For the reasons discussed, I certify that this AD:
(1) Is not a “significant regulatory action” under Executive Order 12866, and
(2) Will not affect intrastate aviation in Alaska.

List of Subjects in 14 CFR Part 39
Air transportation, Aircraft, Aviation safety, Incorporation by reference, Safety.

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
§ 39.13 [Amended]

■ 2. The FAA amends § 39.13 by adding the following new airworthiness directive:


(a) Effective Date
This airworthiness directive (AD) is effective June 22, 2021.

(b) Affected ADs
None.

(c) Applicability
This AD applies to Leonardo S.p.a. Model AB139 and AW139 helicopters, certified in any category, with 3-stretcher kit part number 139084–501 installed.

(d) Subject
Joint Aircraft Service Component (JASC) Code: 1100, Placards and Markings.

(e) Unsafe Condition
This AD was prompted by a report of a design deficiency which affects the primary stretcher unit of the 3-stretcher kit. The FAA is issuing this AD to address a design deficiency which affects the primary stretcher unit of the 3-stretcher kit. The unsafe condition, if not addressed, could lead, in case of an emergency landing, to failure of the primary stretcher, possibly resulting in injury to helicopter occupants.

(f) Compliance
Comply with this AD within the compliance times specified, unless already done.

(g) Required Actions
Within 30 hours time-in-service (TIS) after the effective date of this AD, install a placard on the primary stretcher in accordance with the Accomplishment Instructions of Aerolite Alert Service Bulletin ASB–21–006, dated March 16, 2021.

(h) Alternative Methods of Compliance (AMOCs)
(1) The Manager, International Validation 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 International Validation Branch, send it to the attention of the person identified in paragraph (i)(1) of this AD. Information may be emailed to: 9-AVS-AIR-730-AMOC@faa.gov.

(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.

(i) Related Information
(1) For more information about this AD, contact Andrea Jimenez, Aerospace Engineer, COS Program Management Section, Operational Safety Branch, Compliance & Airworthiness Division, FAA, 1600 Stewart Ave., Mail Stop: Room 410, Westbury, NY 11590; phone: (516) 228–7330; email: andrea.jimenez@faa.gov.

(2) For service information identified in this AD, contact Aerolite AG, Amühlestrasse 10, CH–6373 Ennetbürgen, Switzerland; phone: +41 (0)41 624 58 58; fax: +41 (0)41 624 58 59; email: info@aerolite.ch. You may view this referenced service information at the FAA, Office of the Regional Counsel, Southwest Region, 10101 Hillwood Pkwy., Room 6N–321, Fort Worth, TX 76177. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call (817) 222–5110.


(j) Material Incorporated by Reference
(1) The Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference 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.


(ii) [Reserved]

(3) For Aerolite AG service information identified in this AD, contact Aerolite AG, Amühlestrasse 10, CH–6373 Ennetbürgen, Switzerland; phone: +41 (0)41 624 58 58; fax: +41 (0)41 624 58 59; email: info@aerolite.ch.

(4) You may view this service information at the FAA, Office of the Regional Counsel, Southwest Region, 10101 Hillwood Pkwy., Room 6N–321, Fort Worth, TX 76177. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call (817) 222–5110.

(5) You may view this service information that is incorporated by reference at the

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. FAA–2020–0857; Project Identifier MCAI–2020–00707–A; Amendment 39–21570; AD 2021–11–08]

RIN 2120–AA64

Airworthiness Directives; Pilatus Aircraft Ltd. Airplanes

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Final rule.


DATES: This AD is effective July 12, 2021.

The Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference of certain publications listed in this AD as of July 12, 2021.

ADDRESSES: For service information identified in this final rule, contact Pilatus Aircraft Ltd., Customer Support General Aviation, CH–6371 Stans, Switzerland; phone: +41 848 24 7 365; email: Techsupport@pilatus-aircraft.ch; or go to:


BILINGUE CODE 4910–13–P

National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). For information on the availability of this material at NARA, email: fedreg.legal@nara.gov, or go to:


Issued on May 28, 2021.

Ross Landes,
Deputy Director for Regulatory Operations, Compliance & Airworthiness Division, Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. 2021–11961 Filed 6–3–21; 4:15 pm]

Federal Register / Vol. 86, No. 107 / Monday, June 7, 2021 / Rules and Regulations
aircraft.com website: https://www.pilatus-aircraft.com/en. You may view this referenced service information at the FAA, Airworthiness Products Section, Operational Safety Branch, 901 Locust, Kansas City, MO 64106. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call (816) 329–4148. It is also available at https://www.regulations.gov by searching for and locating Docket No. FAA–2020–0857.

Examining the AD Docket

You may examine the AD docket at https://www.regulations.gov by searching for and locating Docket No. FAA–2020–0857; or in person at Docket Operations between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The AD docket contains this final rule, any comments received, and other information. The address for Docket Operations is U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M–30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12–140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Doug Rudolph, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, General Aviation & Rotorcraft Section, International Validation Branch, 901 Locust, Room 301, Kansas City, MO 64106; phone: (816) 329–4059; fax: (816) 329–4090; email: doug.rudolph@faa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background


The NPRM published in the Federal Register on October 2, 2020 (85 FR 62266). The NPRM was prompted by a MCAI issued by the European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA), which is the Technical Agent for the Member States of the European Union. EASA superseded its previous MCAs on this unsafe condition with EASA AD 2020–0120, dated May 27, 2020 (EASA AD 2020–0120). The NPRM proposed to require revising the airworthiness limitation section of the existing maintenance manual or instructions for continued airworthiness to incorporate new airworthiness limitations, and performing an eddy current inspection of the fuselage wing fittings and wing-to-fuselage fittings. After the FAA issued the NPRM, EASA superseded EASA AD 2020–0120 and issued EASA AD 2020–0278, dated December 14, 2020 (EASA AD 2020–0278) (also referred to after this as “the MCAI”). According to EASA AD 2020–0278, an installation procedure specified in the service information identified in the NPRM contained an error and, therefore, did not adequately address the identified unsafe condition. Pilatus revised the airworthiness limitations and issued corrected service information, which includes installing certain bushes using grease instead of a bonding agent and an additional onetime eddy current inspection of the fuselage wing fittings and wing-to-fuselage fittings if the last inspection was performed using an earlier version of the service information. You may examine the MCAI in the AD docket at https://www.regulations.gov by searching for and locating Docket No. FAA–2020–0857.

The FAA issued a supplemental notice of proposed rulemaking (SNPRM) to amend 14 CFR part 39 to supersede AD 2014–25–04. The SNPRM published in the Federal Register on March 8, 2021 (86 FR 13222). The SNPRM proposed to add an eddy current inspection of each fuselage wing fitting if an earlier version of the service information was accomplished. The FAA is issuing this AD to address reduced airplane controllability due to possible loss of structural integrity of certain parts.

Discussion of the Final Airworthiness Directive

Comments

The FAA received no comments on the SNPRM or on the determination of the costs.

Conclusion

This product has been approved by the aviation authority of another country, and is approved for operation in the United States. Pursuant to the FAA’s bilateral agreement with the State of Design Authority, the FAA has been notified of the unsafe condition described in the MCAI and service information referenced above. The FAA reviewed the relevant data and determined that air safety requires adoption of the AD as proposed. Accordingly, the FAA is issuing this AD to address the unsafe condition on these products. This AD is adopted as proposed in the SNPRM.

Related Service Information Under 1 CFR Part 51

Pilatus issued the Airworthiness Limitations Section of PC–6 Airworthiness Limitations Document No. 02334, Revision 10, dated October 30, 2020; and Section 04–00–00, Airworthiness Limitations of Chapter 04, Airworthiness Limitations, of the Pilatus PC–6 Aircraft Maintenance Manual Document No. 01975, Revision 30, dated October 30, 2020. This service information contains airworthiness limitations for the stabilizer trim actuator, fuselage wing fittings, and wing-to-fuselage fittings. These documents are distinct since they apply to different airplane models.

Pilatus also issued Section 53–00–01, Fuselage Wing Fittings—Inspection/Check, of the Pilatus PC–6 Aircraft Maintenance Manual Document No. 01975, Revision 30, dated October 30, 2020; Section 57–00–03, Wing to Fuselage Fittings—Inspection/Check, of the PC–6 Aircraft Maintenance Manual Document No. 01975, Revision 29, dated February 28, 2020; Appendix K, Fuselage Wing Fittings—Inspection/Check, of the PC–6 Airworthiness Limitations Document No. 02334, Check, of the PC–6 Airworthiness Limitations Document No. 02334, Revision 10, dated October 30, 2020; and Appendix L, Wing to Fuselage Fittings—Inspection/Check, of the PC–6 Airworthiness Limitations Document No. 02334, Revision 9, dated March 6, 2020. This service information specifies procedures for repetitive eddy current inspections of the fuselage wing fittings and wing-to-fuselage fittings and, if necessary, installing the bush on the fuselage wing fittings using grease. These documents are distinct since they apply to different airplane models.

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.

Costs of Compliance

The FAA estimates that this AD affects 30 airplanes of U.S. registry. The FAA estimates the following costs to comply with this AD:
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.

The FAA is 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

The FAA determined that this AD will not have federalism implications under Executive Order 13132. This AD will not have a substantial direct effect on the States, or 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. Will not affect intrastate aviation in Alaska, 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.

List of Subjects in 14 CFR Part 39

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

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:


b. Adding the following new airworthiness directive:

2021–11–08 Pilatus Aircraft Ltd.


(a) Effective Date

This airworthiness directive (AD) is effective July 12, 2021.

(b) Affected ADs


(c) Applicability


Note 1 to paragraph (c): These airplanes may also be identified as Fairchild Republic Company airplanes, Fairchild Industries airplanes, Fairchild Heli Porter airplanes, or Fairchild-Hiller Corporation airplanes.

(d) Subject

Air Transport Association (ATA) of America Code 05, Time Limits/Maintenance Checks.

(e) Reason

This AD was prompted by a determination that new and more restrictive airworthiness limitations, new life limits, and new inspection procedures are necessary. The FAA is issuing this AD to address reduced airplane controllability due to possible loss of structural integrity of certain parts.

(f) Airworthiness Limitations Revision

Unless already done, before further flight, comply with the actions specified in paragraphs (g)(1) through (3) of this AD.

(1) For Models PC–6/B2–H2 and PC–6/B2–H4 airplanes, revise the airworthiness limitations section (ALS) of the existing maintenance manual or instructions for continued airworthiness (ICA) for your airplane as follows:

(i) Replace Section 04–00–00 with Section 04–00–00, Airworthiness Limitations, of Chapter 04, Airworthiness Limitations, of the Pilatus PC–6 Aircraft Maintenance Manual Document No. 01975, Revision 30, dated October 30, 2020.

(ii) Add (or replace, if applicable) Section 53–00–01, Fuselage Wing Fittings—Inspection/Check, of the Pilatus PC–6 Aircraft Maintenance Manual Document No. 01975, Revision 30, dated October 30, 2020.


(2) For all airplanes specified in paragraph (c) of this AD except Models PC–6/B2–H2 and PC–6/B2–H4 airplanes, revise the ALS of...
the existing maintenance manual or ICA for your airplane as follows:

(i) Replace the ALS with the Airworthiness Limitations Section of Pilatus PC–6 Airworthiness Limitations Document No. 02334, Revision 10, dated October 30, 2020.


(iii) Add Appendix L, Wing to Fuselage Fittings—Inspection/Check, of Pilatus PC–6 Airworthiness Limitations Document No. 02334, Revision 9, dated March 6, 2020.

For all airplanes specified in paragraph (c) of this AD, after revising the ALS as required by paragraphs (f)(1) and (2) of this AD, remove from service each part that has reached or exceeded its new life limit.

(g) Inspections and Replacement

(1) For airplanes with a bush part number (P/N) 6100.0020.01 that has been bonded as specified in Section 53–00–01, Fuselage Wing Fittings—Inspection/Check, of Pilatus PC–6 Aircraft Maintenance Manual Document No. 01975, Revision 29, dated February 28, 2020; or Appendix X, Fuselage Wing Fittings—Inspection/Check, of Pilatus PC–6 Airworthiness Limitations Document No. 02334, Revision 9, dated March 6, 2020; within 50 hours time-in-service (TIS) after the effective date of this AD, perform a visual and eddy current inspection of each fuselage wing fitting on fuselage Frame 3, and install a new (zero hours TIS) bush P/N 6100.0020.01 from service, and remove the bush P/N 6100.0020.01 from Frame 3 with grease by using the procedures specified in paragraph (f)(1)(i) or (f)(2)(i) of this AD, as applicable to your airplane.

(2) Unless already done, within 1,100 hours TIS after the effective date of this AD or within 12 months after the effective date of this AD, whichever occurs first, perform an eddy current inspection of each fuselage wing fitting and each wing-to-fuselage fitting at the intervals specified in the ALS identified in paragraph (f)(1)(i) or (f)(2)(i), as applicable to your airplane.

(h) No Alternative Actions or Intervals

After the ALS has been revised as required by paragraph (f) of this AD, no alternative inspection intervals or procedures may be approved, except as provided in paragraph (i) of this AD.

(i) Other FAA AD Provisions

Alternative Methods of Compliance (AMOCs): The Manager, International Validation Branch, FAA, has the authority to approve AMOCs for this AD, if requested using the procedures found in 14 CFR 39.19, Send your request to the person identified in Related Information. Before using any approved AMOC, notify your appropriate principal inspector, or lacking a principal inspection manager, the person listed in Appendix X, Fuselage Wing Fittings—Inspection/Check.

(j) Related Information


(2) For more information about this AD, contact Doug Rudolph, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, General Aviation & Rotorcraft Section, International Validation Branch, 901 Locust, Room 301, Kansas City, MO 64106; telephone: (816) 329–4058; fax: (816) 329–4090; email: doug.rudolph@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 this AD specifies otherwise.


(A) Section 57–00–03, Wing to Fuselage Fittings—Inspection/Check.

(B) [Reserved]


(A) Section 04–00–00, Airworthiness Limitations, of Chapter 04, Airworthiness Limitations.

(B) Section 53–00–01, Fuselage Wing Fittings—Inspection/Check.


(A) Appendix L, Wing to Fuselage Fittings—Inspection/Check.

(B) [Reserved]


(A) Airworthiness Limitations Section.

(B) Appendix K, Fuselage Wing Fittings—Inspection/Check.

(3) For service information identified in this AD, contact Pilatus Aircraft Ltd., Customer Support General Aviation, CH–6371 Stans, Switzerland; telephone: +41 848 24 7 365; email: techsupport@pilatusaircraft.com; website: https://www.pilatusaircraft.com/en.

(4) You may view this service information at the FAA, Airworthiness Products Section, Operational Safety Branch, 901 Locust, Kansas City, MO 64106. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call (816) 329–4149.

(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, email: fedreg.nara@nara.gov, or go to: https://www.archives.gov/federal-register/cfr/ibr-locations.html.

Issued on May 15, 2021.

Gaetano A. Sciortino,
Deputy Director for Strategic Initiatives, Compliance & Airworthiness Division, Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. 2021–11812 Filed 6–4–21; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–13–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39


RIN 2120–AA64

Airworthiness Directives; Leonardo S.p.a. Helicopters

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Final rule; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The FAA is adopting a new airworthiness directive (AD) for certain Leonardo S.p.a. Model AW169 helicopters. This AD was prompted by reports of failed nose landing gear (NLG) retraction actuators during the acceptance test procedures on the ground on the final assembly line. This AD requires depending on the helicopter configuration, various modifications, installation checks, inspections of the NLG and main landing gear (MLG) retraction actuators and of the plungers of the NLG and MLG up down lock actuators, and corrective actions if necessary. The FAA is issuing this AD to address the unsafe condition on these products.

DATES: This AD becomes effective June 22, 2021.

The Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference of a certain document listed in this AD as of June 22, 2021.

The FAA must receive comments on this AD by July 22, 2021.

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 https://www.regulations.gov. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

• Fax: (202) 493–2251.

• Mail: U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, 400 Seventh Street NW, Room W12–140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590.

Hand Delivery: Deliver to Mail address above between 9 a.m. and 5