Alternative Methods of Compliance (AMOCs)

(1) The Manager, Los Angeles Aircraft Certification Office (ACO), 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: Serj Harutunian, Aerospace Engineer, Propulsion Branch, ANM–140L, FAA, Los Angeles Aircraft Certification Office, 3960 Paramount Boulevard, Lakewood, California 90712–4137; telephone (562) 627–2524; fax (562) 627–5210.

(2) To request a different method of compliance or a different compliance time for this AD, follow the procedures in 14 CFR 39.19. Before using any approved AMOC on any airplane to which the AMOC applies, notify your principal maintenance inspector (PMI) or principal avionics inspector (PAI), as appropriate, or lacking a principal inspector, your local Flight Standards District Office. The AMOC approval letter must specifically reference this AD.

Issued in Renton, Washington, on March 9, 2010.

Jeffrey E. Duven,
Acting Manager, Transport Airplane Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. 2010–5667 Filed 3–15–10; 8:45 am]

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39


RIN 2120–AA64

Airworthiness Directives; GROB–WERKE (Type Certificate Previously Held by BURKHART GROB Luft- und Raumfaht) Models G115C, G115D and G115D2 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) 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: The manufacturer has received a report of a failed canopy jettison test, during a regular maintenance check. The investigation revealed that a cable shroud of the jettison system protruded the canopy structure, which probably caused the malfunction. Inability to jettison the canopy in flight would prevent evacuation of the aeroplane in case of need.

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 30, 2010.

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

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: Gregory Davison, Aerospace Engineer, FAA, Small Airplane Directorate, 901 Locust, Room 301, Kansas City, Missouri 64106; telephone: (816) 329–4130; 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–2010–0260: Directorate Identifier 2010–CE–015–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://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.

Relevant Service Information

Grob Aircraft AG has issued Service Bulletin No. MSB1078–164, dated July 21, 2009. 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 or 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 will affect 3 products of U.S. registry. We also estimate that it would take about 2 work-hours per product to comply with the basic requirements of this proposed AD. The average labor rate is $85 per work-hour.

Based on these figures, we estimate the cost of the proposed AD on U.S. operators to be $510 or $170 per product.

In addition, we estimate that any necessary follow-on actions would take about 3 work-hours and require parts costing $86, for a cost of $323 per product. We have no way of determining the number of products that may need these actions.

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, Incorporation by reference, Safety.

The Proposed Amendment

Accordinly, 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:


Comments Due Date

(a) We must receive comments by April 30, 2010.

Affected ADs

(b) None.

Applicability

(c) This AD applies to Models G115C, G115D, and G115D2 airplanes, all serial numbers, certified in any category.

Subject

(d) Air Transport Association of America (ATA) Code 52: Doors.

Reason

(e) The mandatory continuing airworthiness information (MCAI) states:

The manufacturer has received a report of a failed canopy jettison test, during a regular maintenance check. The investigation revealed that a cable shroud of the jettison system protruded the canopy structure, which probably caused the malfunction.

Inability to jettison the canopy in flight would prevent evacuation of the aeroplane in case of need.

For the reason stated above, this AD mandates an additional one-time canopy jettison test and repair if necessary.

Actions and Compliance

(f) Unless already done, do the following actions in accordance with Grob Aircraft AG Service Bulletin No. MSB1078–164, dated July 21, 2009:

(1) Before the next aerobatic flight after the effective date of this AD, do a canopy jettison test.

(2) If the canopy jettison fails the test required in paragraph (f)(1) of this AD, before further aerobatic flight:

(i) Contact Grob Aircraft AG, Customer Service, 86874 Tussenhausen-Mattsies, Germany, telephone: + 49 (0) 8268–998–105; fax: + 49 (0) 8268–998–200; e-mail: productsupport@grob-aircraft.com, for an FAA-approved repair scheme and incorporate the repair scheme; or

(ii) Replace the canopy hatch.

(3) Within 7 days after doing the canopy jettison test required in paragraph (f)(1) of this AD or within 7 days after the effective date of this AD, whichever occurs later, submit a report of the test results using Appendix 1 of Grob Aircraft AG Service Bulletin No. MSB1078–164, dated July 21, 2009, to Grob Aircraft AG at the address specified in paragraph (f)(2)(ii) of this AD.

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 Office, 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: Greg Davison, Aerospace Engineer, FAA, Small Airplane Directorate, 901 Locust, Room 301, Kansas City, Missouri 64106; telephone: (816) 329–4130; fax: (816) 329–4099. 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 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 (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


Issued in Kansas City, Missouri, on March 8, 2010.

Sandra J. Campbell,
Acting Manager, Small Airplane Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. 2010–5627 Filed 3–15–10; 8:45 am]

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39


RIN 2120–AA64

Airworthiness Directives; Quartz Mountain Aerospace, Inc. Model 11E 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 all Quartz Mountain Aerospace, Inc. Model 11E airplanes. This proposed AD would require you to clean and lubricate the aileron pushrod bearings. This proposed AD results from reports of the aileron control stick force increasing and of the controls being very noisy on Quartz Mountain Aerospace, Inc. Model 11E airplanes. This condition may not be detectable before takeoff. In one actual instance, the condition occurred during flight. The stick force increased after preflight inspection and after takeoff. The airplane was operated by a student pilot, who had trouble flying the airplane when this occurred, and the certified flight instructor (CFI) had to take control and land the airplane.

We estimate the following costs to do the proposed cleaning and lubrication:

<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>1 work-hour × $85 per hour = $85</td>
<td>$10</td>
<td>$95</td>
<td>$1,140</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We invite you to send any written relevant data, views, or arguments regarding this proposed AD. Send your comments to an address listed under the ADDRESSES section. Include the docket number, “FAA–2010–0261; Directorate Identifier 2010–CE–008–AD” at the beginning of your comments. We specifically invite comments on the overall regulatory, economic, environmental, and energy aspects of the proposed AD. We will consider all comments received by the closing date and may amend the proposed AD in light 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 concerning this proposed AD.

Discussion

We have received reports of the aileron control stick force increasing and of the controls being very noisy on Quartz Mountain Aerospace, Inc. Model 11E airplanes. This condition may not be detectable before takeoff. In one actual instance, the condition occurred during flight. The stick force increased after preflight inspection and after takeoff. The airplane was operated by a student pilot, who had trouble flying the airplane when this occurred, and the certified flight instructor (CFI) had to take control and land the airplane.

This condition, if not corrected, could lead to difficulty controlling the airplane in flight.

We estimate that this proposed AD would affect 12 airplanes in the U.S. registry.

We estimate the following costs to do the proposed cleaning and lubrication:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Labor cost</th>
<th>Parts cost</th>
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<td>1 work-hour × $85 per hour = $85</td>
<td>$10</td>
<td>$95</td>
<td>$1,140</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Further examination of the pushrod end ball joint hardware by the manufacturer found that the ball joint surfaces were additionally contaminated with specks of metallic paint as well as not being lubricated. A review of manufacturer build procedures found that, on occasion, the control surfaces were painted with the rod ends exposed. Production procedures were changed to prevent further contamination.

This condition, if not corrected, could lead to difficulty controlling the airplane in flight.

Relevant Service Information

We have reviewed Quartz Mountain Aerospace Service Bulletin No. SB 09–02, dated May 5, 2009.

The service information describes procedures for cleaning and lubricating the aileron pushrod bearings.

FAA’s Determination and Requirements of the Proposed AD

We are proposing this AD because we evaluated all information and determined the unsafe condition described previously is likely to exist or develop on other products of the same type design. This proposed AD would require you to clean and lubricate the aileron pushrod bearings.

Costs of Compliance

We estimate that this proposed AD would affect 12 airplanes in the U.S. registry.

We estimate the following costs to do the proposed cleaning and lubrication: