DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39


RIN 2120–AA64

Airworthiness Directives; PILATUS AIRCRAFT LTD. Model PC–12/47E 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:

- Reports have been received indicating that, if the power control friction wheel is tightened, the reverse thrust latch may stick and subsequently allow the Power Control Lever (PCL) to be inadvertently retarded aft of the idle detent.
- This condition, if not corrected, could result in undesired reverse thrust activation which, especially during approach, could result in reduced control of the aeroplane.

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 July 26, 2010.

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

- Fax: (202) 493–2251.
- 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:

Doug Rudolph, Aerospace Engineer, FAA, Small Airplane Directorate, 901 Locust, Room 301, Kansas City, Missouri 64106; telephone: (816) 329–4059; 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–2010–0583; Directorate Identifier 2010–CE–028–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.

Discussion

The European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA), which is the Technical Agent for the Member States of the European Community, has issued AD No. 2010–0093, dated May 20, 2010 (referred to after this as “the MCAI”), to correct an unsafe condition for the specified products. The MCAI states:

- Reports have been received indicating that, if the power control friction wheel is tightened, the reverse thrust latch may stick and subsequently allow the Power Control Lever (PCL) to be inadvertently retarded aft of the idle detent.
- This condition, if not corrected, could result in undesired reverse thrust activation which, especially during approach, could result in reduced control of the aeroplane.
- For the reason described above, this AD requires an inspection of the PCL reverse thrust latch and the accomplishment of corrective actions as necessary.

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

RELEVANT SERVICE INFORMATION

PILATUS AIRCRAFT LTD. has issued Service Bulletin No.: 76–002, dated October 15, 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 80 products of U.S. registry. We also estimate that it would take about 1 work-hour 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 $6,800, or $85 per product.

In addition, we estimate that any necessary follow-on actions would take about 9 work-hours and require parts costing $100, for a cost of $865 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 to ensure 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 (49 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
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

§ 39.13 [Amended]
1. The authority citation for part 39 continues to read as follows:
Authority: 49 U.S.C. 106(g), 40113, 44701.

2. The FAA amends § 39.13 by adding the following new AD:


Comments Due Date
(a) We must receive comments by July 26, 2010.
(b) None.

Applicability
(c) This AD applies to PC–12/47E airplanes, manufacturer serial numbers (MSN) 1001 and MSN 1003 through 1140, certificated in any category.
Subject
(d) Air Transport Association of America (ATA) Code 76: Engine Controls.
Reason
(e) The mandatory continuing airworthiness information (MCAI) states:

1. Reports have been received indicating that, if the power control friction wheel is tightened, the reverse thrust latch may stick and subsequently allow the Power Control Lever (PCL) to be inadvertently retarded aft of the idle detent.
2. This condition, if not corrected, could result in undesired reverse thrust activation which, especially during approach, could result in reduced control of the aeroplane. For the reason described above, this AD requires an inspection of the PCL reverse thrust latch and the accomplishment of corrective actions as necessary.

Actions and Compliance
(f) Unless already done, do the following actions:
1. Within 30 days after the effective date of this AD, inspect the power control lever reverse thrust latch handle for free movement following the accomplishment instructions in paragraph 3.A. of PILATUS AIRCRAFT LTD. Service Bulletin No.: 76–002, dated October 15, 2009.
2. If during the inspection required in paragraph (f)(1) of this AD you determine the reverse thrust latch sticks or the idle detent is not present, do the following actions:

(i) Before further flight, insert Temporary Revision (TR) No. 12 to PC–12/47E Pilot’s Operating Handbook, dated October 15, 2009, into the normal procedures section of the aircraft flight manual (AFM).

(ii) Within 12 months after the effective date of this AD, modify the engine control console assembly following the accomplishment instructions in paragraph 3.B. of PILATUS AIRCRAFT LTD. Service Bulletin No.: 76–002, dated October 15, 2009.

3. If during the inspection specified in paragraph (f)(1) of this AD you determine the reverse thrust latch moves freely and the idle detent is present, no further action is required.

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: Doug Rudolph, Aerospace Engineer, FAA, Small Airplane Directorate, 901 Locust, Room 301, Kansas City, Missouri 64106; telephone: (816) 329–4059; 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 2120–0656.

Related Information
(h) Refer to MCAI European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) AD No. 2010–0093, dated May 20, 2010; PILATUS AIRCRAFT LTD. Service Bulletin No.: 76–002, dated October 15, 2009; and Temporary Revision...
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
Federal Aviation Administration  

14 CFR Part 71  


Proposed Revision of Class E Airspace; Unalakleet, AK  

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.  

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM).  

SUMMARY: This action proposes to revise Class E airspace at Unalakleet, AK. The amendment and development of two (each) Standard Instrument Approach Procedures (SIAPs), and the development of one Obstacle Departure Procedure (ODP) at the Unalakleet Airport have made this action necessary to enhance safety and management of Instrument Flight Rules (IFR) operations.  

DATES: Comments must be received on or before July 26, 2010.  

ADDRESSES: Send comments on the proposal to the Docket Management Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., West Building Ground Floor, Room W12–140, Washington, DC 20590–0001. You must identify the docket number FAA–2010–0119/Airspace Docket No. 10–AAL–6 at the beginning of your comments. You may also submit comments on the Internet at http://www.regulations.gov. You may review the public docket containing the proposal, any comments received, and any final disposition, in person in the Federal Docket Management System Office (see ADDRESSES section for address and phone number) between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. An informal docket may also be examined during normal business hours at the office of the Alaska Flight Services Information Area Group. Persons interested in being placed on a mailing list for future NPRM’s should contact the FAA’s Office of Rulemaking, (202) 267–9677, to request a copy of Advisory Circular No. 11–2A, Notice of Proposed Rulemaking Distribution System, which describes the application procedure.  

The Proposal  

This action proposes to amend Title 14 Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR) part 71 by revising Class E airspace at Unalakleet, AK, to accommodate a new departure procedure, and new and amended SIAPs at Unalakleet Airport. This Class E airspace would provide adequate controlled airspace upward from the surface, and from 700 and 1,200 feet above the surface for the safety and management of IFR operations at Unalakleet Airport.  

The Class E2 surface areas are published in paragraph 6002 in FAA Order 7400.9T, Airspace Designations and Reporting Points, signed August 27, 2009, and effective September 15, 2009, which is incorporated by reference in 14 CFR 71.1. The Class E airspace areas designated as 700/1200 foot transition areas are published in paragraph 6005 in FAA Order 7400.9T, Airspace Designations and Reporting Points, signed August 27, 2009, and effective September 15, 2009, which is incorporated by reference in 14 CFR 71.1. The Class E airspace designations listed in this document would be subsequently published in the Order.  

The FAA has determined that this proposed regulation only involves an established body of technical regulations for which frequent and routine amendments are necessary to keep them operationally current. It, therefore—(1) is not a “significant regulatory action” under Executive Order 12866; (2) is not a “significant rule” under DOT Regulatory Policies and Procedures (44 FR 11034; February 26, 1979); and (3) does not warrant preparation of a regulatory evaluation as the anticipated impact is so minimal. Because this is a routine matter that will only affect air traffic procedures and air navigation, it is certified that this rule, when promulgated, will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities.