Federal Aviation Administration, DOT

§ 35.40 Functional test.

(a) Fatigue limits must be established by tests, or analysis based on tests, for propeller:
   (1) Hubs.
   (2) Blades.
   (3) Blade retention components.
   (4) Components which are affected by fatigue loads and which are shown under §35.15 to have a fatigue failure mode leading to hazardous propeller effects.
   (b) The fatigue limits must take into account:
      (1) All known and reasonably foreseeable vibration and cyclic load patterns that are expected in service; and
      (2) Expected service deterioration, variations in material properties, manufacturing variations, and environmental effects.
   (c) A fatigue evaluation of the propeller must be conducted to show that hazardous propeller effects due to fatigue will be avoided throughout the intended operational life of the propeller on either:
      (1) The intended airplane by complying with §23.907 or §25.907 of this chapter, as applicable; or
      (2) A typical airplane.
   [Amdt. 35–8, 73 FR 63348, Oct. 24, 2008]

§ 35.38 Lightning strike.

The applicant must demonstrate, by tests, analysis based on tests, or experience on similar designs, that the propeller can withstand a lightning strike without causing a major or hazardous propeller effect. The limit to which the propeller has been qualified must be documented in the appropriate manuals. This section does not apply to fixed-pitch wood propellers of conventional design.
   [Amdt. 35–8, 73 FR 63348, Oct. 24, 2008]

§ 35.39 Endurance test.

Endurance tests on the propeller system must be made on a representative engine in accordance with paragraph (a) or (b) of this section, as applicable, without evidence of failure or malfunction.
   (a) Fixed-pitch and ground adjustable-pitch propellers must be subjected to one of the following tests:
      (1) A 50-hour flight test in level flight or in climb. The propeller must be operated at takeoff power and rated rotational speed during at least five hours of this flight test, and at not less than 90 percent of the rated rotational speed for the remainder of the 50 hours.
      (2) A 50-hour ground test at takeoff power and rated rotational speed.
   (b) Variable-pitch propellers must be subjected to one of the following tests:
      (1) A 110-hour endurance test that must include the following conditions:
         (i) Five hours at takeoff power and rotational speed.
         (ii) Fifty hours at maximum continuous power and rotational speed.
         (iii) Fifty hours, consisting of ten 5-hour cycles composed of:
            (A) Acceleration from idle.
            (B) Five minutes at takeoff power and rotational speed.
            (C) Deceleration.
            (D) Five minutes at idle.
      (2) The operation of the propeller throughout the engine endurance tests prescribed in part 33 of this chapter.
   (c) An analysis based on tests of propellers of similar design may be used in place of the tests of paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section.
   [Amdt. 35–8, 73 FR 63348, Oct. 24, 2008]

§ 35.40 Functional test.

The variable-pitch propeller system must be subjected to the applicable functional tests of this section. The same propeller system used in the endurance test (§35.39) must be used in the functional tests and must be driven by a representative engine on a test stand or on an airplane. The propeller must complete these tests without evidence of failure or malfunction. This test may be combined with the endurance test for accumulation of cycles.
   (a) Manually-controllable propellers. Five hundred representative flight cycles must be made across the range of pitch and rotational speed.
§ 35.41 Governing propellers. Fifteen hundred complete cycles must be made across the range of pitch and rotational speed.

(c) Feathering propellers. Fifty cycles of feather and unfeather operation must be made.

(d) Reversible-pitch propellers. Two hundred complete cycles of control must be made from lowest normal pitch to maximum reverse pitch. During each cycle, the propeller must run for 30 seconds at the maximum power and rotational speed selected by the applicant for maximum reverse pitch.

(e) An analysis based on tests of propellers of similar design may be used in place of the tests of this section.

[Amdt. 35–8, 73 FR 63349, Oct. 24, 2008]

§ 35.41 Overspeed and overtorque.

(a) When the applicant seeks approval of a transient maximum propeller overspeed, the applicant must demonstrate that the propeller is capable of further operation without maintenance action at the maximum propeller overspeed condition. This may be accomplished by:

(1) Performance of 20 runs, each of 30 seconds duration, at the maximum propeller overspeed condition; or

(2) Analysis based on test or service experience.

(b) When the applicant seeks approval of a transient maximum propeller overtorque, the applicant must demonstrate that the propeller is capable of further operation without maintenance action at the maximum propeller overtorque condition. This may be accomplished by:

(1) Performance of 20 runs, each of 30 seconds duration, at the maximum propeller overtorque condition; or

(2) Analysis based on test or service experience.

[Amdt. 35–8, 73 FR 63349, Oct. 24, 2008]

§ 35.42 Components of the propeller control system.

The applicant must demonstrate by tests, analysis based on tests, or service experience on similar components, that each propeller blade pitch control system component, including governors, pitch change assemblies, pitch locks, mechanical stops, and feathering system components, can withstand cyclic operation that simulates the normal load and pitch change travel to which the component would be subjected during the initially declared overhaul period or during a minimum of 1,000 hours of typical operation in service.

[Amdt. 35–8, 73 FR 63349, Oct. 24, 2008]

§ 35.43 Propeller hydraulic components.

Applicants must show by test, validated analysis, or both, that propeller components that contain hydraulic pressure and whose structural failure or leakage from a structural failure could cause a hazardous propeller effect demonstrate structural integrity by:

(a) A proof pressure test to 1.5 times the maximum operating pressure for one minute without permanent deformation or leakage that would prevent performance of the intended function.

(b) A burst pressure test to 2.0 times the maximum operating pressure for one minute without failure. Leakage is permitted and seals may be excluded from the test.

[Amdt. 35–8, 73 FR 63349, Oct. 24, 2008]

§ 35.45 [Reserved]

§ 35.47 [Reserved]

APPENDIX A TO PART 35—INSTRUCTIONS FOR CONTINUED AIRWORTHINESS

A35.1 General.

(a) This appendix specifies requirements for the preparation of Instructions for Continued Airworthiness as required by § 35.4.

(b) The Instructions for Continued Airworthiness for each propeller must include the Instructions for Continued Airworthiness for all propeller parts. If Instructions for Continued Airworthiness are not supplied by the propeller part manufacturer for a propeller part, the Instructions for Continued Airworthiness for the propeller must include the information essential to the continued airworthiness of the propeller.

(c) The applicant must submit to the FAA a program to show how changes to the Instructions for Continued Airworthiness made by the applicant or by the manufacturers of propeller parts will be distributed.