

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 DGAC has kept the FAA informed of the situation described above. The FAA has examined the findings of the DGAC, 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 1 airplane of U.S. registry would be affected by this proposed AD, that it would take approximately 7 work hours per airplane to accomplish the proposed actions, and that the average labor rate is \$65 per work hour. Required parts would cost approximately \$40 per airplane. Based on these figures, the cost impact of the proposed AD on U.S. operators is estimated to be \$495 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:

Construcciones Aeronauticas, S.A. (CASA):
Docket 2002–NM–160–AD.

Applicability: Model C–235 series airplanes, serial numbers C–006, C–007, C–010, C–012, C–018, C–029, C–030, C–032, C–033, and C–042; certificated in any category.

Compliance: Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously.

To prevent the flight crew from being able to inhibit the aural warning for the landing gear up, and the possibility that the flight crew of the next flight or possibly of the same flight could inadvertently land the airplane with the landing gear not down and locked; accomplish the following:

Modification

(a) Within 6 months after the effective date of this AD, modify the electrical wiring of the rudder trim control unit per the Accomplishment Instructions of CASA Service Bulletin SB–235–27–20, dated March 7, 2001.

Alternative Methods of Compliance

(b) In accordance with 14 CFR 39.19, the Manager, International Branch, FAA, Transport Airplane Directorate, is authorized to approve alternative methods of compliance for this AD.

Note 1: The subject of this AD is addressed in Spanish airworthiness directive 02/02, dated April 30, 2002.

Issued in Renton, Washington, on January 29, 2004.

Kalene C. Yanamura,

Acting Manager, Transport Airplane Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. 04–2476 Filed 2–5–04; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. 2002–NM–207–AD]

RIN 2120–AA64

Airworthiness Directives; Boeing Model 747–100, –100B, –100B SUD, –200B, –200C, –200F, –300, 747SR, and 747SP Series Airplanes Equipped With Pratt & Whitney JT9D–3, –7, –7Q, and –7R4G2 Series Engines

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration, DOT.

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

SUMMARY: This document revises an earlier proposed airworthiness directive (AD), applicable to certain Boeing transport category airplanes listed above, that would have required drilling witness holes through the cowl skin at the cowl latch locations in the left-hand side of the cowl panel assembly of each engine. This new action revises the proposed rule by adding certain airplanes and removing certain JT9D engines from the applicability. The actions specified by this new proposed AD are intended to prevent improper connection of the latch, which could result in separation of a cowl panel from the airplane. Such separation could cause damage to the airplane, consequent rapid depressurization, and hazards to persons or property on the ground. This action is intended to address the identified unsafe condition.

DATES: Comments must be received by March 2, 2004.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments in triplicate to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Transport Airplane Directorate, ANM–114, Attention: Rules Docket No. 2002–NM–207–AD, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington 98055–4056. Comments may be inspected at this location between 9 a.m. and 3 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-

nprcomment@faa.gov. Comments sent via fax or the Internet must contain "Docket No. 2002–NM–207–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 or 2000 or ASCII text.

The service information referenced in the proposed rule may be obtained from Boeing Commercial Airplanes, P.O. Box 3707, Seattle, Washington 98124–2207. This information may be examined at the FAA, Transport Airplane Directorate, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dan Kinney, Aerospace Engineer, Propulsion Branch, ANM–140S, FAA, Seattle Aircraft Certification Office, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington 98055–4056; telephone (425) 917–6499; fax (425) 917–6590.

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 2002–NM–207–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. 2002–NM–207–AD, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington 98055–4056.

Discussion

A proposal to amend part 39 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR part 39) to add an airworthiness directive (AD), applicable to certain Boeing Model 747–100, –100B, –100B SUD, –200B, –200C, –200F, –300, 747SR, and 747SP series airplanes equipped with Pratt & Whitney JT9D series engines, was published as a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) (hereafter referred to as the "original NPRM") in the **Federal Register** on July 9, 2003 (68 FR 40827). That original NPRM would have required drilling witness holes through the cowl skin at the cowl latch locations in the left-hand side of the cowl panel assembly of each engine. That original NPRM was prompted by a report of in-flight separation of the cowl panels on the left- and right-hand sides of a Model 747 series airplane. That condition, if not corrected, could result in damage to the airplane, consequent rapid depressurization, and hazards to persons or property on the ground.

Comments

Due consideration has been given to the comment received in response to the original NPRM. That comment, as discussed below, has resulted in changes to the supplemental NPRM.

Request for Change in Applicability

One commenter requests that we remove Pratt & Whitney JT9D–70A engines from the applicability of the original NPRM. The commenter states that the side cowl panels for JT9D–70A engines have a different configuration than the other JT9D series engines.

We agree. Since Pratt & Whitney JT9D–70A engines have a different configuration, the corrective action as specified in paragraph (a) of this supplemental NPRM is not applicable to JT9D–70A engines. We have revised the applicability of this supplemental NPRM to identify only the affected engines.

The commenter also requests that we add Model 747 series airplanes, line numbers 670 to 814 inclusive, to the

applicability of the original NPRM. The commenter states that since the side cowls are readily interchangeable among JT9D series engines equipped on Model 747 series airplanes, the applicability should include all delivered Model 747 series airplanes equipped with JT9D–3, –7, –7Q, and –7R4G2 series engines.

We agree. Since issuance of the original NPRM, we have reviewed and approved Revision 1 of Boeing Special Attention Service Bulletin 747–71–2301, dated August 21, 2003, which adds additional airplanes, line numbers 670 through 814 inclusive, to the applicability. We have revised this supplemental NPRM to specify the new applicability and to reference Revision 1 of the service bulletin as the appropriate source of service information for accomplishing the required actions. We have also added paragraph (b) of this supplemental NPRM to give credit for actions accomplished per the original issue of the service bulletin. Furthermore, we have revised the cost impact to include the additional cost of these airplanes to U.S. operators.

Conclusion

Since these changes expand 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.

Cost Impact

There are approximately 481 airplanes of the affected design in the worldwide fleet. The FAA estimates that 114 airplanes of U.S. registry would be affected by this proposed AD, that it would take approximately 8 work hours per airplane (2 work hours per engine) to accomplish the proposed actions, and that the average labor rate is \$65 per work hour. Based on these figures, the cost impact of the proposed AD on U.S. operators is estimated to be \$59,280, or \$520 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:

Boeing: Docket 2002–NM–207–AD.

Applicability: Model 747–100, –100B, –100B SUD, –200B, –200C, –200F, –300, 747SR, and 747SP series airplanes; equipped with Pratt & Whitney JT9D–3, –7, –7Q, and –7R4G2 series engines; line numbers 1 through 814 inclusive; certificated in any category.

Compliance: Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously.

To prevent improper connection of the cowl latch located in the left-hand side of the cowl panel assembly of each engine, which could result in separation of a cowl panel from the airplane, accomplish the following:

Drill Holes

(a) Within 36 months after the effective date of this AD: Drill witness holes through the cowl skin at each of the six cowl latch locations located on the left-hand side of the cowl panel assembly of each engine, per paragraphs 3.B.1. through 3.B.4. of the Accomplishment Instructions of Boeing Special Attention Service Bulletin 747–71–2301, Revision 1, dated August 21, 2003.

Credit for Actions Accomplished Per Previous Service Bulletin

(b) Actions accomplished before the effective date of this AD per the Accomplishment Instructions of Boeing Service Bulletin 747–71–2301, dated May 30, 2002, are acceptable for compliance with the requirements of paragraph (a) of this AD.

Alternative Methods of Compliance

(c) In accordance with 14 CFR 39.19, the Manager, Seattle Aircraft Certification Office, FAA, is authorized to approve alternative methods of compliance (AMOCs) for this AD.

Issued in Renton, Washington, on January 29, 2004.

Kalene C. Yanamura,

Acting Manager, Transport Airplane Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. 04–2477 Filed 2–5–04; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. 2002–NM–151–AD]

RIN 2120–AA64

Airworthiness Directives; Boeing Model 767–200 and –300 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 all Boeing Model 767–200 and –300 series airplanes. This proposal would require inspection of the actuators for the off-wing slide compartment door on the right and left sides of the airplane to determine the actuator cartridge serial number, and corrective actions, if necessary. This action is necessary to prevent the actuators for the off-wing slide compartment door from not firing, which could cause the door to open improperly and prevent the deployment of the off-wing escape slide, leading to the loss of an evacuation route. This action is intended to address the identified unsafe condition.

DATES: Comments must be received by March 22, 2004.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments in triplicate to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Transport Airplane Directorate, ANM–114, Attention: Rules Docket No. 2002–NM–151–AD, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington 98055–4056. Comments may be inspected at this location between 9 a.m. and 3 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. 2002–NM–151–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 or 2000 or ASCII text.

The service information referenced in the proposed rule may be obtained from Boeing Commercial Airplanes, P.O. Box 3707, Seattle, Washington 98124–2207; and Universal Propulsion Company, Inc. (formerly OEA Inc.), P.O. Box KK, Highway 12, Explosive Technology Rd., Fairfield, California 94533–0659. This information may be examined at the FAA, Transport Airplane Directorate, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Susan Rosanske, Cabin Safety and Environmental Systems Branch, ANM–150S, FAA, Seattle Aircraft Certification Office, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington 98055–4056; telephone (425) 917–6448; fax (425) 917–6590.

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.