

*Compliance:* Required within 90 days, unless accomplished previously.

To prevent an object from sliding between the canopy and the cabin floor, loss of yaw control, and subsequent loss of control of the helicopter, accomplish the following:

(a) Install front and side covers (protections) to protect the yaw control in accordance with the Accomplishment Instructions, paragraph 2.B., Alert Service Bulletin No. 67A005, dated July 30, 2001 (ASB) except the correct reference to the Aircraft Maintenance Manual in subparagraph 2.B.2 of the ASB is 20-10-00, 3-8. If the helicopter has flight controls at both the pilot and co-pilot stations, front and side protections are required at both stations.

**Note 2:** Figure 1 of the ASB depicts the right-hand side of the cockpit.

(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, Regulations Group, Rotorcraft Directorate, FAA. Operators shall submit their requests through an FAA Principal Maintenance Inspector, who may concur or comment and then send it to the Manager, Regulations Group.

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

(c) Special flight permits may be issued in accordance with 14 CFR 21.197 and 21.199 to operate the helicopter to a location where the requirements of this AD can be accomplished.

**Note 4:** The subject of this AD is addressed in Direction Generale De L'Aviation Civile (DGAC) 2001-386-007(A), dated September 15, 2001.

Issued in Fort Worth, Texas, on February 6, 2002.

**David A. Downey,**

*Manager, Rotorcraft Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service.*

[FR Doc. 02-3582 Filed 2-13-02; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-13-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Aviation Administration

#### 14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. 98-ANE-48-AD]

RIN 2120-AA64

#### Airworthiness Directives; Pratt & Whitney JT8D Series Turbofan Engines

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

**ACTION:** Supplemental notice of proposed rulemaking; reopening of comment period.

**SUMMARY:** This notice revises an earlier proposed airworthiness directive (AD), applicable to Pratt & Whitney JT8D series turbofan engines, that would have

required revisions to the Time Limits Section (TLS) of the manufacturer's Engine Manuals (EMs) to include required enhanced inspection of selected critical life-limited parts at each piece-part exposure. This proposal would modify the airworthiness limitations section of the manufacturer's manual and an air carrier's approved continuous airworthiness maintenance program to incorporate additional inspection requirements. An FAA study of in-service events involving uncontained failures of critical rotating engine parts indicated the need for mandatory inspections. The mandatory inspections are needed to identify those critical rotating parts with conditions, which if allowed to continue in service, could result in uncontained failures. This action revises the proposed rule by correcting the applicability to Pratt & Whitney (PW) JT8D-1, -1A, -1B, -7, -7A, -7B, -9, -9A, -11, -15, -15A, -17, -17A, -17R, and -17AR series turbofan engines, installed on but not limited to Boeing 727 and 737 series, and McDonnell Douglas DC-9 series airplanes. The actions specified by this proposed AD are intended to prevent critical life-limited rotating engine part failure, which could result in an uncontained engine failure and damage to the airplane.

**DATES:** Comments must be received by April 15, 2002.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit comments in triplicate to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), New England Region, Office of the Regional Counsel, Attention: Rules Docket No. 98-ANE-48-AD, 12 New England Executive Park, Burlington, MA 01803-5299. Comments may be inspected at this location, by appointment, between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. Comments may also be sent via the Internet using the following address: "9-ane-adcomment@faa.gov." Comments sent via the Internet must contain the docket number in the subject line.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Christopher Spinney, Aerospace Engineer, Engine Certification Office, FAA, Engine and Propeller Directorate, 12 New England Executive Park, Burlington, MA 01803-5299; telephone (781) 238-7175, fax (781) 238-7199.

#### 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 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 notice must submit a self-addressed, stamped postcard on which the following statement is made: "Comments to Docket Number 98-ANE-48-AD." The postcard will be date stamped and returned to the commenter.

#### Availability of NPRM's

Any person may obtain a copy of this NPRM by submitting a request to the FAA, New England Region, Office of the Regional Counsel, Attention: Rules Docket No. 98-ANE-48-AD, 12 New England Executive Park, Burlington, MA 01803-5299.

#### Discussion

A proposal to amend part 39 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR part 39) to supersede airworthiness directive (AD) 2000-21-08, Amendment 39-11940 (65 FR 65731, November 2, 2000), applicable to JT8D engines, was published as a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) in the **Federal Register** on January 7, 2002 (67 FR 697). That NPRM would have required revisions to the Time Limits Section (TLS) of the manufacturer's Engine Manuals (EMs) to include required enhanced inspection of selected critical life-limited parts at each piece-part exposure. An FAA study of in-service events involving uncontained failures of critical rotating engine parts indicated the need for mandatory inspections. The mandatory inspections are needed to identify those critical rotating parts with conditions, which if allowed to continue in service, could result in uncontained failures. The actions specified by this proposed AD are intended to prevent critical life-limited rotating engine part failure, which could

result in an uncontained engine failure and damage to the airplane.

Since the issuance of that NPRM, the FAA discovered that the Applicability Section of the proposal was incorrect. This Supplemental NPRM corrects that error. The correct applicability is as follows: Pratt & Whitney (PW) JT8D-1, -1A, -1B, -7, -7A, -7B, -9, -9A, -11, -15, -15A, -17, -17A, -17R, and -17AR series turbofan engines, installed on but not limited to Boeing 727 and 737 series, and McDonnell Douglas DC-9 series airplanes.

Since this change expands the scope of the originally proposed rule, the FAA has determined that it is necessary to reopen the comment period to provide additional opportunity for public comment.

### Economic Analysis

The FAA estimates that 5821 engines installed on airplanes of US registry would be affected by this proposed AD, that it would take approximately 8 work hours per engine to perform the enhanced inspection for the first stage HP turbine disks. The average labor rate is \$60 per work hour. The cost impact of the added inspections per engine is approximately \$480 per year, with the approximate total cost for the US fleet of \$2,794,080 per year.

### 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 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 removing Amendment 39-11940 (65 FR 65731, November 2, 2000 and by adding a new airworthiness directive, to read as follows:

**Pratt & Whitney:** Docket No. 98-ANE-48-AD: Supersedes AD 2000-21-08, Amendment 39-11940.

**Applicability:** Pratt & Whitney (PW) JT8D-1, -1A, -1B, -7, -7A, -7B, -9, -9A, -11, -15, -15A, -17, -17A, -17R, and -17AR series turbofan engines, installed on but not limited to Boeing 727 and 737 series, and McDonnell Douglas DC-9 series airplanes.

**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 already done.

To prevent critical life-limited rotating engine part failure, which could result in an uncontained engine failure and damage to the airplane, accomplish the following:

### Inspections

(a) Within the next 30 days after the effective date of this AD, revise the Time Limits Section (TLS) of the JT8D-1, -1A, -1B, -7, -7A, -7B, -9, -9A, -11, -15, -15A, -17, -17A, -17R, and -17AR Turbofan Engine Manual, part number, 481672, and for air carrier operations revise the approved continuous airworthiness maintenance program, by adding the following:

"Critical Life Limited Part Inspection

A. Inspection Requirements:

(1) This section has the definitions for individual engine piece parts and the inspection procedures which are necessary when these parts are removed from the engine.

(2) It is necessary to do the inspection procedures of the piece parts in paragraph B when:

(a) The part is removed from the engine and disassembled to the level specified in paragraph B and

(b) The part has accumulated more than 100 cycles since the last piece part inspection, provided that the part was not damaged or related to the cause for its removal from the engine.

(3) The inspections specified in this paragraph do not replace or make not necessary other recommended inspections for these parts or other parts.

B. Parts Requiring Inspection:

**Note:** Piece part is defined as any of the listed parts with all the blades removed.

Description	Section	Inspection
Hub (Disk), 1st Stage Compressor:		
Hub Detail—All P/N's .....	72-33-31	-02, -03, -04
Hub Assembly—All P/N's .....	72-33-31	-02, -03, -04
2nd Stage Compressor:		
Disk—All P/N's .....	72-33-33	-02
Disk Assembly—All P/N's .....	72-33-33	-02
Disk, 13th Stage Compressor: All P/N's .....	72-36-47	-02
HP Turbine Disk, First Stage w/integral Shaft: All P/N's .....	72-52-04	-03
HP Turbine, First Stage, w/ Separable shaft:		
Rotor Assembly—All P/N's .....	72-52-02	-04
Disk—All P/N's .....	72-52-02	-03
Disk, 2nd Stage Turbine: All P/N's .....	72-53-16	-02
Disk, 3rd Stage Turbine: All P/N's .....	72-53-17	-02
Disk (Separable), 4th Stage Turbine: All P/N's .....	72-53-15	-02
Disk (Integral Disk/Hub), 4th Stage Turbine: All P/N's .....	72-53-18	-02"

(b) Except as provided in paragraph (c) of this AD, and notwithstanding contrary provisions in section 43.16 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR 43.16), these mandatory inspections must be performed using the TLS of the PW JT8D-200 Turbofan Engine Manual.

#### 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 Engine Certification Office (ECO). Operators shall submit their requests through an appropriate FAA Principal Maintenance Inspector (PMI), who may add comments and then send it to the ECO.

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

#### Special Flight Permits

(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 airplane to a location where the requirements of this AD can be accomplished.

#### Continuous Airworthiness Maintenance Program

(e) FAA-certificated air carriers that have an approved continuous airworthiness maintenance program in accordance with the record keeping requirement of § 121.369 (c) of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR 121.369 (c)) of this chapter must maintain records of the mandatory inspections that result from revising the TLS of the PW JT8D/09200 Turbofan Engine Manual, and the air carrier's continuous airworthiness program. Alternatively, certificated air carriers may establish an approved system of record retention that provides a method for preservation and retrieval of the maintenance records that include the inspections resulting from this AD, and include the policy and procedures for implementing this alternate method in the air carrier's maintenance manual required by § 121.369 (c) of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR 121.369 (c)); however, the alternate system must be accepted by the appropriate PMI and require the maintenance records be maintained either indefinitely or until the work is repeated. Records of the piece-part inspections are not required under § 121.380 (a) (2) (vi) of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR 121.380 (a) (2) (vi)). All other operators must maintain the records of mandatory inspections required by the applicable regulations governing their operations.

**Note 3:** The requirements of this AD have been met when the engine manual changes are made and air carriers have modified their continuous airworthiness maintenance plans to reflect the requirements in the PW JT8D-200 Turbofan Engine Manual.

Issued in Burlington, Massachusetts, on February 7, 2002.

**Francis A. Favara,**

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

[FR Doc. 02-3669 Filed 2-13-02; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-13-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Aviation Administration

#### 14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. 99-NE-32-AD]

**RIN 2120-AA64**

#### **Airworthiness Directives; Pratt & Whitney Models JT8D-209, -217, -217A, -217C and -219 Turbofan Engines**

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

**ACTION:** Notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM).

**SUMMARY:** The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) proposes to supersede an existing airworthiness directive (AD), that is applicable to Pratt & Whitney JT8D models -209, -217, -217A, -217C and -219 turbofan engines. That AD currently requires initial and repetitive fluorescent magnetic particle inspections or fluorescent penetrant inspections of the combustion chamber outer case (CCOC) for cracks, and, if necessary, replacement with serviceable parts. Also, that AD requires a one-time boss material verification, and, if necessary, replacement with serviceable parts. Finally, that AD requires replacement of CCOC's with welded-on bosses with improved, one-piece CCOC's. This proposal would require lower initial inspection thresholds for all CCOC's installed in any JT8D model -209, -217, -217A, -217C or -219 turbofan engine. This proposal is prompted by reports of cracked CCOC's that had accumulated fewer cycles in service than the initial inspection thresholds required by the current AD. Also, a CCOC part number was discovered with incorrect material not identified by serial number in PW JT8D ASB 6359. The actions specified by the proposed AD are intended to prevent uncontained failure of the CCOC, which could cause release of debris, damage to the airplane, or fire.

**DATES:** Comments must be received by April 15, 2002.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit comments in triplicate to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), New England Region, Office of the Regional Counsel,

Attention: Rules Docket No. 99-NE-32-AD, 12 New England Executive Park, Burlington, MA 01803-5299. Comments may be inspected at this location, by appointment, between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. Comments may also be sent via the Internet using the following address: [9-ane-adcomment@faa.gov](mailto:9-ane-adcomment@faa.gov). Comments sent via the Internet must contain the docket number in the subject line.

The service information referenced in the proposed rule may be obtained from Pratt & Whitney, 400 Main St., East Hartford, CT 06108; telephone (860) 565-8770, fax (860) 565-4503. This information may be examined, by appointment, at the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), New England Region, Office of the Regional Counsel, 12 New England Executive Park, Burlington, MA.

#### **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Christopher Spinney, Aerospace Engineer, Engine Certification Office, FAA, Engine and Propeller Directorate, 12 New England Executive Park, Burlington, MA 01803-5299; telephone (781) 238-7175, fax (781) 238-7199.

#### **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 action 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 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 99-NE-32-AD." The postcard will be date stamped and returned to the commenter.