

Proposed Rules

Federal Register

Vol. 73, No. 44

Wednesday, March 5, 2008

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-2008-0249; Directorate Identifier 2008-CE-012-AD]

RIN 2120-AA64

Airworthiness Directives; DORNIER LUFTFAHRT GmbH Models 228-200, 228-201, 228-202, and 228-212 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 products listed above. This proposed AD results from mandatory continuing airworthiness information (MCAI) originated 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:

During production testing of a batch of control cables, cracks inside the cable terminal were detected. Despite the specified strength at the date of delivery was achieved, it can not be excluded that the mechanical properties of the cable will degrade.

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 4, 2008.

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

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* Go to <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.
- *Fax:* (202) 493-2251.
- *Mail:* U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M-30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC 20590.
- *Hand Delivery:* U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations,

M-30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC 20590.

Examining the AD Docket

You may examine the AD docket on the Internet at <http://www.regulations.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) 647-5527) is in the **ADDRESSES** section. Comments will be available in the AD docket shortly after receipt.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Karl Schletzbaum, Aerospace Engineer, FAA, Small Airplane Directorate, 901 Locust, Room 301, Kansas City, Missouri 64106; *telephone:* (816) 329-4146; *fax:* (816) 329-4090.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

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-2008-0249; Directorate Identifier 2008-CE-012-AD" at the beginning of your comments. We specifically invite comments on the overall regulatory, economic, environment, 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://www.regulations.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 Luftfahrt-Bundesamt (LBA), which is the aviation authority for Germany, has issued AD No. D-2007-353, dated December 28, 2007 (referred to after this as "the MCAI"), to correct an unsafe condition for the specified products. The MCAI states:

During production testing of a batch of control cables, cracks inside the cable terminal were detected. Despite the specified

strength at the date of delivery was achieved, it can not be excluded that the mechanical properties of the cable will degrade.

This proposed AD would require you to replace rudder control cables, part number (P/N) B-422420A00F delivered with European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) Form One tracking number RS52074/05 after January 1, 2006 (also identified by production batch number 1141044, which is printed on the fork end next to the P/N), with FAA-approved serviceable rudder control cables.

You may obtain further information by examining the MCAI in the AD docket.

Relevant Service Information

RUAG Aerospace Defence Technology has issued Dornier 228 Alert Service Bulletin No. ASB-228-269, dated March 23, 2007. The actions described in this service information are intended to correct the unsafe condition identified in the MCAI.

FAA's Determination and Requirements of the 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 this 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 and determined the unsafe condition exists and is likely to exist to develop on other products of the same type design.

Differences Between This Proposed 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 highlighted in a NOTE within the proposed AD.

Costs of Compliance

We estimate that this proposed AD would affect about 17 products of U.S. registry. We also estimate that it would take about 15 work-hours per product to comply with the basic requirements of this proposed AD. The average labor rate is \$80 per work-hour.

Based on these figures, we estimate the cost of the proposed AD on U.S. operators to be \$20,400 or \$1,200 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:

DORNIER LUFTFAHRT GmbH: Docket No. FAA-2008-0249; Directorate Identifier 2008-CE-012-AD.

Comments Due Date

- (a) We must receive comments by April 4, 2008.

Affected ADs

- (b) None.

Applicability

- (c) This AD applies to Models 228-200, 228-201, 228-202, and 228-212, all serial numbers that are:

- (1) Equipped with rudder control cables, part number (P/N) B-422420A00F delivered with European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) Form One tracking number RS52074/05 after January 1, 2006 (also identified by production batch number 1141044, which is printed on the fork end next to the P/N); and
- (2) certificated in any category.

Subject

- (d) Air Transport Association of America (ATA) Code 27: Flight Controls.

Reason

- (e) The mandatory continuing airworthiness information (MCAI) states: During production testing of a batch of control cables, cracks inside the cable terminal were detected. Despite the specified strength at the date of delivery was achieved, it can not be excluded that the mechanical properties of the cable will degrade.

This AD requires you to replace rudder control cables, P/N B-422420A00F delivered with EASA Form One tracking number RS52074/05 after January 1, 2006 (also identified by production batch number 1141044, which is printed on the fork end next to the P/N), with FAA-approved serviceable rudder control cables.

Actions and Compliance

- (f) Unless already done, do the following actions:
 - (1) Replace the rudder control cables identified in paragraph (c)(1) of this AD with FAA-approved serviceable rudder control cables following RUAG Aerospace Defence Technology Dornier 228 Alert Service Bulletin No. ASB-228-269, dated March 23, 2007, at whichever of the follow occurs first:
 - (i) Upon reaching 1,200 total hours time-in-service (TIS) on the rudder control cables

identified in paragraph (c)(1) of this AD or within 30 days after the effective date of this AD, whichever occurs later; or

- (ii) Within the next 3 months after the effective date of this AD.

(2) As of the effective date of this AD, do not install any rudder control cables, P/N B-422420A00F delivered with EASA Form One tracking number RS52074/05 after January 1, 2006 (also identified by production batch number 1141044, which is printed on the fork end next to the P/N).

(3) Within 30 days after doing the replacement required in paragraph (f)(1) of this AD, return the removed rudder control cables and any held as spares to the manufacturer at the address on RUAG Aerospace Defence Technology Dornier 228 Alert Service Bulletin No. ASB-228-269, dated March 23, 2007.

FAA AD Differences

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

Other FAA AD Provisions

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

(1) *Alternative Methods of Compliance (AMOCs):* The Manager, Standards Staff, FAA, has the authority to approve AMOCs for this AD, if requested using the procedures found in 14 CFR 39.19. Send information to *ATTN:* Karl Schletzbaum, Aerospace Engineer, FAA, Small Airplane Directorate, 901 Locust, Room 301, Kansas City, Missouri 64106; telephone: (816) 329-4146; fax: (816) 329-4090. Before using any approved AMOC on any airplane to which the AMOC applies, notify your appropriate principal inspector (PI) in the FAA Flight Standards District Office (FSDO), or lacking a PI, your local FSDO.

(2) *Airworthy Product:* For any requirement in this AD to obtain corrective actions from a manufacturer or other source, use these sections 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 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has approved the information collection requirements and has assigned OMB Control Number 2120-0056.

Related Information

(h) Refer to MCAI Luftfahrt-Bundesamt (LBA) AD No. D-2007-353, dated December 28, 2007, and RUAG Aerospace Defence Technology Dornier 228 Alert Service Bulletin No. ASB-228-269, dated March 23, 2007, for related information.

Issued in Kansas City, Missouri, on February 26, 2008.

James E. Jackson,
Acting Manager, Small Airplane Directorate,
Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. 08-929 Filed 3-4-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-M