

Proposed Rules

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This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains notices to the public of the proposed issuance of rules and regulations. The purpose of these notices is to give interested persons an opportunity to participate in the rule making prior to the adoption of the final rules.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. FAA-2007-27358; Directorate Identifier 2006-NM-270-AD]

RIN 2120-AA64

Airworthiness Directives; Aerospatiale Model ATR42 and ATR72 Airplanes

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Department of Transportation (DOT).

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM).

SUMMARY: We propose to adopt a new airworthiness directive (AD) for the products listed above. This proposed AD results from mandatory continuing airworthiness information (MCAI) issued by an aviation authority of another country to identify and correct an unsafe condition on an aviation product. The MCAI describes the unsafe condition as electrical arcing due to chafing between a bonding cable and electrical wires in the 120 VU (volt unit) electrical harness, causing the loss of some instruments and loss of one hydraulic circuit pressure (i.e., loss of pressure of one hydraulic circuit). The proposed AD would require actions that are intended to address the unsafe condition described in the MCAI.

DATES: We must receive comments on this proposed AD by April 2, 2007.

ADDRESSES: You may send comments by any of the following methods:

- *DOT Docket Web Site:* Go to <http://dms.dot.gov> and follow the instructions for sending your comments electronically.
- *Fax:* (202) 493-2251.
- *Mail:* Docket Management Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Nassif Building, Room PL-401, Washington, DC 20590-0001.

- *Hand Delivery:* Room PL-401 on the plaza level of the Nassif Building, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington,

DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

Examining the AD Docket

You may examine the AD docket on the Internet at <http://dms.dot.gov>; or in person at the Docket Management Facility between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The AD docket contains this proposed AD, the regulatory evaluation, any comments received, and other information. The street address for the Docket Office (telephone (800) 647-5227) is in the **ADDRESSES** section. Comments will be available in the AD docket shortly after receipt.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Tom Rodriguez, Aerospace Engineer, International Branch, ANM-116, FAA, Transport Airplane Directorate, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington 98057-3356; telephone (425) 227-1137; fax (425) 227-1149.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Streamlined Issuance of AD

The FAA is implementing a new process for streamlining the issuance of ADs related to MCAI. This streamlined process will allow us to adopt MCAI safety requirements in a more efficient manner and will reduce safety risks to the public. This process continues to follow all FAA AD issuance processes to meet legal, economic, Administrative Procedure Act, and **Federal Register** requirements. We also continue to meet our technical decision-making responsibilities to identify and correct unsafe conditions on U.S.-certificated products.

This proposed AD references the MCAI and related service information that we considered in forming the engineering basis to correct the unsafe condition. The proposed AD contains text copied from the MCAI and for this reason might not follow our plain language principles.

Comments Invited

We invite you to send any written relevant data, views, or arguments about this proposed AD. Send your comments to an address listed under the **ADDRESSES** section. Include "Docket No. FAA-2007-27358; Directorate Identifier 2006-NM-270-AD" at the beginning of

your comments. We specifically invite comments on the overall regulatory, economic, environmental, and energy aspects of this proposed AD. We will consider all comments received by the closing date and may amend this proposed AD because of those comments.

We will post all comments we receive, without change, to <http://dms.dot.gov>, including any personal information you provide. We will also post a report summarizing each substantive verbal contact we receive about this proposed AD.

Discussion

The European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA), which is the Technical Agent for the Member States of the European Community, has issued EASA Airworthiness Directive 2006-0283, dated September 14, 2006 (referred to after this as "the MCAI"), to correct an unsafe condition for the specified products. The MCAI states that recently an ATR 42 suffered electrical arcing, causing the loss of some instruments and loss of one hydraulic circuit pressure (i.e., loss of pressure of one hydraulic circuit) due to chafing between a bonding cable and electrical wires in the 120 VU (volt unit) electrical harness. The investigations showed that:

- A tubular support had been deformed and therefore impaired the spacing among electrical harness, supports, and cables;
- Harness was not correctly attached;
- The size of the harness was increased by addition of cables (for Service Bulletins (SB) or customer modifications embodiments);
- The bonding cable was not correctly installed.

The EASA Airworthiness Directive mandates an inspection of the ATR 42 and ATR 72 fleet for correct installation of the bonding cable and restoring correct installation of the bonding cable if necessary. You may obtain further information by examining the MCAI in the AD docket.

Relevant Service Information

Avions de Transport Regional has issued Service Bulletins ATR42-92-0012 and ATR72-92-1013, both dated July 4, 2006. The actions described in this service information are intended to correct the unsafe condition identified in the MCAI.

FAA's Determination and Requirements of This Proposed AD

This product has been approved by the aviation authority of another country, and is approved for operation in the United States. Pursuant to our bilateral agreement with the State of Design Authority, they have notified us of the unsafe condition described in the MCAI and service information referenced above. We are proposing this AD because we evaluated all information provided by the State of Design Authority and determined the unsafe condition exists and is likely to exist or develop on other products of the same type design.

Differences Between This AD and the MCAI or Service Information

We have reviewed the MCAI and related service information and, in general, agree with their substance. But we might have found it necessary to use different words from those in the MCAI to ensure the AD is clear for U.S. operators and is enforceable. In making these changes, we do not intend to differ substantively from the information provided in the MCAI and related service information.

We might also have proposed different actions in this AD from those in the MCAI in order to follow FAA policies. Any such differences are described in a separate paragraph of the proposed AD. These requirements, if ultimately adopted, will take precedence over the actions copied from the MCAI.

Costs of Compliance

Based on the service information, we estimate that this proposed AD would affect about 53 products of U.S. registry. We also estimate that it would take about 1 work hour per product to comply with this proposed AD. The average labor rate is \$80 per work-hour. Based on these figures, we estimate the cost of the proposed inspection on U.S. operators to be \$4,240, or \$80 per product.

Authority for This Rulemaking

Title 49 of the United States Code specifies the FAA's authority to issue rules on aviation safety. Subtitle I, section 106, describes the authority of the FAA Administrator. "Subtitle VII: Aviation Programs," describes in more detail the scope of the Agency's authority.

We are issuing this rulemaking under the authority described in "Subtitle VII, Part A, Subpart III, Section 44701: General requirements." Under that section, Congress charges the FAA with promoting safe flight of civil aircraft in

air commerce by prescribing regulations for practices, methods, and procedures the Administrator finds necessary for safety in air commerce. This regulation is within the scope of that authority because it addresses an unsafe condition that is likely to exist or develop on products identified in this rulemaking action.

Regulatory Findings

We determined that this proposed AD would not have federalism implications under Executive Order 13132. This proposed AD 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.

For the reasons discussed above, I certify 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. 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.

We prepared a regulatory evaluation of the estimated costs to comply with this proposed AD and placed it in the AD docket.

List of Subjects in 14 CFR Part 39

Air transportation, Aircraft, Aviation safety, Safety.

The Proposed Amendment

Accordingly, under the authority delegated to me by the Administrator, the FAA proposes to amend 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. The FAA amends § 39.13 by adding the following new AD:

Aerospatiale: Docket No. FAA-2007-27358; Directorate Identifier 2006-NM-270-AD.

Comments Due Date

- (a) We must receive comments by April 2, 2007.

Affected ADs

- (b) None.

Applicability

- (c) This AD applies to Model ATR42-200, -300, -320, and -500 airplanes; all serial

numbers up to manufacturer serial number (MSN) 643 inclusive; and Model ATR72-101, -102, -201, -202, -211, -212, and -212A airplanes, all serial numbers up to MSN 728 inclusive, except MSN 723 and 725; certificated in any category.

Reason

(d) The mandatory continuing airworthiness information (MCAI) states that recently an ATR 42 suffered electrical arcing, causing the loss of some instruments and loss of one hydraulic circuit pressure (i.e., loss of pressure of one hydraulic circuit) due to chafing between a bonding cable and electrical wires in the 120 VU (volt unit) electrical harness. The investigation showed that a tubular support had been deformed and therefore impaired the spacing among electrical harness, supports, and cables; the harness was not correctly attached; the size of the harness was increased by addition of cables (for Service Bulletins (SB) or customer modifications embodiments); and the bonding cable was not correctly installed. The MCAI mandates an inspection of the ATR 42 and ATR 72 fleet for correct installation of the bonding cable and restoring correct installation of the bonding cable if necessary.

Actions and Compliance

(e) Unless already done, do the following actions. Within 3 months after the effective date of this AD: Inspect the harness installation in the 120 VU electrical harness and, as applicable, restore correct installation of the bonding cable, in accordance with the instructions given by Avions de Transport Regional ATR42-92-0012 (for Model ATR42 airplanes) and ATR72-92-1013 (for Model ATR72 airplanes), both dated July 4, 2006; as applicable.

FAA AD Differences

Note: This AD differs from the MCAI and/or service information as follows: No differences.

Other FAA AD Provisions

(f) The following provisions also apply to this AD:

(1) Alternative Methods of Compliance (AMOCs): The Manager, International Branch, ANM-116, Transport Airplane Directorate, FAA, ATTN: Tom Rodriguez, Aerospace Engineer, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington 98057-3356, has the authority to approve AMOCs for this AD, if requested using the procedures found in 14 CFR 39.19. Before using any AMOC approved in accordance with § 39.19 on any airplane to which the AMOC applies, notify the appropriate principal inspector in the FAA Flight Standards Certificate Holding District Office.

(2) Airworthy Product: For any requirement in this AD to obtain corrective actions from a manufacturer or other source, use these actions if they are FAA-approved. Corrective actions are considered FAA-approved if they are approved by the State of Design Authority (or their delegated agent). You are required to assure the product is airworthy before it is returned to service.

(3) Reporting Requirements: For any reporting requirement in this AD, under the

provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has approved the information collection requirements and has assigned OMB Control Number 2120-0056.

Related Information

(g) Refer to MCAI EASA Airworthiness Directive 2006-0283, dated September 14, 2006; and Avions de Transport Regional Service Bulletins ATR42-92-0012 and ATR72-92-1013, both dated July 4, 2006, for related information.

Issued in Renton, Washington, on February 21, 2007.

Ali Bahrami,

Manager, Transport Airplane Directorate,
Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. E7-3657 Filed 3-1-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

33 CFR Part 100

[CGD05-07-013]

RIN 1625-AA08

Special Local Regulations for Marine Events; Western Branch, Elizabeth River, Portsmouth, VA

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard proposes to temporarily change the regulations for the "Virginia State Hydroplane Championship" hydroplane races held annually on the waters of the Western Branch of the Elizabeth River at Portsmouth, Virginia. This action is necessary because the event will be held on April 21 and 22, 2007, instead of on April 27 and 28, 2007 as established by permanent regulation. This proposed rule is intended to restrict vessel traffic in portions of the Elizabeth River and is necessary to provide for the safety of life on navigable waters during the event.

DATES: Comments and related material must reach the Coast Guard on or before March 19, 2007.

ADDRESSES: You may mail comments and related material to Commander (dpi), Fifth Coast Guard District, 431 Crawford Street, Portsmouth, Virginia 23704-5004, hand-deliver them to Room 415 at the same address between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays, or fax them to (757) 398-6203. The Inspections and Investigation Branch, Fifth Coast Guard District, maintains the public docket for this rulemaking. Comments and material received from

the public, as well as documents indicated in this preamble as being available in the docket, will become part of this docket and will be available for inspection or copying at the above address between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Dennis M. Sens, Project Manager, Inspections and Investigations Branch, at (757) 398-6204.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Request for Comments

We encourage you to participate in this rulemaking by submitting comments and related material. If you do so, please include your name and address, identify the docket number for this rulemaking (CGD05-07-013), indicate the specific section of this document to which each comment applies, and give the reason for each comment. Please submit all comments and related material in an unbound format, no larger than 8½ by 11 inches, suitable for copying. If you would like to know they reached us, please enclose a stamped, self-addressed postcard or envelope. We will consider all comments and material received during the comment period. We may change this proposed rule in view of them.

Public Meeting

We do not now plan to hold a public meeting. But you may submit a request for a meeting by writing to the address listed under **ADDRESSES** explaining why one would be beneficial. If we determine that one would aid this rulemaking, we will hold one at a time and place announced by a later notice in the **Federal Register**.

Background and Purpose

On April 21 and 22, 2007, Virginia Boat Racing Association will sponsor the "Virginia State Hydroplane Championship" hydroplane races on the waters of the Western Branch of the Elizabeth River at Portsmouth, Virginia. The event will consist of approximately 75 hydroplane powerboats conducting high-speed competitive races on the Western Branch of the Elizabeth River in the vicinity of Portsmouth City Park, Portsmouth, Virginia. A fleet of spectator vessels is expected to gather near the event site to view the competition. The regulation at 33 CFR 100.525 is effective annually for this marine event. Paragraph (c) of Section 100.525 establishes the enforcement date for the hydroplane races. This regulation proposes to temporarily change the regulation so that the event may be held on April 21 and 22, 2007

instead of the fourth Friday and following Saturday in April. The Virginia Boat Racing Association who is the sponsor for this event still intends to hold this event annually, however, this year they have requested a change in the date of the event for 2007. The change was requested to accommodate participation by all hydroplane participants. To provide for the safety of participants, spectators, support and transiting vessels, the Coast Guard proposes to temporarily restrict vessel traffic in the event area during the hydroplane races.

Discussion of Proposed Rule

The Coast Guard proposes to temporarily suspend the regulations at 33 CFR 100.525 by temporarily revising the date of enforcement in paragraph (c) to reflect the event will be conducted in 2007 on the third Saturday and Sunday in April, April 21 and 22, 2007. This proposed change is needed to accommodate the sponsors hydroplane race schedule relative to the rotation of weekend dates in the annual calendar. The special local regulations will be enforced from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on April 21 and 22, 2007, and will restrict navigation in the regulated area during the hydroplane races. Except for persons or vessels authorized by the Coast Guard Patrol Commander, no person or vessel may enter or remain in the regulated area during the effective period. The regulated area is needed to control vessel traffic during the event to enhance the safety of participants and transiting vessels.

In addition to notice in the **Federal Register**, the maritime community will be provided extensive advance notification via the Local Notice to Mariners, and marine information broadcasts so mariners can adjust their plans accordingly.

Regulatory Evaluation

This proposed rule is not a "significant regulatory action" under section 3(f) of Executive Order 12866, Regulatory Planning and Review, and does not require an assessment of potential costs and benefits under section 6(a)(3) of that Order. The Office of Management and Budget has not reviewed it under that Order. It is not "significant" under the regulatory policies and procedures of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

We expect the economic impact of this proposed rule to be so minimal that a full Regulatory Evaluation under the regulatory policies and procedures of DHS is unnecessary. The effect of this proposed action merely establishes the