

applicable times specified in paragraphs (b)(1) and (b)(2) of this AD.

(d) If corrosion is found during any inspection required by paragraph (b) of this AD, prior to further flight, repair in accordance with Airbus Service Bulletin A300-53-6022, dated February 4, 1991. Thereafter, perform the repetitive inspections required by paragraph (b) of this AD at the applicable times specified in paragraphs (d)(1) or (d)(2) of this AD.

(1) For the upper and lower edges of the fail-safe ring and the upper edges of the corner doubler of the aft passenger/crew doors, and for the mid passenger/crew door: Inspect at intervals not to exceed 5 years or 5,000 landings, whichever occurs first.

(2) For the forward passenger/crew doors and bulk cargo doors: Inspect at intervals not to exceed 5 years.

(e) Perform an inspection to detect cracking of the holes of the corner doublers, the fail-safe ring, and the door frames of the left- and right-hand forward, mid, and aft passenger/crew door structures, in accordance with Airbus Service Bulletin A300-53-6018, Revision 1, dated April 29, 1992, and at the applicable time specified in paragraph (e)(1), (e)(2), (e)(3), or (e)(4) of this AD.

(1) For the upper corners of the forward doors: Inspect prior to the accumulation of 20,000 total landings, or within 2,000 landings after the effective date of this AD, whichever occurs later.

(2) For the lower corners of the forward doors: Inspect prior to the accumulation of 20,000 total landings, or within 4,000 landings after the effective date of this AD, whichever occurs later.

(3) For the upper and lower corners of the mid doors: Inspect prior to the accumulation of 20,000 total landings, or within 2,000 landings after the effective date of this AD, whichever occurs later.

(4) For the upper and lower corners of the aft doors, and for the parts underneath the corners of the upper door frames: Inspect prior to the accumulation of 20,000 total landings, or within 4,000 landings after the effective date of this AD, whichever occurs later.

(f) Repeat the inspections required by paragraph (e) of this AD at the applicable times specified in paragraphs (f)(1), (f)(2), (f)(3), (f)(4), and (f)(5).

(1) For the upper corners of the forward doors: Inspect at intervals not to exceed 6,000 landings.

(2) For the lower corners of the forward doors: Inspect at intervals not to exceed 10,000 landings.

(3) For the upper and lower corners of the mid and aft doors on which an inspection required by paragraph (e) of this AD was accomplished using a Roto test technique: Inspect at intervals not to exceed 8,000 landings.

(4) For the upper and lower corners of the mid and aft doors on which an inspection required by paragraph (e) of this AD was accomplished using an X-ray technique: Inspect at intervals not to exceed 3,500 landings.

(5) For the areas around the fasteners in the vicinity of stringer 12 on the upper door frames of the aft doors on which an inspection required by paragraph (e) of this AD was accomplished using a visual technique: Inspect at intervals not to exceed 6,900 landings.

(g) If any crack is found during any inspection required by paragraph (e) or (f) of this AD: Prior to further flight, accomplish the requirement of paragraph (g)(1) or (g)(2) of this AD, as applicable.

(1) If any crack is found, and the crack can be eliminated using the method specified in Airbus Service Bulletin A300-53-6018, Revision 1, dated April 29, 1992: Prior to

further flight, repair the crack in accordance with that service bulletin.

(2) If any crack is found, and the crack cannot be eliminated using the method specified in Airbus Service Bulletin A300-53-6018, Revision 1, dated April 29, 1992: Prior to further flight, repair the crack in accordance with a method approved by the Manager, International Branch, ANM-116, FAA, Transport Airplane Directorate.

(h) Modification of the passenger/crew door frames in accordance with Airbus Service Bulletin A300-53-6002, Revision 3, dated February 22, 1992, constitutes terminating action for the repetitive inspections required by paragraph (f) of this AD.

(i) 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.

(j) 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.

(k) Except as provided by paragraph (g)(2) of this AD, the actions shall be done in accordance with the following Airbus service bulletins, which contain the specified list of effective pages:

Service bulletin referenced and date	Page number shown on page	Revision level shown on page	Date shown on page
A300-53-6022, February 4, 1991	1-15	Original	February 4, 1991.
A300-53-6002, Revision 3, February 22, 1992	1-2, 56, 67-68	3	February 22, 1992.
	3-26, 31-55, 57-66	1	February 4, 1991.
	27-30	2	May 6, 1991.
A300-53-6011, Revision 3, February 4, 1991	1-17	3	February 4, 1991.
A300-53-6018, Revision 1, April 29, 1992	1, 3-4, 9-14, 17, 24, 31-34, 36, 50, 2, 5-8, 15-16, 18-23, 25-30, 35, 37-49, 51-65.	1	April 29, 1992.
		Original	February 4, 1991.

This incorporation by reference was approved by the Director of the Federal Register in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 1 CFR part 51. Copies may be obtained from Airbus Industrie, 1 Rond Point Maurice Bellonte, 31707 Blagnac Cedex, France. Copies may be inspected at the FAA, Transport Airplane Directorate, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington; or at the Office of the Federal Register, 800 North Capitol Street, NW., suite 700, Washington, DC.

Note 3: The subject of this AD is addressed in French airworthiness directive 91-132-124(B), dated June 26, 1991, as amended by a Correction, dated August 21, 1991.

(l) This amendment becomes effective on September 4, 1998.

Issued in Renton, Washington, on July 24, 1998.

D.L. Riggan,

Acting Manager, Transport Airplane Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. 98-20337 Filed 7-30-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-U

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. 97-NM-52-AD; Amendment 39-10683; AD 98-16-07]

RIN 2120-AA64

Airworthiness Directives; Boeing Model 767 Series Airplanes

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This amendment adopts a new airworthiness directive (AD), applicable to certain Boeing Model 767 series airplanes, that requires repetitive inspections to detect corrosion or plating cracks of the pin assemblies in the forward trunnion support of the main landing gear (MLG), and replacement of the pin assembly with a new assembly, if necessary. Such replacement, if accomplished, constitutes terminating action for the repetitive inspections. This amendment is prompted by reports indicating that these pin assemblies were found to have corroded as a result of plating cracks. The actions specified by this AD are intended to detect and correct such corrosion and plating cracks, which could cause breakage of these assemblies, and consequent collapse of the MLG.

DATES: Effective September 4, 1998.

The incorporation by reference of certain publications listed in the regulations is approved by the Director of the Federal Register as of September 4, 1998.

ADDRESSES: The service information referenced in this AD may be obtained from Boeing Commercial Airplane Group, P.O. Box 3707, Seattle, Washington 98124-2207. This information may be examined at the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Transport Airplane Directorate, Rules Docket, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington; or at the Office of the Federal Register, 800 North Capitol Street, NW., suite 700, Washington, DC.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: James G. Rehr, Aerospace Engineer, Airframe Branch, ANM-120S, FAA, Seattle Aircraft Certification Office, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington; telephone (425) 227-2783; fax (425) 227-1181.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: A proposal to amend part 39 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR part 39) to include an airworthiness directive (AD) that is applicable to certain Boeing Model 767 series airplanes was published in the *Federal Register* on July 22, 1997 (62 FR 39195). That action proposed to require repetitive inspections to detect corrosion or plating cracks of the pin assemblies in the forward trunnion support of the main landing gear (MLG), and replacement of the pin assembly with a new assembly, if necessary. Such replacement, if accomplished, would constitute terminating action for the repetitive inspections.

Comments

Interested persons have been afforded an opportunity to participate in the making of this amendment. Due consideration has been given to the comments received.

Two commenters support the proposed rule.

One commenter generally supports the proposed rule, but expresses concern regarding the planned compliance time in the proposed AD for installation of new fuse pins. The commenter notes that it currently plans to install new fuse pins on its entire fleet of airplanes by April 2003, concurrent with scheduled gear changes. If the proposed AD requires installation of fuse pins in a shorter time period, additional maintenance costs will be incurred by this operator.

Although no specific request is made by this commenter, the FAA infers that the commenter believes the installation of improved fuse pins to be a required action in the proposed AD. However, the proposed AD does not require installation of the improved fuse pins unless corrosion or cracking is detected, although such installation is provided as an optional terminating action for the repetitive inspection requirements of this AD. In light of this, the FAA has determined that no change to the final rule is necessary.

Conclusion

After careful review of the available data, including the comments noted above, the FAA has determined that air safety and the public interest require the adoption of the rule as proposed.

Cost Impact

There are approximately 562 Boeing Model 767 series airplanes of the affected design in the worldwide fleet. The FAA estimates that 151 airplanes of U.S. registry will be affected by this AD, that it will take approximately 65 work hours per airplane to accomplish the required actions, and that the average labor rate is \$60 per work hour. Based on these figures, the cost impact of the AD on U.S. operators is estimated to be \$588,900, or \$3,900 per airplane, per inspection cycle.

The cost impact figure discussed above is based on assumptions that no operator has yet accomplished any of the 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 adopted herein will 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 final rule does not have sufficient federalism implications to warrant the preparation of a Federalism Assessment.

For the reasons discussed above, I certify that this action (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); 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. A final evaluation has been prepared for this action and it is contained in the Rules Docket. A copy of it may be obtained from the Rules Docket at the location provided under the caption **ADDRESSES**.

List of Subjects in 14 CFR Part 39

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

Adoption of the Amendment

Accordingly, pursuant to the authority delegated to me by the Administrator, the Federal Aviation Administration amends 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:

98-16-07 Boeing: Amendment 39-10683. Docket 97-NM-52-AD.

Applicability: Model 767 series airplanes having line positions 1 through 562 inclusive, 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 (e) 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 detect and correct corrosion or plating cracks of the pin assemblies in the front trunnion support of the main landing gear (MLG), which could cause these assemblies to break and result in collapse of the MLG, accomplish the following:

(a) Perform a close visual inspection to detect corrosion or plating cracks of each 4330M Steel pin assembly in the forward trunnion support of the MLG, in accordance with Boeing Alert Service Bulletin 767-57A0047, Revision 1, dated May 9, 1996, at the later of the times specified in paragraphs (a)(1) and (a)(2) of this AD.

(1) Within 4 years since date of manufacture of the airplane, or 4 years since the last overhaul of the MLG. Or

(2) Within 18 months after the effective date of this AD.

(b) If no corrosion or crack is detected, repeat the close visual inspection thereafter at intervals not to exceed 48 months.

(c) If any corrosion or crack is detected, prior to further flight, replace it with a new pin assembly made from 15-5PH CRES with Class 3 chrome plating, in accordance with Boeing Alert Service Bulletin 767-57A0047, Revision 1, dated May 9, 1996.

(d) Accomplishment of replacement of a 4330M Steel pin assembly with a new pin assembly made from 15-5PH CRES with Class 3 chrome plating, in accordance with Boeing Alert Service Bulletin 767-57A0047, Revision 1, dated May 9, 1996, constitutes terminating action for the inspections required by this AD for that pin location.

Note 2: Replacement of a 4330M Steel pin assembly with a new pin assembly made from 15-5PH CRES with Class 3 chrome plating prior to the effective date of this AD, in accordance with Boeing Service Bulletin 767-57A0047, dated January 19, 1995, is considered an acceptable method of compliance with paragraph (d) of this AD for that pin location.

(e) 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, Seattle Aircraft Certification Office (ACO), 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, Seattle ACO.

Note 3: Information concerning the existence of approved alternative methods of compliance with this AD, if any, may be obtained from the Seattle ACO.

(f) 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.

(g) The inspections and replacement shall be done in accordance with Boeing Alert Service Bulletin 767-57A0047, Revision 1, dated May 9, 1996. This incorporation by reference was approved by the Director of the

Federal Register in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 1 CFR part 51. Copies may be obtained from Boeing Commercial Airplane Group, P.O. Box 3707, Seattle, Washington 98124-2207. Copies may be inspected at the FAA, Transport Airplane Directorate, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington; or at the Office of the Federal Register, 800 North Capitol Street, NW., suite 700, Washington, DC.

(h) This amendment becomes effective on September 4, 1998.

Issued in Renton, Washington, on July 24, 1998.

S.R. Miller,

Acting Manager, Transport Airplane Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. 98-20340 Filed 7-30-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. 98-NM-116-AD; Amendment 39-10687; AD 98-16-11]

RIN 2120-AA64

Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Model A300, A310, and A300-600 Series Airplanes

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This amendment adopts a new airworthiness directive (AD), applicable to certain Airbus Model A300, A310, and A300-600 series airplanes, that requires repetitive detailed visual inspections to detect cracks in the pylon thrust and sideload fitting of the wing, and replacement of any cracked pylon thrust and sideload fitting with a new fitting. This amendment is prompted by issuance of mandatory continuing airworthiness information by a foreign civil airworthiness authority. The actions specified by this AD are intended to detect and correct cracks in the pylon thrust and sideload fitting of the wing, which could result in reduced structural integrity of the airplane.

DATES: Effective September 4, 1998.

The incorporation by reference of certain publications listed in the regulations is approved by the Director of the Federal Register as of September 4, 1998.

ADDRESSES: The service information referenced in this AD may be obtained from Airbus Industrie, 1 Rond Point Maurice Bellonte, 31707 Blagnac Cedex, France. This information may be examined at the Federal Aviation

Administration (FAA), Transport Airplane Directorate, Rules Docket, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington; or at the Office of the Federal Register, 800 North Capitol Street, NW., suite 700, Washington, DC.

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: A proposal to amend part 39 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR part 39) to include an airworthiness directive (AD) that is applicable to certain Airbus Model A300, A310, and A300-600 series airplanes was published in the **Federal Register** on May 28, 1998 (63 FR 29153). That action proposed to require repetitive detailed visual inspections to detect cracks in the pylon thrust and sideload fitting of the wing, and replacement of any cracked pylon thrust and sideload fitting with a new fitting.

Comments

Interested persons have been afforded an opportunity to participate in the making of this amendment. Due consideration has been given to the single comment received.

The commenter supports the proposed rule.

Conclusion

After careful review of the available data, including the comment noted above, the FAA has determined that air safety and the public interest require the adoption of the rule as proposed.

Cost Impact

The FAA estimates that 126 airplanes of U.S. registry will be affected by this AD, that it will take approximately 3 work hours per airplane to accomplish the required inspection, and that the average labor rate is \$60 per work hour. Based on these figures, the cost impact of the AD on U.S. operators is estimated to be \$22,680, or \$180 per airplane, per inspection cycle.

The cost impact figure discussed above is based on assumptions that no operator has yet accomplished any of the 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 adopted herein will not have substantial direct effects on the States, on the relationship between the national government and the States, or