

RESTATEMENT OF ACTIONS REQUIRED BY AD 96-08-07, AMENDMENT 39-9573

(a) Within 10 days after May 23, 1996 (the effective date of AD 96-08-07, amendment 39-9573), revise the Limitations Section of the FAA-approved Airplane Flight Manual (AFM) to include the information contained in paragraph (a)(1) or (a)(2) of this AD, as applicable. This may be accomplished by inserting a copy of this AD in the AFM. The AFM limitation required by AD 94-21-07, amendment 39-9049, may be removed following accomplishment of the requirements of this paragraph.

(1) For airplanes on which the flight control computers (FCC) have not been modified in accordance with the requirements of paragraph (b) of this AD:

“Overriding the autopilot (AP) in pitch axis does not cancel the AP autotrim when LAND TRACK mode [green LAND on both Flight Mode Annunciators (FMA)] or GO-AROUND mode is engaged. In these modes, if the pilot counteracts the AP, the autotrim will trim against pilot input. This could lead to a severe out-of-trim situation in a critical phase of flight.”

(2) For airplanes on which the FCC's have been modified in accordance with the requirements of paragraph (b) of this AD:

“Overriding the autopilot (AP) in pitch axis does not cancel the AP autotrim when LAND TRACK mode (green LAND on both FMA's) is engaged, or GO-AROUND mode is engaged below 400 feet radio altitude (RA). In these modes, if the pilot counteracts the AP, the autotrim will trim against pilot input. This could lead to a severe out-of-trim situation in a critical phase of flight.”

RESTATEMENT OF ACTIONS REQUIRED BY AD 94-21-07, AMENDMENT 39-9049

(b) For airplanes equipped with FCC's having either part number (P/N) B470ABM1 (for Model A310 series airplanes) or B470AAM1 (for Model A300-600 series airplanes): Within 60 days after November 2, 1994 (the effective date of AD 94-21-07, amendment 39-9049), modify the FCC's in accordance with Airbus Service Bulletin A310-22-2036, dated December 14, 1993 (for Model A310 series airplanes), or Airbus Service Bulletin A300-22-6021, Revision 1, dated December 24, 1993 (for Model A300-600 series airplanes), as applicable.

(c) As of November 2, 1994, no person shall install a FCC having either P/N B470ABM1 or B470AAM1 on any airplane.

RESTATEMENT OF ACTIONS REQUIRED BY AD 97-18-09, AMENDMENT 39-10119

(d) For airplanes on which Modification No. 11454 [reference Airbus Service Bulletin A310-22-2044, Revision 1 (for Model A310 series airplanes) or Airbus Service Bulletin A300-22-6032, Revision 1 (for Model A300-600 series airplanes)] has not been installed: Accomplish paragraphs (d)(1), (d)(2)(i), and (d)(2)(ii) of this AD.

(1) Within 24 months after October 3, 1997 (the effective date of AD 97-18-09, amendment 39-10119), modify the autopilot in accordance with Airbus Service Bulletin A310-22-2044, Revision 1, dated January 8, 1997 (for Model A310 series airplanes), or Service Bulletin A300-22-6032, Revision 1, dated January 8, 1997 (for Model A300-600

series airplanes), as applicable. The requirements of paragraph (a) of AD 95-25-09, amendment 39-9455, if applicable, must be accomplished prior to or at the same time the requirements of this paragraph are accomplished.

(2) Prior to further flight following accomplishment of paragraph (d)(1) of this AD:

(i) Remove the AFM revisions required by paragraph (a) of this AD; and

(ii) Perform an operational test of this autopilot disconnect feature to determine that it operates properly, in accordance with Airbus Service Bulletin A310-22-2047, dated July 16, 1996 (for Model A310 series airplanes), or Service Bulletin A300-22-6035, dated July 16, 1996 (for Model A300-600 series airplanes), as applicable. If any discrepancy is detected, prior to further flight, repair it in accordance with the applicable service bulletin. Repeat this test thereafter at intervals not to exceed 18 months.

NEW ACTIONS REQUIRED BY THIS AD

(e) For airplanes on which Modification No. 11454 was installed during production: Within 18 months after the date of manufacture of the airplane, or within 6 months after the effective date of this AD, whichever occurs later, accomplish the actions specified in paragraph (d)(2)(ii) of this AD.

(f) An alternative method of compliance or adjustment of the compliance time that provides an acceptable level of safety may be used if approved by the Manager, International Branch, ANM-116, FAA, Transport Airplane Directorate. Operators shall submit their requests through an appropriate FAA Principal Maintenance Inspector, who may add comments and then send it to the Manager, International Branch, ANM-116.

Note 2: Information concerning the existence of approved alternative methods of compliance with this AD, if any, may be obtained from the International Branch, ANM-116.

(g) Special flight permits may be issued in accordance with sections 21.197 and 21.199 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR 21.197 and 21.199) to operate the airplane to a location where the requirements of this AD can be accomplished.

Note 3: The subject of this AD is addressed in French airworthiness directive 97-373-237(B), dated December 3, 1997.

Issued in Renton, Washington, on May 27, 1998.

Darrell M. Pederson,

Acting Manager, Transport Airplane Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service.
[FR Doc. 98-14610 Filed 6-2-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. 97-NM-128-AD]

RIN 2120-AA64

Airworthiness Directives; British Aerospace Model BAe 146 and Model Avro 146-RJ Series Airplanes

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM).

SUMMARY: This document proposes the adoption of a new airworthiness directive (AD) that is applicable to all British Aerospace Model BAe 146 and certain Model Avro 146-RJ series airplanes. This proposal would require a one-time inspection for “drill marks” and corrosion on the underside of the wing top skin, and corrective actions, if necessary. This proposal is prompted by issuance of mandatory continuing airworthiness information by a foreign civil airworthiness authority. The actions specified by the proposed AD are intended to prevent corrosion from developing on the underside of the top skin of the center wing, which could result in reduced structural integrity of the airplane.

DATES: Comments must be received by July 6, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments in triplicate to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Transport Airplane Directorate, ANM-114, *Attention:* Rules Docket No. 97-NM-128-AD, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington 98055-4056. Comments may be inspected at this location between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

The service information referenced in the proposed rule may be obtained from AI(R) American Support, Inc., 13850 Mclearen Road, Herndon, Virginia 20171. This information may be examined at the FAA, Transport Airplane Directorate, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Norman B. Martenson, Manager, International Branch, ANM-116, FAA, Transport Airplane Directorate, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington 98055-4056; telephone (425) 227-2110; fax (425) 227-1149.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Comments Invited

Interested persons are invited to participate in the making of the proposed rule by submitting such written data, views, or arguments as they may desire. Communications shall identify the Rules Docket number and be submitted in triplicate to the address specified above. All communications received on or before the closing date for comments, specified above, will be considered before taking action on the proposed rule. The proposals contained in this notice may be changed in light of the comments received.

Comments are specifically invited on the overall regulatory, economic, environmental, and energy aspects of the proposed rule. All comments submitted will be available, both before and after the closing date for comments, in the Rules Docket for examination by interested persons. A report summarizing each FAA-public contact concerned with the substance of this proposal will be filed in the Rules Docket.

Commenters wishing the FAA to acknowledge receipt of their comments submitted in response to this notice must submit a self-addressed, stamped postcard on which the following statement is made: "Comments to Docket Number 97-NM-128-AD." The postcard will be date stamped and returned to the commenter.

Availability of NPRMs

Any person may obtain a copy of this NPRM by submitting a request to the FAA, Transport Airplane Directorate, ANM-114, Attention: Rules Docket No. 97-NM-128-AD, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington 98055-4056.

Discussion

The Civil Aviation Authority (CAA), which is the airworthiness authority for the United Kingdom, notified the FAA that an unsafe condition may exist on all British Aerospace BAe 146 and certain Model Avro 146-RJ series airplanes. The CAA advises that, the manufacturer randomly selected 10 production airplanes for inspection; all of these airplanes were found to have "drill marks" on the underside of the wing top skin inside the closed section stringers, at Rib 0 and Rib 2. The CAA further advises that the "drill marks" were made during the assembly of the stringer crown dagger fittings, and can impair the protective treatment of the skin, which protects the underside of the wing from exfoliation corrosion. This condition, if not corrected, could result in corrosion developing on the underside of the top skin of the center

wing, and consequent reduced structural integrity of the airplane.

Explanation of Relevant Service Information

The manufacturer has issued British Aerospace Service Bulletin SB. 57-50, Revision 2, dated March 20, 1997, which describes procedures for repetitive intrascope inspections of the underside of the wing top skin inside the closed section stringers at Rib 0 and Rib 2 to detect the presence of "drill marks" and corrosion, and corrective actions, if necessary. Corrective actions include degreasing and applying protective treatment coating, which will restore the corrosion protection. The service bulletin indicates that application of the protective treatment coating would eliminate the need for repetitive inspections. Accomplishment of the actions specified in the service bulletin is intended to adequately address the identified unsafe condition. The CAA classified this service bulletin as mandatory and issued British airworthiness directive 004-12-96 in order to assure the continued airworthiness of these airplanes in the United Kingdom.

FAA's Conclusions

These airplane models are manufactured in the United Kingdom and are type certificated for operation in the United States under the provisions of section 21.29 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR 21.29) and the applicable bilateral airworthiness agreement. Pursuant to this bilateral airworthiness agreement, the CAA has kept the FAA informed of the situation described above. The FAA has examined the findings of the CAA, reviewed all available information, and determined that AD action is necessary for products of this type design that are certificated for operation in the United States.

Explanation of Requirements of Proposed Rule

Since an unsafe condition has been identified that is likely to exist or develop on other airplanes of the same type design registered in the United States, the proposed AD would require accomplishment of the actions specified in the service bulletin described previously, except as discussed below.

Differences Between the Proposed Rule and Service Bulletin

Operators should note that, although the service bulletin described previously provides for repetitive inspections, this proposed AD would require the application of protective

treatment coating, following a one-time inspection for "drill marks" and corrosion. Accomplishment of this application eliminates the need for the repetitive inspection. The FAA has determined that long-term inspections may not be providing the degree of safety assurance necessary for the transport airplane fleet. This, along with the understanding of the human factors associated with numerous continual inspections, has led the FAA to consider placing less emphasis on inspections and more emphasis on the corrective actions. This proposed requirement is in consonance with these conditions.

Additionally, operators should note that, although the service bulletin specifies that the manufacturer be contacted for disposition of repair if any corrosion is detected, this proposal would require repair of any corrosion to be accomplished in accordance with a method approved by the FAA before applying protective treatment coating.

Cost Impact

The FAA estimates that 40 airplanes of U.S. registry would be affected by this proposed AD, that it would take approximately 10 work hours per airplane to accomplish the proposed inspection, and that the average labor rate is \$60 per work hour. Based on these figures, the cost impact of the inspection proposed by this AD on U.S. operators is estimated to be \$24,000, or \$600 per airplane.

The cost impact figure discussed above is based on assumptions that no operator has yet accomplished any of the proposed requirements of this AD action, and that no operator would accomplish those actions in the future if this AD were not adopted.

Regulatory Impact

The regulations proposed herein would not have substantial direct effects 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. Therefore, in accordance with Executive Order 12612, it is determined that this proposal would not have sufficient federalism implications to warrant the preparation of a Federalism Assessment.

For the reasons discussed above, I certify that 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 (44 FR 11034, February 26, 1979); and (3) if promulgated, 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. A copy of the draft regulatory evaluation prepared for this action is contained in the Rules Docket. A copy of it may be obtained by contacting the Rules Docket at the location provided under the caption ADDRESSES.

List of Subjects in 14 CFR Part 39

Air transportation, Aircraft, Aviation safety, Safety.

The Proposed Amendment

Accordingly, pursuant to the authority delegated to me by the Administrator, the Federal Aviation Administration proposes to amend part 39 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (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. Section 39.13 is amended by adding the following new airworthiness directive:

British Aerospace Regional Aircraft

(Formerly British Aerospace Regional Aircraft Limited, Avro International Aerospace Division; British Aerospace, PLC; British Aerospace Commercial Aircraft Limited): Docket 97–NM–128–AD.

Applicability: All Model BAe 146 series airplanes; and Model Avro 146–RJ series airplanes, as listed in British Aerospace Service Bulletin SB.57–50, Revision 2, dated March 20, 1997; certificated in any category.

Note 1: This AD applies to each airplane identified in the preceding applicability provision, regardless of whether it has been modified, altered, or repaired in the area subject to the requirements of this AD. For airplanes that have been modified, altered, or repaired so that the performance of the requirements of this AD is affected, the owner/operator must request approval for an alternative method of compliance in accordance with paragraph (b) of this AD. The request should include an assessment of the effect of the modification, alteration, or repair on the unsafe condition addressed by this AD; and, if the unsafe condition has not been eliminated, the request should include specific proposed actions to address it.

Compliance: Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously.

To prevent corrosion from developing on the underside of the top skin of the center wing, which could result in reduced structural integrity of the airplane, accomplish the following:

(a) Within 2 years after the effective date of this AD, perform a one-time intrascopic inspection for “drill marks” and corrosion on the underside of the wing top skin, in

accordance with British Aerospace Service Bulletin SB.57–50, Revision 2, dated March 20, 1997.

(1) If no “drill mark” or corrosion is detected, no further action is required by this AD.

(2) If any “drill mark” is detected, prior to further flight, apply protective treatment coating, in accordance with the service bulletin.

(3) If any corrosion is detected, prior to further flight, repair in accordance with a method approved by the Manager, International Branch, ANM–116, FAA, Transport Directorate; and apply protective treatment coating in accordance with the service bulletin.

(b) An alternative method of compliance or adjustment of the compliance time that provides an acceptable level of safety may be used if approved by the Manager, International Branch, ANM–116. Operators shall submit their requests through an appropriate FAA Principal Maintenance Inspector, who may add comments and then send it to the Manager, International Branch, ANM–116.

Note 2: Information concerning the existence of approved alternative methods of compliance with this AD, if any, may be obtained from the International Branch, ANM–116.

(c) Special flight permits may be issued in accordance with sections 21.197 and 21.199 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR 21.197 and 21.199) to operate the airplane to a location where the requirements of this AD can be accomplished.

Note 3: The subject of this AD is addressed in British airworthiness directive 004–12–96. Issued in Renton, Washington, on May 27, 1998.

Darrell M. Pederson,

Acting Manager, Transport Airplane Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service.
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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. 97–CE–52–AD]

RIN 2120–AA64

Airworthiness Directives; Industrie Aeronautiche e Meccaniche Model Piaggio P–180 Airplanes

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Proposed rule; withdrawal.

SUMMARY: This document withdraws a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) (62 FR 48502, September 16, 1997) that would have applied to certain Industrie Aeronautiche e Meccaniche (I.A.M.) Model Piaggio P–180 airplanes. The proposed action would have required

revising the FAA-approved Airplane Flight Manual (AFM) to specify procedures that would prohibit flight in severe icing conditions (as determined by certain visual cues), limit or prohibit the use of various flight control devices while in severe icing conditions, and provide the flight crew with recognition cues for, and procedures for exiting from, severe icing conditions. During the comment period of this NPRM, the FAA was notified that this airplane model does not have a pneumatic de-icing system, therefore, the proposed action would not apply. With this in mind, the FAA has determined that the proposed rule should be withdrawn. This withdrawal does not prevent the FAA from initiating future rulemaking on this subject.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John Dow, Aerospace Engineer, FAA, Small Airplane Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service, 1201 Walnut, suite 900, Kansas City, Missouri, 64106; telephone: (816) 426–6934; facsimile (816) 426–2169.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Events Leading to This Action

A proposal to amend part 39 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR part 39) to include an AD that would apply to certain I.A.M. Model Piaggio P–180 airplanes of the same type design that are registered in the United States was published in the **Federal Register** on September 16, 1997 (62 FR 48502). The action proposed to require revising the Limitations Section of the FAA-approved AFM to specify procedures that would:

- require flight crews to immediately request priority handling from Air Traffic Control to exit severe icing conditions (as determined by certain visual cues);
- prohibit use of the autopilot when ice is formed aft of the protected surfaces of the wing, or when an unusual lateral trim condition exists; and
- require that all icing wing inspection lights be operative prior to flight into known or forecast icing conditions at night.

This proposed AD would also require revising the Normal Procedures Section of the FAA-approved AFM to specify procedures that would:

- limit the use of the flaps and prohibit the use of the autopilot when ice is observed forming aft of the protected surfaces of the wing, or if unusual lateral trim requirements or autopilot trim warnings are encountered; and