Airworthiness Directive (AD) 99–17–08 requires that you do the following on the affected airplanes:

—modify the generator 2 excitation by removing certain diodes; and

—install a new 5-amp circuit breaker and suppression filter.

AD 99–17–08 was the result of mandatory continuing airworthiness information (MCAI) issued by the airworthiness authority for Switzerland.

What Has Happened Since AD 99–17–08 To Begin This Action?

The Federal Office for Civil Aviation (FOCA), which is the airworthiness authority for Switzerland, notified the FAA of the need to change AD 99–17–08. The FOCA reports that after installation of the modification kit in accordance with Pilatus Service Bulletin SB 24–012 and turning on electrical power on one of the affected airplanes, the circuit breaker CB 235 tripped.

Investigation revealed that the suppression filter (A250) (part number 524.52.12.358) was shorted. The suppression diode installed in the filter was shorted and was the wrong type. The manufacturer’s A250 voltage spike suppression filter is inadequate and has been replaced with an A250 voltage spike suppression filter of improved design.

Has FAA Taken Any Action to This Point?

We issued a proposal to amend part 39 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR part 39) to include an AD that would apply to certain Pilatus Models PC–12 and PC–12/45 airplanes. This proposal was published in the Federal Register as a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) on March 5, 2001 (66 FR 13271). The NPRM proposed to supersede AD 99–17–08, Amendment 39–11256 (64 FR 45149, August 19, 1999). The NPRM also proposed to require you to modify the generator 2 excitation by removing certain diodes and installing a new 5-amp circuit breaker and suppression filter of improved design in accordance with revised procedures.

Was the Public Invited To Comment?

Interested persons were afforded an opportunity to participate in the making of this amendment. No comments were received on the proposed rule or the FAA’s determination of the cost to the public.

FAA’s Determination

What Is FAA’s Final Determination on This Issue?

After careful review of all available information related to the subject
presented above, we have determined that air safety and the public interest require the adoption of the rule as proposed except for minor editorial corrections. We determined that these minor corrections:
—Will not change the meaning of the AD; and
—Will not add any additional burden upon the public than was already proposed.

### Cost Impact

#### How Many Airplanes Does This AD Impact?

We estimate that this AD affects 69 airplanes in the U.S. registry.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Labor cost</th>
<th>Parts cost</th>
<th>Total cost per airplane</th>
<th>Total cost on U.S. operators</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8 workhours × $60 per hour = $480</td>
<td>Parts will be provided at no cost to the owners/operators of the affected aircraft.</td>
<td>$480</td>
<td>$33,120</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If the modification of the generator 2 excitation has been done with the manufacturer’s modification kit, then we estimate the following costs to remove the A250 voltage spike suppression filter and replace it with the new A250 voltage spike suppression filter:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Labor cost</th>
<th>Parts cost</th>
<th>Total cost per airplane</th>
<th>Total cost on U.S. operators</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3 workhours × $60 per hour = $180</td>
<td>Parts will be provided at no cost to the owners/operators of the affected aircraft.</td>
<td>$180</td>
<td>$12,420</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Regulatory Impact

**Does This AD Impact Various Entities?**

The regulations adopted herein will 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 final rule does not have federalism implications under Executive Order 13132.

**Does This AD Involve a Significant Rule or Regulatory Action?**

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) 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 final 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, Incorporation by reference.

**Adoption of the Amendment**

Accordingly, under the authority delegated to me by the Administrator, the Federal Aviation Administration amends 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. FAA amends § 39.13 by removing airworthiness directive (AD) 99–17–08, Amendment 39–11256 (64 FR 45149, August 19, 1999), and by adding a new AD to read as follows:

   **2001–11–02 Pilatus Aircraft Ltd.:**


   (a) **What airplanes are affected by this AD?**

   This AD affects Models PC–12 and PC–12/45 airplanes, serial numbers 101 through 269, that are certificated in any category.

   (b) **Who must comply with this AD?**

   Anyone who wishes to operate any of the above airplanes must comply with this AD.

   (c) **What problem does this AD address?**

   The actions specified by this AD are intended to prevent damage to electrical components if generator 2 is not switched off before engine shutdown and it overheats. This could result in loss of electrical power to certain critical airplane components.

   (d) **What actions must I accomplish to address this problem?**

   To address this problem, you must accomplish the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Actions</th>
<th>Compliance</th>
<th>Procedures</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(1) Modify the generator 2 excitation with the modification kit, part number (P/N) 500.50.12.192, which requires you to: (i) Remove certain diodes; (ii) Install a new 5-ramp circuit breaker, P/N 972.55.18.406; and (iii) Install an A250 voltage spike suppression filter, P/N 524.52.12.502, which replaces P/N 524.52.358.</td>
<td>Within the next 100 hours time-in-service (TIS) after July 23, 2001 (the effective date of this AD), unless already done.</td>
<td>Do this action following the ACCOMPLISHMENT INSTRUCTIONS section of Pilatus Service Bulletin No. 24–012, dated February 19, 1999, and Service Bulletin No. 24–014, dated October 27, 1999.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SUMMARY: This amendment adopts a new airworthiness directive (AD) that applies to certain Raytheon Aircraft Company (Raytheon) Models 99, 99A, 99A (FACH), A99, A99A, B99, and C99 airplanes. This AD requires you to inspect all main landing gear (MLG) hydraulic actuators to determine the end cap part number that is installed, and replace any actuator that has a part number 4A125C32 end cap. This AD is the result of the potential for fatigue cracks to develop on the MLG hydraulic actuator end caps. The actions specified by this AD are intended to eliminate existing and prevent future fatigue cracks in the MLG hydraulic actuator end caps. Such cracks could cause hydraulic fluid to leak and result in collapse of one or more gears with consequent aircraft damage and passenger injury.

DATES: This AD becomes effective on July 23, 2001.

The Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference of certain publications listed in the regulations as of July 23, 2001.

ADDRESSES: You may get the service information referenced in this AD from the Raytheon Aircraft Company, PO Box 85, Wichita, Kansas 67201–0085; telephone: (800) 625–7043 or (316) 676–4556. You may examine this information at the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Central Region, Office of the Regional Counsel, Attention: Rules Docket No. 2000–27–AD, 901 Locust, Room 506, Kansas City, Missouri 64106; or at the Office of the Federal Register, 800 North Capitol Street, NW., suite 700, Washington, DC.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Paul C. DeVore, Aerospace Engineer, Wichita Aircraft Certification Office, FAA, 1801 Airport Road, Mid-Continent Airport, Wichita, Kansas 67209; telephone: (316) 946–4142; facsimile: (316) 946–4407.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Discussion

What Events Have Caused This AD?

The FAA has received a report of an incident on a Raytheon Model C99 airplane where a cracked main landing gear (MLG) hydraulic actuator end cap resulted in nose landing gear (NLG) collapse during landing. The cracked end cap caused the hydraulic fluid to leak, which then prevented the landing gear from locking down. We have received several other reports of cracks in the MLG hydraulic actuator end caps on certain Raytheon 99 series airplanes of a similar type design.