96-416, dated September 30, 1996.

Issued in Kansas City, Missouri, on January 14, 1998.

**Michael Gallagher,**

*Manager, Small Airplane Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service.*

[FR Doc. 98-1463 Filed 1-21-98; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-13-U**

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION****Federal Aviation Administration****14 CFR Part 39**

[Docket No. 97-CE-68-AD]

RIN 2120-AA64

**Airworthiness Directives; Raytheon Aircraft Company Model 1900D Airplane (Formerly Known as Beech Aircraft Corporation Model 1900D Airplane)**

**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 Raytheon Aircraft Company (Raytheon) Models 1900D airplanes (formerly known as Beech Aircraft Corporation Models 1900D airplanes). The proposed action would require inspecting and repairing the radio switching panel relay printed circuit board (PCB) and the nose avionics wire harnesses, and replacing the existing A017 component PCB with a new A017 component PCB that has internal overcurrent protection fuses. Several reported incidents of lost pilot/co-pilot intercom ability, VHF communication ability, and public address system ability while in flight prompted the proposed action. The actions specified by the proposed AD are intended to prevent the loss of the pilot and co-pilot intercom, VHF communications, and passenger address system, which could result in loss of all communication during critical phases of flight.

**DATES:** Comments must be received on or before March 14, 1998.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit comments in triplicate to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Central Region, Office of the Regional Counsel, Attention: Rules Docket No. 97-CE-68-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 Raytheon Aircraft Company, P. O. Box 85, Wichita, Kansas 67201-0085; telephone (800) 625-7043. This information also may be examined at the Rules Docket at the address above.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Harvey Nero, Aerospace Engineer, Wichita Aircraft Certification Office, Room 100, 1801 Airport Rd., Wichita,