

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION****Federal Aviation Administration****14 CFR Part 39**

[Docket No. FAA-2017-0759; Product Identifier 2017-CE-023-AD; Amendment 39-18980; AD 2017-16-03]

RIN 2120-AA64

**Airworthiness Directives; Piper Aircraft, Inc. Airplanes**

**AGENCY:** Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Final rule; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** We are adopting a new airworthiness directive (AD) for certain Piper Aircraft, Inc. (Piper) Model PA-46-600TP (M600) airplanes. This AD requires inspection of the aft wing spars with repair as necessary. This AD was prompted by a report from Piper of the aft wing spar cracking during wing assembly. We are issuing this AD to address the unsafe condition on these products.

**DATES:** This AD is effective August 9, 2017.

The Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference of a certain publication listed in this AD as of August 9, 2017.

We must receive comments on this AD by September 25, 2017.

**ADDRESSES:** You may send comments, using the procedures found in 14 CFR 11.43 and 11.45, 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, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

For service information identified in this final rule, contact Piper Aircraft, Inc., Customer Service, 2926 Piper Drive, Vero Beach, Florida 32960; telephone: (877) 879-0275; fax: none; email: [customer.service@piper.com](mailto:customer.service@piper.com); Internet: [www.piper.com](http://www.piper.com). You may view this referenced service information at the FAA, Policy and Innovation Division, 901 Locust, Kansas City, Missouri 64106. For information on the

availability of this material at the FAA, call (816) 329-4148. It is also available on the internet at <http://www.regulations.gov> by searching for and locating Docket No. FAA-2017-0759.

**Examining the AD Docket**

You may examine the AD docket on the Internet at <http://www.regulations.gov> by searching for and locating Docket No. FAA-2017-0759; 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 final rule, the regulatory evaluation, any comments received, and other information. Comments will be available in the AD docket shortly after receipt.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** William (Dan) McCully, Aerospace Engineer, Atlanta ACO Branch, FAA, 1701 Columbia Avenue, College Park, Georgia 30337; phone: (404) 474-5548; fax: (404) 474-5606; email: [william.mccully@faa.gov](mailto:william.mccully@faa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Discussion**

We received a report from Piper of an aft wing spar cracking during wing assembly on a Model PA-46-600TP (M600) airplane. An investigation of the incident identified that the supplier may have delivered aft wing spars to Piper that did not conform to Piper's type design specifications and requirements. A quality escape during manufacturing resulted in an understrength part, and these nonconforming parts may have been installed on some of the affected airplanes. This condition, if not corrected, could result in failure of the aft wing spar and lead to wing separation with consequent loss of control. We are issuing this AD to correct the unsafe condition on these products.

**Related Service Information Under 14 CFR Part 51**

We reviewed Piper Aircraft, Inc. Service Bulletin No. 1317A, dated July 26, 2017. The service bulletin describes procedures for a visual inspection of the affected area and describes flight restrictions for allowing the optional special flight permit that allows a one-time flight to a facility capable of doing the inspections and repair required by this AD. This service information is reasonably available because the interested parties have access to it through their normal course of business or by the means identified in the **ADDRESSES** section.

**FAA's Determination**

We are issuing this AD because we evaluated all the relevant information and determined the unsafe condition described previously is likely to exist or develop in other products of the same type design.

**AD Requirements**

This AD requires inspection of the aft wing spars with repair as necessary.

**Interim Action**

We consider this AD interim action. We are coordinating with Piper on the development of inspection and repair procedures to address this unsafe condition.

**FAA's Justification and Determination of the Effective Date**

An unsafe condition exists that requires the immediate adoption of this AD. The FAA has found that the risk to the flying public justifies waiving notice and comment prior to adoption of this rule because failure of the aft wing spar could result in wing separation with consequent loss of control. Therefore, we find that notice and opportunity for prior public comment are impracticable and that good cause exists for making this amendment effective in less than 30 days.

**Comments Invited**

This AD is a final rule that involves requirements affecting flight safety and was not preceded by notice and an opportunity for public comment. However, we invite you to send any written data, views, or arguments about this final rule. Send your comments to an address listed under the **ADDRESSES** section. Include the Docket No. FAA-2017-0759 and Product Identifier 2017-CE-023-AD at the beginning of your comments. We specifically invite comments on the overall regulatory, economic, environmental, and energy aspects of this final rule. We will consider all comments received by the closing date and may amend this final rule 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 final rule.

**Costs of Compliance**

We estimate that this AD affects 36 airplanes of U.S. registry.

We estimate the following costs to comply with this AD. Piper is currently developing the required inspection method, and the FAA anticipates it will

be approved and available shortly after publication of this AD:

#### ESTIMATED COSTS

Action	Labor cost	Parts cost	Cost per product	Cost on U.S. operators
Inspection of the aft wing spars .....	11 work-hours × \$85 per hour = \$935 ...	Not applicable .....	\$935	\$33,660

We have no way of knowing how many airplanes may need the repair based on the results of the required inspection. Since there is not an approved repair procedure, we have no way of knowing the cost of the required repair.

#### 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.

This AD is issued in accordance with authority delegated by the Executive Director, Aircraft Certification Service, as authorized by FAA Order 8000.51C. In accordance with that order, issuance of ADs is normally a function of the Compliance and Airworthiness Division, but during this transition period, the Executive Director has delegated the authority to issue ADs applicable to small airplanes and domestic business jet transport airplanes to the Director of the Policy and Innovation Division.

#### Regulatory Findings

This AD will not have federalism implications under Executive Order 13132. This AD will 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 that this AD:

- (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),
- (3) Will not affect intrastate aviation in Alaska, and
- (4) 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.

#### List of Subjects in 14 CFR Part 39

Air transportation, Aircraft, Aviation safety, Incorporation by reference, Safety.

#### Adoption of the Amendment

Accordingly, under the authority delegated to me by the Administrator, the FAA amends 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 airworthiness directive (AD):

**2017-16-03 Piper Aircraft, Inc.:**  
Amendment 39-18980; Docket No. FAA-2017-0759; Product Identifier 2017-CE-023-AD.

#### (a) Effective Date

This AD is effective August 9, 2017.

#### (b) Affected ADs

None.

#### (c) Applicability

This AD applies to Piper Aircraft, Inc. Model PA-46-600TP (M600) airplanes; serial numbers 4698004 through 4698042; certificated in any category.

#### (d) Subject

Joint Aircraft System Component (JASC)/ Air Transport Association (ATA) of America Code 5711, Wing Spar.

#### (e) Unsafe Condition

This AD was prompted by a report from Piper Aircraft, Inc. (Piper) of an aft wing spar cracking during wing assembly of one of the affected airplanes. We are issuing this AD to prevent failure of the aft wing spar, which could lead to wing separation with consequent loss of control.

#### (f) Compliance

Comply with this AD within the compliance times specified, unless already done.

#### (g) Inspection and Repair

Before further flight, inspect the aft wing spars and, before further flight, repair as necessary following FAA-approved procedures obtained from the Atlanta ACO Branch approved specifically for this AD. Use the contact information found in paragraph (j) of this AD. We are coordinating with Piper on the development of inspection and repair procedures to address this unsafe condition. Piper Aircraft, Inc. Service Bulletin No. 1317, dated July 21, 2017 (not incorporated by reference), and Piper Service Bulletin No. 1317A, dated July 26, 2017, contain additional information related to this AD.

#### (h) Special Flight Permit

A special flight permit is allowed per 14 CFR 39.23 to relocate the airplane to a facility capable of performing the inspection and/or repair required by paragraph (g) of this AD provided that all criteria in Part II of Piper Service Bulletin No. 1317A, dated July 26, 2017, are adhered to.

#### (i) Alternative Methods of Compliance (AMOCs)

(1) The Manager, Atlanta ACO Branch, FAA, has the authority to approve AMOCs for this AD, if requested using the procedures found in 14 CFR 39.19. In accordance with 14 CFR 39.19, send your request to your principal inspector or local Flight Standards District Office, as appropriate. If sending information directly to the manager of the certification office, send it to the attention of the person identified in paragraph (j) of this AD.

(2) Before using any approved AMOC, notify your appropriate principal inspector, or lacking a principal inspector, the manager of the local flight standards district office/certificate holding district office.

#### (j) Related Information

For more information about this AD, contact William (Dan) McCully, Aerospace Engineer, Atlanta ACO Branch, FAA, 1701 Columbia Avenue, College Park, Georgia

30337; phone: (404) 474-5548; fax: (404) 474-5606; email: [william.mccully@faa.gov](mailto:william.mccully@faa.gov).

#### (k) Material Incorporated by Reference

(1) The Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference (IBR) of the service information listed in this paragraph under 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 1 CFR part 51.

(2) You must use this service information as applicable to do the actions required by this AD, unless the AD specifies otherwise.

(i) Piper Aircraft, Inc. Service Bulletin No. 1317A, dated July 26, 2017.

(ii) Reserved.

(3) For Piper Aircraft, Inc. service information identified in this AD, contact Piper Aircraft, Inc., Customer Service, 2926 Piper Drive, Vero Beach, Florida 32960; telephone: (877) 879-0275; fax: none; email: [customer.service@piper.com](mailto:customer.service@piper.com); Internet: [www.piper.com](http://www.piper.com).

(4) You may view this referenced service information at the FAA, Policy and Innovation Division, 901 Locust, Kansas City, Missouri 64106. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call (816) 329-4148. It is also available on the internet at <http://www.regulations.gov> by searching for and locating Docket No. FAA-2017-0759.

(5) You may view this service information that is incorporated by reference at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). For information on the availability of this material at NARA, call 202-741-6030, or go to: <http://www.archives.gov/federal-register/cfr/ibr-locations.html>.

Issued in Kansas City, Missouri, on July 28, 2017.

**Pat Mullen,**

*Acting Deputy Director, Policy and Innovation Division, Aircraft Certification Service.*

[FR Doc. 2017-16437 Filed 8-8-17; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-13-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

### Coast Guard

#### 33 CFR Part 100

[Docket Number USCG-2017-0586]

RIN 1625-AA08

#### Special Local Regulation; Ohio River; Louisville, KY

**AGENCY:** Coast Guard, DHS.

**ACTION:** Temporary final rule.

**SUMMARY:** The Coast Guard is establishing a special local regulation for certain navigable waters of the Ohio River from mile marker (MM) 602.0 to MM 604.0. This action is necessary to provide for the safety of life on the navigable waters near Louisville, KY, during a regatta between August 18 and 20, 2017. This rulemaking prohibits

persons and vessels from being within the special local regulation unless authorized by the Captain of the Port Sector Ohio Valley (COTP) or a designated representative.

**DATES:** This rule is effective from 11 a.m. on August 18, 2017 through 6 p.m. on August 20, 2017.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** If you have questions on this rule, call or email MST1 Kevin Schneider, Waterways Department Sector Ohio Valley, U.S. Coast Guard; telephone 502-779-5333, email [Kevin.L.Schneider@uscg.mil](mailto:Kevin.L.Schneider@uscg.mil).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. Table of Abbreviations

CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
COTP	Captain of the Port Sector Ohio Valley
DHS	Department of Homeland Security
FR	Federal Register
NPRM	Notice of proposed rulemaking
§	Section
U.S.C.	United States Code

##### II. Background Information and Regulatory History

The Coast Guard is issuing this temporary rule without prior notice and opportunity to comment pursuant to authority under section 4(a) of the Administrative Procedure Act (APA) (5 U.S.C. 553(b)). This provision authorizes an agency to issue a rule without prior notice and opportunity to comment when the agency for good cause finds that those procedures are “impracticable, unnecessary, or contrary to the public interest.” Under 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B), the Coast Guard finds that good cause exists for not publishing a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) with respect to this rule because it is impracticable. This action is necessary to ensure the safety of the life during the Grand Prix of Louisville Regatta marine event. It is impracticable to publish an NPRM because we must establish this Special Local Regulation by August 18, 2017, and lack sufficient time to provide a reasonable comment period and then consider those comments before issuing the rule.

Under 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3), the Coast Guard finds that good cause exists for making this rule effective less than 30 days after publication in the **Federal Register**. Delaying this rule would be contrary to the public interest of ensuring the safety of spectators and vessels during the event and immediate action is necessary to prevent possible loss of life and property.

##### III. Legal Authority and Need for Rule

The Coast Guard is issuing this rule under authority in 33 U.S.C. 1233. The Captain of the Port Sector Ohio Valley (COTP) has determined the need to protect participants during the Grand Prix of Louisville Regatta on the Ohio River from mile marker (MM) 602.0 to MM 604.0. The purpose of this rule is to protect personnel, vessels, and these navigable waters before, during, and after the scheduled event.

##### IV. Discussion of the Rule

This rule establishes a temporary special local regulation that will be enforced from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. on August 18, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. on August 19, and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on August 20. The temporary special local regulation will cover all navigable waters of the Ohio River from MM 602.0 to MM 604.0. The duration of the special local regulation is intended to ensure the safety of waterway users and these navigable waters before, during, and after the scheduled event. No vessel or person is permitted to enter the special local regulated area without obtaining permission from the COTP.

##### V. Regulatory Analyses

We developed this rule after considering numerous statutes and Executive orders related to rulemaking. Below we summarize our analyses based on a number of these statutes and Executive orders, and we discuss First Amendment rights of protestors.

##### A. Regulatory Planning and Review

Executive Orders 12866 and 13563 direct agencies to assess the costs and benefits of available regulatory alternatives and, if regulation is necessary, to select regulatory approaches that maximize net benefits. Executive Order 13771 directs agencies to control regulatory costs through a budgeting process. This rule has not been designated a “significant regulatory action,” under Executive Order 12866. Accordingly, this rule has not been reviewed by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), and pursuant to OMB guidance it is exempt from the requirements of Executive Order 13771.

This regulatory action determination is based on the size, location, duration, and time-of-day of the special local regulation. The river will be closed to all vessel traffic from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. on August 18, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. on August 19, and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on August 20, from MM 602.0 to MM 604.0. Moreover, the Coast Guard will issue written Local Notice to Mariners and Broadcast Notice to Mariners via