

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), 40113, 44701.

##### § 39.13 [Amended]

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

**Boeing:** Docket 2000–NM–296–AD.

**Applicability:** Model 767–200 and –300 series airplanes, as listed in Boeing Alert Service Bulletin 767–38A0057, dated July 13, 2000; 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 (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 fracture of a clamshell coupling on the potable water fill line, which could cause a large amount of water to flow into the aft cargo compartment, and result in large shifts in the airplane's center of gravity and consequent reduced controllability of the airplane, accomplish the following:

#### Replacement

(a) Within 12 months after the effective date of this AD, replace the existing potable water fill line tube with a new flexible hose, in accordance with Boeing Alert Service Bulletin 767–38A0057, dated July 13, 2000.

#### Spares

(b) As of the effective date of this AD, no person shall install a potable water fill line tube, part number 417T2021–179, on any airplane.

#### Alternative Methods of Compliance

(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, Seattle Aircraft Certification Office (ACO), FAA. Operators shall submit their requests through an appropriate FAA Principal Maintenance Inspector, who may add comments and then send it to the Manager, Seattle ACO.

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

#### Special Flight Permits

(d) 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.

Issued in Renton, Washington, on December 15, 2000.

**Dorenda D. Baker,**

*Acting Manager, Transport Airplane Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service.*

[FR Doc. 00–32575 Filed 12–20–00; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910–13–U**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Aviation Administration

#### 14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. 2000–NM–222–AD]

RIN 2120–AA64

#### Airworthiness Directives; Saab Model SAAB SF340A and SAAB 340B 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 Saab Model SAAB SF340A and SAAB 340B series airplanes. This proposal would require installation of a new circuit breaker and related wiring, and relocation of circuit breaker 12FG, if applicable. This action is necessary to prevent loss of the nose wheel steering and reduced controllability of the airplane on the ground. This action is intended to address the identified unsafe condition.

**DATES:** Comments must be received by January 22, 2001.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit comments in triplicate to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Transport Airplane Directorate, ANM–114, Attention: Rules Docket No. 2000–NM–222–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. Comments may be submitted via fax to (425) 227–1232. Comments may also be sent via the Internet using the following address: 9-anm-nprmcomment@faa.gov. Comments sent via fax or the Internet must contain “Docket No. 2000–NM–222–AD” in the subject line and need not be submitted in triplicate. Comments sent via the Internet as attached electronic files must be formatted in Microsoft Word 97 for Windows or ASCII text.

The service information referenced in the proposed rule may be obtained from Saab Aircraft AB, SAAB Aircraft.. Product Support, S–581.88, Linköping, Sweden. This information may be examined at the FAA, Transport Airplane Directorate, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Roseanne Ryburn, Aerospace Engineer, International Branch, ANM–116, FAA, Transport Airplane Directorate, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington 98055–4056; telephone (425) 227–2139; fax (425) 227–1149.

#### 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 shall 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 action may be changed in light of the comments received.

Submit comments using the following format:

- Organize comments issue-by-issue. For example, discuss a request to change the compliance time and a request to change the service bulletin reference as two separate issues.
- For each issue, state what specific change to the proposed AD is being requested.
- Include justification (e.g., reasons or data) for each request.

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 summarizing 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 action must submit a self-addressed, stamped postcard on which the following statement is made: "Comments to Docket Number 2000-NM-222-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, Transport Airplane Directorate, ANM-114, Attention: Rules Docket No. 2000-NM-222-AD, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington 98055-4056.

#### Discussion

The Luftfartsverket (LFV), which is the airworthiness authority for Sweden, notified the FAA that an unsafe condition may exist on certain Saab Model SAAB SF340A and SAAB 340B series airplanes. The LFV advises that it has received reports in which an emergency extension of the landing gear was necessary due to a popped or non-resettable circuit breaker, which resulted in loss of the nose wheel steering and reduced controllability of the airplane on the ground. This circuit is also common for the locked-down signals of the weight-on-wheel and landing gear to other systems (i.e., nose wheel steering and flight idle stop). The circuit breaker failure has been attributed to the lack of another circuit breaker that would supply 28 volts direct current (VDC) to the relays. This condition, if not corrected, could result in loss of the nose wheel steering and reduced controllability of the airplane on the ground.

#### Explanation of Relevant Service Information

Saab has issued Service Bulletin 340-32-120, Revision 01, dated August 29, 2000, which describes procedures for installation of a new circuit breaker and related wiring. Accomplishment of the actions specified in the service bulletin is intended to adequately address the identified unsafe condition. The LFV classified this service bulletin as mandatory and issued Dutch airworthiness directive (SAD) 1-155, dated February 28, 2000, in order to

assure the continued airworthiness of these airplanes in Sweden.

#### FAA's Conclusions

These airplane models are manufactured in Sweden and are type certificated for operation in the United States under the provisions of § 21.29 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR 21.29) and the applicable bilateral airworthiness agreement. Pursuant to this bilateral airworthiness agreement, the LFV has kept the FAA informed of the situation described above. The FAA has examined the findings of the LFV, reviewed all available information, and determined that AD action is necessary for products of this type design that are certificated for operation in the United States.

#### Explanation of Requirements of Proposed Rule

Since an unsafe condition has been identified that is likely to exist or develop on other airplanes of the same type design registered in the United States, the proposed AD would require accomplishment of the actions specified in the service bulletin described previously.

#### Cost Impact

The FAA estimates that 312 Saab Model SAAB SF340A and SAAB 340B series airplanes of U.S. registry would be affected by this proposed AD.

It would take approximately 7 work hours per airplane to accomplish the proposed installation, at an average labor rate of \$60 per work hour. Required parts would cost approximately \$177 per airplane. Based on these figures, the cost impact of the proposed AD on U.S. operators is estimated to be \$186,264, or \$597 per airplane.

The cost impact figure discussed above is based on assumptions that no operator has yet accomplished any of the proposed requirements of this AD action, and that no operator would accomplish those actions in the future if this AD were not adopted. The cost impact figures discussed in AD rulemaking actions represent only the time necessary to perform the specific actions actually required by the AD. These figures typically do not include incidental costs, such as the time required to gain access and close up, planning time, or time necessitated by other administrative actions.

#### Regulatory Impact

The regulations proposed herein would not have a substantial direct effect 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, it is determined that this proposal would not have federalism implications under Executive Order 13132.

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), 40113, 44701.

#### § 39.13 [Amended]

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

**Saab Aircraft AB:** Docket 2000-NM-222-AD.

*Applicability:* The following airplanes, certificated in any category:

Model	Serial numbers
SAAB SF340A ...	-004 through -159 inclusive
SAAB 340B .....	-160 through -459 inclusive, except -342, -379, -395, -409, -431, and -455

**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 (b) 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 loss of the nose wheel steering and reduced controllability of the airplane on the ground, accomplish the following:

**Installation of Circuit Breaker and Related Wiring and Relocation of the Circuit Breaker, if Applicable**

(a) Within 6 months after the effective date of this AD, install a new circuit breaker and related wiring, per Saab Service Bulletin 340-32-120, Revision 01, dated August 29, 2000.

**Alternative Methods of Compliance**

(b) 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, International Branch, ANM-116, FAA. Operators shall submit their requests through an appropriate FAA Principal Maintenance Inspector, who may add comments and then send it to the Manager, International Branch, ANM-116.

**Note 2:** Information concerning the existence of approved alternative methods of compliance with this AD, if any, may be obtained from the International Branch, ANM-116.

**Special Flight Permits**

(c) 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.

**Note 3:** The subject of this AD is addressed in Dutch airworthiness directive (SAD) 1-155, dated February 28, 2000.

Issued in Renton, Washington, on December 15, 2000.

**Dorenda D. Baker,**

*Acting Manager, Transport Airplane Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service.*

[FR Doc. 00-32574 Filed 12-20-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-U

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

**40 CFR Part 2**

[FRL-6921-2]

**Public Information and Confidentiality: Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking; Withdrawal of 1994 Proposed Rule**

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

**ACTION:** Advance notice of proposed rulemaking (ANPRM); withdrawal of 1994 proposed rule.

**SUMMARY:** EPA is providing advance notice of proposed rulemaking regarding revisions of its regulations dealing with the handling of confidential business information (CBI). We refer to these as "the CBI regulations." As part of this process, we are planning to revise the current CBI regulations so they will be in plain language and will reflect current case law and recent technological developments. In revising the CBI regulations, we also intend to improve our processing of requests for CBI while ensuring appropriate protection of confidential business information. We are seeking comments as to the extent of additional revisions. EPA is also withdrawing its November 23, 1994 Proposed Rulemaking (59 FR 60445).

**DATES:** Comments on this advance notice of proposed rulemaking must be submitted by March 21, 2001. EPA will be holding a public meeting on the potential revision of the CBI regulations on January 18, 2001 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the EPA Auditorium, 401 M Street, SW Washington, DC. Please direct all correspondence to the addresses shown below.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments should be submitted (in duplicate if possible) to Docket Number EC-2000-004, Enforcement and Compliance Docket and Information Center (ECDIC), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Room 4033, Mail Code 2201A, Washington, DC 20460; Phone, 202-564-2614 or 202-564-2119; Fax, 202-501-1011 EMail, [docket.oeca@epa.gov](mailto:docket.oeca@epa.gov). Written, but not oral, comments for the official record will also be accepted at the public meeting. Documents related to this advance notice of proposed rulemaking are available for public inspection and viewing by contacting the ECDIC at this same address. The ECDIC is open from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding Federal holidays.

Comments in an electronic format also should reference docket number EC-2000-004. All electronic comments must be submitted as an ASCII file and should avoid the use of special characters and any form of encryption. Commenters should not submit any CBI electronically. To the extent a comment contains CBI, commenters must submit an original and one copy of CBI under separate cover to: Alan Margolis, Office of Information Collection, Office of Environmental Information, U.S.

Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Mail Code 2822, Washington, DC 20460.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Alan Margolis, Office of Information Collection, Office of Environmental Information, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Mail Code 2822, Washington, DC 20460; Phone, 202-260-9329; Fax, 202-401-4544; Email, [margolis.alan@epa.gov](mailto:margolis.alan@epa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

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- I. Purpose and Background of ANPRM
- II. Withdrawal of 1994 Proposal
- III. Major CBI Topics
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**I. Purpose and Background of ANPRM**

In this ANPRM, we provide advance notice of proposed rulemaking regarding revisions of our CBI regulations. Our intent is to ensure that the regulations are in plain language, and that they adequately protect CBI in light of current caselaw and recent technological developments. Additionally, EPA is reviewing its current regulations to determine whether there are ways the Agency could reduce the burden on the regulated community while also ensuring the adequate protection of CBI and streamlining the Agency's processes for handling CBI. The ANPRM sets forth existing problems with current policies and suggests possible options for improving the efficiency of the Agency's CBI operations.

Under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), any person has a right to obtain federal agency records, except to the extent that such records (or portions thereof) are protected from disclosure by one of nine exemptions or three exclusions. Exemption 4 of FOIA, 5 U.S.C. 552(b)(4), protects "trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person and privileged or confidential." In 1976, EPA first promulgated its comprehensive CBI regulations, which are codified as 40 CFR part 2, subpart B. EPA's CBI regulations are part of its public information regulations and implement Exemption 4 of FOIA. In addition to