

through March 13, 2021. This is a revision to the current policy that states Express Bridge Pilot loans can only be made up to six months after the date of the applicable Presidential disaster declaration. This revision will allow small businesses that experience delayed impacts resulting from the COVID-19 emergency to benefit from the pilot program.

Finally, SBA is extending the term of the Express Bridge Pilot. The Express Bridge Pilot is set to expire September 30, 2020. With this Notice, SBA is extending the pilot program through March 13, 2021. This extension will provide time for small businesses that may experience delayed effects resulting from the COVID-19 emergency to benefit from the Express Bridge Pilot and to allow SBA to continue its evaluation of the program in accordance with the criteria set forth in the October 16, 2017 **Federal Register** notice.

All other SBA terms and conditions and regulatory waivers related to the Express Bridge Pilot remain unchanged, including that loans made under the Express Bridge Pilot may be eligible to be repaid with the proceeds of an SBA direct disaster loan, including loans made under the Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) Program. All references to disasters in the Express Bridge Pilot program requirements will include the COVID-19 emergency.

SBA has provided more detailed guidance in the form of a program guide, which has been updated to conform to this Notice and is available on SBA's website, <https://www.sba.gov/document/support-express-bridge-loan-pilot-program-guide>. SBA will also provide additional guidance, if needed, through SBA notices, which also will be published on SBA's website, <http://www.sba.gov>.

Authority: 15 U.S.C. 636(a)(25); 13 CFR 120.3.

Dated: March 19, 2020.

Jovita Carranza,
Administrator.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 25

[Docket No. FAA-2020-0273; Special Conditions No. 25-767-SC]

Special Conditions: Delta Flight Products, Boeing Model No. 757-200 Series Airplane; Seats With Non-Traditional, Large, Non-Metallic Panels

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Final special conditions; request for comments.

SUMMARY: These special conditions are issued for the Boeing Model No. 757-200 series airplane. This airplane, as modified by Delta Flight Products, will have novel or unusual design features when compared to the state of technology envisioned in the airworthiness standards for transport category airplanes. This design feature includes seats with large, non-traditional, non-metallic panels on Boeing 757-200 series airplanes. The applicable airworthiness regulations do not contain adequate or appropriate safety standards for this design feature. These special conditions contain the additional safety standards that the Administrator considers necessary to establish a level of safety equivalent to that established by the existing airworthiness standards.

DATES: This action is effective on Delta Flight Products on April 1, 2020. Send comments on or before May 18, 2020.

ADDRESSES: Send comments identified by Docket No. FAA-2020-0273 using any of the following methods:

- *Federal eRegulations Portal:* Go to <http://www.regulations.gov/> and follow the online instructions for sending your comments electronically.
- *Mail:* Send comments to Docket Operations, M-30, U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Room W12-140, West Building Ground Floor, Washington, DC 20590-0001.

• *Hand Delivery or Courier:* Take comments to Docket Operations in Room W12-140 of the West Building Ground Floor at 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

• *Fax:* Fax comments to Docket Operations at 202-493-2251.

Privacy: The FAA will post all comments it receives, without change, to <http://www.regulations.gov/>, including any personal information the commenter provides. Using the search

function of the docket website, anyone can find and read the electronic form of all comments received into any FAA docket, including the name of the individual sending the comment (or signing the comment for an association, business, labor union, etc.). DOT's complete Privacy Act Statement can be found in the **Federal Register** published on April 11, 2000 (65 FR 19477-19478).

Docket: Background documents or comments received may be read at <http://www.regulations.gov/> at any time. Follow the online instructions for accessing the docket or go to Docket Operations in Room W12-140 of the West Building Ground Floor at 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John Shelden, Airframe & Cabin Safety Section, AIR-675, Transport Standards Branch, Policy and Innovation Division, Aircraft Certification Service, Federal Aviation Administration, 2200 South 216th Street, Des Moines, Washington 98198; telephone and fax 206-231-3214; email john.shelden@faa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The substance of these special conditions previously has been published in the **Federal Register** for public comment. These special conditions have been derived without substantive change from those previously issued. It is unlikely that prior public comment would result in a significant change from the substance contained herein. Therefore, the FAA has determined that prior public notice and comment are unnecessary, and finds that, for the same reason, good cause exists for adopting these special conditions upon publication in the **Federal Register**.

Comments Invited

The FAA invites interested people to take part in this rulemaking by sending written comments, data, or views. The most helpful comments reference a specific portion of the special conditions, explain the reason for any recommended change, and include supporting data.

The FAA will consider all comments received by the closing date for comments. The FAA may change these special conditions based on the comments received.

Background

On September 3, 2019, Delta applied for a supplemental type certificate for an interior reconfiguration that includes seats containing large, non-traditional, non-metallic panels on Boeing 757-200 series airplanes. The Boeing 757-200

series airplane is a twin-engine, transport category airplane with seating provisions for up to 239 passengers.

The applicable regulations to airplanes currently approved under Type Certificate No. A2NM do not require seats to meet the more-stringent flammability standards required of large, non-traditional, non-metallic panels in the cabin interior. At the time the applicable rules were written, seats were designed with a metal frame covered by fabric, not with large, non-traditional, non-metallic panels. Seats also met the then-recently adopted standards for flammability of seat cushions. With the seat design being mostly fabric and metal, their contribution to a fire in the cabin had been minimized and was not considered a threat. For these reasons, seats did not need to be tested to heat-release and smoke-emission requirements.

Seat designs have now evolved to occasionally include large, non-traditional, non-metallic panels. Taken in total, the surface area of these panels is on the same order as the sidewall and overhead-stowage-bin interior panels. To provide the level of passenger protection established by the airworthiness standards, these large, non-traditional, non-metallic panels in the cabin must meet the standards of Title 14, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) part 25, Appendix F, parts IV and V, heat-release and smoke-emission requirements.

Type Certification Basis

Under the provisions of title 14, Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR) 21.101, Delta Flight Products must show that the Model 757-200 series airplane, as changed, continues to meet the applicable provisions of the regulations listed in Type Certificate No. A2NM or the applicable regulations in effect on the date of application for the change, except for earlier amendments as agreed upon by the FAA.

If the Administrator finds that the applicable airworthiness regulations (e.g., 14 CFR part 25) do not contain adequate or appropriate safety standards for the Boeing Model 757-200 series airplane because of a novel or unusual design feature, special conditions are prescribed under the provisions of § 21.16.

Special conditions are initially applicable to the model for which they are issued. Should the applicant apply for a supplemental type certificate to modify any other model included on the same type certificate to incorporate the same novel or unusual design feature, these special conditions would also apply to the other model under § 21.101.

In addition to the applicable airworthiness regulations and special conditions, the Boeing Model 757-200 series airplane must comply with the fuel vent and exhaust emission requirements of 14 CFR part 34 and the noise certification requirements of 14 CFR part 36.

The FAA issues special conditions, as defined in 14 CFR 11.19, in accordance with § 11.38, and they become part of the type certification basis under § 21.101.

Novel or Unusual Design Features

The Boeing 757-200 series airplane will incorporate the following novel or unusual design feature:

This model offers interior arrangements that include passenger seats that incorporate large, non-traditional, non-metallic panels in lieu of the traditional metal frame covered by fabric. The flammability properties of these panels have been shown to significantly affect the survivability of cabin occupants in the event of fire. These seats are considered a novel design for transport-category airplanes that include Amendment 25-61 and Amendment 25-66 in the certification basis, and were not considered when those airworthiness standards were established.

The existing regulations do not provide adequate or appropriate safety standards for seat designs that incorporate large, non-traditional, non-metallic panels in their designs. To provide a level of safety that is equivalent to that afforded to the balance of the cabin, additional airworthiness standards, in the form of special conditions, are necessary. These special conditions supplement 14 CFR 25.853. The requirements contained in these special conditions consist of applying the identical test conditions, required of all other large panels in the cabin, to seats with large, non-traditional, non-metallic panels.

Discussion

In the early 1980s, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) conducted extensive research on the effects of post-crash flammability in the passenger cabin. As a result of this research and service experience, the FAA adopted new standards for interior surfaces associated with larger surface-area parts. Specifically, the rules require measurement of heat release and smoke emission (part 25, Appendix F, parts IV and V) for the affected parts. Heat release has been shown to have a direct correlation to post-crash fire-survival time. The materials that comply with the standards (e.g., § 25.853,

“Compartment Interiors,” as amended by Amendments 25-61 and 25-66) were found to extend survival time by approximately two minutes over materials that do not comply.

At the time Amendment 25-61 was written, the potential application of the requirement to seats was explored. The seat frame itself was not a concern because it was primarily made of aluminum and incorporated only small amounts of non-metallic materials (for example, a food-tray table and armrest closeout). The FAA determined that the overall effect on survivability was negligible, whether or not these panels met the heat-release and smoke-emission requirements. The requirements therefore did not address seats, and the preambles to both Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) 85-10 and the final rule (Amendment 25-61) specifically note that they were excluded “. . . because the recently adopted standards for flammability of seat cushions will greatly inhibit involvement of the seats” in their post-crash fire.

In the late 1990s, when it became clear that seat designs were evolving to include large non-metallic panels with surface area that would impact survivability during a cabin-fire event compared to partitions or galleys, the FAA issued Policy Memorandum 97-112-39. This memo noted that large surface-area panels must comply with heat-release and smoke-emission requirements, even if they were attached to a seat. If the FAA had not issued such policy, seat designs would have been an exception to the airworthiness standards, which could result in an unacceptable decrease in survivability during a cabin fire event.

These special conditions contain the additional safety standards that the Administrator considers necessary to establish a level of safety equivalent to that established by the existing airworthiness standards.

Definition of “Large, Non-Traditional, Non-Metallic Panel”

A large, non-traditional, non-metallic panel, in this case, is defined as a panel with exposed-surface areas greater than 1.5 square feet installed per seat place. The panel may consist of either a single component or multiple components in a concentrated area. Examples of non-traditional areas include, but are not limited to, seat backs, bottoms and leg/foot rests, kick panels, back shells, and associated furniture. Examples of traditional, exempted areas include, but are not limited to, arm caps, armrest close-outs, and items such as end-bays

and center consoles, food trays, video monitors, and shrouds.

Clarification of “Exposed”

“Exposed” is considered to include those panels directly exposed to the passenger cabin in the traditional sense, plus those panels enveloped, such as by a dress cover. Traditional fabrics or leathers currently used on seats are excluded from the special conditions. These materials must still comply with § 25.853(a) and (c) if used as a covering for a seat cushion, or § 25.853(a) if installed elsewhere on the seat. Large, non-metallic panels covered with traditional fabrics or leathers will be tested without their coverings or covering attachments.

Applicability

As discussed above, these special conditions are applicable to the Boeing Model 757–200 series airplane. Should Delta Flight Products apply at a later date for a supplemental type certificate to modify any other model included on Type Certificate No. A2NM to incorporate the same novel or unusual design feature, these special conditions would apply to that model as well.

Conclusion

This action affects only certain novel or unusual design features on one model series of airplanes. It is not a rule of general applicability and affects only the applicant who applied to the FAA for approval of these features on the airplane.

List of Subjects in 14 CFR Part 25

Aircraft, Aviation safety, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Authority Citation

The authority citation for these special conditions is as follows:

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 106(f), 106(g), 40113, 44701, 44702, 44704.

The Special Conditions

Accordingly, pursuant to the authority delegated to me by the Administrator, the following special conditions are issued as part of the type certification basis for Boeing Model 757–200 series airplanes, as modified by Delta Flight Products.

1. Compliance with 14 CFR part 25, Appendix F, parts IV and V, heat release and smoke emission, is required for seats that incorporate large, non-traditional, non-metallic panels that may either be a single component or multiple components in a concentrated area in their design.

2. The applicant may designate up to and including 1.5 square feet of non-

traditional, non-metallic panel material per seat place that does not have to comply with No. 1. A triple seat assembly may have a total of 4.5 square feet excluded on any portion of the assembly (e.g., outboard seat place 1 sq. ft., middle 1 sq. ft., and inboard 2.5 sq. ft.).

3. Seats need not meet the test requirements of part 25 Appendix F, parts IV and V when installed in compartments that are not otherwise required to meet these requirements. Examples include:

- a. Airplanes with passenger capacities of 19 or fewer.
- b. Airplanes that do not have smoke emission and heat release in their certification basis and do not need to comply with the requirements of 14 CFR 121.312.
- c. Airplanes exempted from heat-release and smoke-emission requirements.

Issued in Des Moines, Washington, on March 12, 2020.

James E. Wilborn,

Acting Manager, Transport Standards Branch, Policy and Innovation Division, Aircraft Certification Service.

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Evaluation, Enforcement Division, Office of the Chief Counsel, Federal Aviation Administration, 800 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20591; telephone: (202) 267-8198; email: james.barry@faa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

FAA regulations set forth the requirements for, and duration of, medical certificates issued under 14 CFR part 67. A person may serve as a required pilot flight crewmember of a civil aircraft only if that person holds the appropriate unexpired medical certificate issued under 14 CFR part 67 (or other documentation acceptable to the FAA).¹ The duration of a medical certificate issued to a required pilot flight crewmember depends on the age of the applicant at the date of the examination, the type of operation, and class of certificate.² In addition, a person may serve as a flight engineer of a civil aircraft only if that person holds an unexpired second-class (or higher) medical certificate issued under 14 CFR part 67 (or other documentation acceptable to the FAA).³ To receive a new medical certificate, a person must submit to a medical examination given by an aviation medical examiner.⁴

Regardless of whatever day a medical certificate is issued, all medical certificates expire at the end of the last day of the month of expiration.⁵

On March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) characterized COVID-19 as a pandemic, as the rates of infection continued to rise in many locations around the world and across the United States. On March 13, 2020, the President declared that the COVID-19 outbreak in the United States constitutes a national emergency.

COVID-19 cases have been reported in all 50 States as well as the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

The President’s March 13, 2020, declaration observed that the spread of COVID-19 within our Nation’s communities threatens to strain our Nation’s healthcare systems. Widespread transmission of COVID-19 could translate into large numbers of people needing medical care at the same time. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) advises that healthcare facilities and clinicians should prioritize urgent and emergency visits and procedures now and for the

¹ See 14 CFR 61.2(a)(5), 61.3(c)(1).

² See 14 CFR 61.23.

³ See 14 CFR 63.3(b).

⁴ See 14 CFR 67.3, 67.4, 67.405.

⁵ See 14 CFR 61.23(d).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
James Barry, Manager, Policy/Audit/