

- Remove the aft engine mount link assembly from service, and
- Replace with serviceable parts.

Attaching Hardware

(iii) Attaching hardware may be returned to service after inspection in accordance with paragraph 3(I)(1)(d) or 3(I)(2)(d) of GE CF6-80C2 ASB 72-A0964, Revision 2, dated January 24, 2000, as applicable, only if visual inspection of the removed link shows no cracks or separations.

Note 2: Link attaching hardware include the nuts, bolts and washers that secure the link.

Repetitive Inspections

(b) Thereafter, perform the actions required by paragraph (a) and associated subparagraphs at intervals not to exceed 400 CSLI.

Replacement With Improved Link Assemblies

(c) Replace aft engine mount link assemblies with improved aft engine mount link assemblies at:

- The next engine shop visit (ESV), or
- Prior to accumulating 29,000 engine cycles since new (CSN), whichever occurs first.

(1) Replace in accordance with the Accomplishment Instructions of CF6-80C2 ASB 72-A0989, dated January 19, 2000.

Left Hand Aft Engine Mount Link Assemblies

(2) Replace left-hand aft engine mount link assemblies, P/Ns 9348M79G01 or 9348M79G02, with improved left-hand aft engine mount link assemblies, P/N 1846M23G01.

Right Hand Aft Engine Mount Link Assemblies

(3) Replace right hand aft engine mount link assemblies, P/Ns 9348M84G01 or 9348M84G02, with improved right hand aft engine mount link assemblies, P/N 9348M84G03.

Terminating Action

(4) Installation of improved aft engine mount link assemblies in accordance with paragraph (c) and its subparagraphs constitutes terminating action to the inspections required by paragraphs (a) and (b) of this AD.

Alternate Methods of Compliance

(d) 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, Engine Certification Office. Operators shall submit their requests through an appropriate FAA Principal Maintenance Inspector, who may add comments and then send it to the Manager, Engine Certification Office.

Note 3: Information concerning the existence of approved alternative methods of compliance with this airworthiness directive, if any, may be obtained from the Engine Certification Office.

Ferry Flights

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

Issued in Burlington, Massachusetts, on February 15, 2000.

David A. Downey,

Assistant Manager, Engine and Propeller Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. 00-4263 Filed 2-22-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-U

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. 99-SW-36-AD]

Airworthiness Directives; Eurocopter France Model AS350B, BA, B1, B2, B3, D, and AS355E, F, F1, F2, and N Helicopters

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 Eurocopter France Model AS350B, BA, B1, B2, B3, D, and AS355E, F, F1, F2, and N helicopters. This proposal would require replacing certain circuit breakers. This proposal is prompted by the discovery of the loss of electrical continuity between the terminals of an installed circuit breaker. The actions specified by the proposed AD are intended to prevent loss of electrical power to the emergency flotation gear or other optional installations and subsequent loss of the helicopter emergency flotation capability.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before April 24, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments in triplicate to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Office of the Regional Counsel, Southwest Region, Attention: Rules Docket No. 99-SW-36-AD, 2601 Meacham Blvd., Room 663, Fort Worth, Texas 76137. Comments may be inspected at this location between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

The service information referenced in the proposed rule may be obtained from American Eurocopter Corporation, 2701 Forum Drive, Grand Prairie, Texas 75053-4005, telephone (972) 641-3460, fax (972) 641-3527. This information

may be examined at the FAA, Office of the Regional Counsel, Southwest Region, 2601 Meacham Blvd., Room 663, Fort Worth, Texas.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Carroll Wright, Aerospace Engineer, FAA, Rotorcraft Directorate, Rotorcraft Standards Staff, 2601 Meacham Blvd., Fort Worth, Texas 76137, telephone (817) 222-5120, fax (817) 222-5961.

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 should 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 No. 99-SW-36-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, Office of the Regional Counsel, Southwest Region, Attention: Rules Docket No. 99-SW-36-AD, 2601 Meacham Blvd., Room 663, Fort Worth, Texas 76137.

Discussion

The Direction Generale De L'Aviation Civile (DGAC), which is the airworthiness authority for France, notified the FAA that an unsafe condition may exist on Eurocopter France Model AS350B, BA, B1, B2, B3, D, and AS355E, F, F1, F2, and N helicopters. The DGAC advises of the

loss of electrical continuity on certain single-pole circuit breakers.

Eurocopter France has issued Service Bulletin No. 01.00.44, applicable to Model AS355E, F, F1, F2, and N helicopters and Service Bulletin No. 01.00.47, applicable to Model AS350B, BA, B1, B2, B3, and D helicopters. Both service bulletins are dated November 10, 1998, and specify inspecting Crouzet single-pole circuit breakers, part number (P/N) 84 400 028 or P/N 84 400 031 through P/N 84 400 036, installed as part of the emergency flotation gear or other optional installations. The service bulletins also specify replacing any circuit breaker that is not operating properly and replacing all affected circuit breakers at the next "T" inspection or 6 months, whichever occurs first. The DGAC classified these service bulletins as mandatory and issued AD 98-510-055(A) and AD 98-511-074(A), both dated December 16, 1998, in order to assure the continued airworthiness of these helicopters in France.

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

Since an unsafe condition has been identified that is likely to exist or develop on other Eurocopter France Model AS350B, BA, B1, B2, B3, D, and AS355E, F, F1, F2, and N helicopters of the same type designs registered in the United States, the proposed AD would require the following:

- Inspecting Crouzet single-pole circuit breakers, P/N 84 400 028, or P/N 84 400 031 through P/N 84 400 036, installed as part of the emergency flotation gear or other optional installations, for proper operation. Replacing any Crouzet single-pole circuit breaker that is not operating properly with an airworthy circuit breaker.
- Replacing all Crouzet single-pole circuit breakers, P/N 84 400 028, or P/N 84 400 031 through P/N 84 400 036 with airworthy circuit breakers would be required on or before July 1, 2000.

The actions would be required to be accomplished in accordance with the service bulletins described previously.

The FAA estimates that 150 helicopters of U.S. registry would be affected by this proposed AD, that it would take approximately 0.25 work hours per helicopter to replace the circuit breakers, and that the average labor rate is \$60 per work hour. Required parts would cost approximately \$23 per helicopter. Based on these figures, the total cost impact of the proposed AD on U.S. operators is estimated to be \$5,700, assuming the replacement of 150 circuit breakers.

The regulations proposed herein would not have a substantial direct effect 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, it is determined that this proposal would not have federalism implications under Executive Order 13132.

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 a new airworthiness directive to read as follows:

Eurocopter France: Docket No. 99-SW-36-AD.

Applicability: Model AS350B, BA, B1, B2, B3, D, and AS355E, F, F1, F2, and N helicopters, with Crouzet single-pole circuit breaker, part numbers (P/N) 84 400 028, and P/N 84 400 031 through P/N 84 400 036, installed as part of any optional installations, certificated in any category.

Note 1: This AD applies to each helicopter identified in the preceding applicability provision, regardless of whether it has been otherwise modified, altered, or repaired in the area subject to the requirements of this AD. For helicopters 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 (c) 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 loss of electrical power to the emergency flotation gear or other optional installations and subsequent loss of the helicopter emergency flotation capability, accomplish the following:

(a) On or before 200 hours time-in-service or within the next 3 calendar months, whichever occurs first:

(1) For Model AS350B, BA, B1, B2, B3, and D helicopters, inspect and if inoperable, replace the Crouzet single-pole circuit breakers installed in the flotation gear unit assembly and other optional installations for electrical continuity in accordance with section 2.B. of the Accomplishment Instructions contained in Eurocopter France Service Bulletin (SB) No. 01.00.47, dated November 10, 1998, except disregard the compliance times stated in paragraph 2.B.2) of the SB.

(2) For Model AS355E, F, F1, F2, and N helicopters, inspect and if inoperable, replace the Crouzet single-pole circuit breakers installed in the flotation gear unit assembly and other optional installations for electrical continuity in accordance with section 2.B. of the Accomplishment Instructions contained in SB No. 01.00.44, dated November 10, 1998, except disregard the compliance times stated in paragraph 2.B.2) of the SB.

(b) On or before July 1, 2000, replace all Crouzet single-pole circuit breakers in accordance with section 2.B. of the Accomplishment Instructions of the applicable SB.

(c) 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, Regulations Group, Rotorcraft Directorate, FAA.

Operators shall submit their requests through an FAA Principal Maintenance Inspector, who may concur or comment and then send it to the Manager, Regulations Group.

Note 2: Information concerning the existence of approved alternative methods of compliance with this AD, if any, may be obtained from the Regulations Group.

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

Note 3: The subject of this AD is addressed in Direction Generale De L'Aviation Civile (France) AD 98-510-055(A) for the Model AS 355 helicopters and AD 98-511-074(A) for the Model AS 350 helicopters. Both DGAC AD's are dated December 16, 1998.

Issued in Fort Worth, Texas, on February 11, 2000.

Eric Bries,

*Acting Manager, Rotorcraft Directorate,
Aircraft Certification Service.*

[FR Doc. 00-4264 Filed 2-22-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-U

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 71

[Airspace Docket No. 98-ANM-11]

RIN 2120-AA66

Proposed Alteration of Federal Airways; CO

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Proposed rule; withdrawal.

SUMMARY: This action withdraws the notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) published in the **Federal Register** on October 5, 1998. The FAA proposed to realign Federal airways in the State of Colorado. The FAA has determined that withdrawal of the proposed rule is warranted because the existing air traffic control (ATC) operational procedures are suitable.

DATES: The proposed rule is withdrawn on February 23, 2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ken McElroy, Airspace and Rules Division, ATA-400, Office of Air Traffic Airspace Management, Federal Aviation Administration, 800 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20591; telephone: (202) 267-8783.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On October 5, 1998, an NPRM was published in the **Federal Register** proposing to amend 14 CFR part 71 to modify Federal airways in Colorado (63 FR 53325). Interested parties were

invited to participate in the rulemaking process by submitting written data, views, or arguments regarding the proposal. No comments were received on the proposal.

List of Subjects in 14 CFR part 71

Airspace, Incorporation by reference, Navigation (air).

The Withdrawal

In consideration of the foregoing, the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, Airspace Docket No. 98-ANM-11, as published in the **Federal Register** on October 5, 1998 (63 FR 53325), is hereby withdrawn.

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 106(g), 40103, 40113, 40120; E.O. 10854; 24 FR 9565, 3 CFR, 1959-1963 Comp., p. 389.

Issued in Washington, DC, on February 16, 2000.

Reginald C. Matthews,

Manager, Airspace and Rules Division.

[FR Doc. 00-4225 Filed 2-22-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-U

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

17 CFR Parts 230 and 240

[Release Nos. 33-7801, 34-42430; International Series No. 1215; File No. S7-04-00]

[RIN: 3235-AH65]

International Accounting Standards

AGENCY: Securities and Exchange Commission.

ACTION: Concept release; request for comment.

SUMMARY: With the activities and interests of investors, lenders and companies becoming increasingly global, the Commission is increasing its involvement in a number of forums to develop a globally accepted, high quality financial reporting framework. Our efforts, at both a domestic and international level, consistently have been based on the view that the only way to achieve fair, liquid and efficient capital markets worldwide is by providing investors with information that is comparable, transparent and reliable. That is why we have pursued a dual objective of upholding the quality of financial reporting domestically, while encouraging convergence towards a high quality global financial reporting framework internationally. In this release, we are seeking comment on the necessary elements of such a framework, as well as on ways to achieve this objective. One aspect of this

is seeking input to determine under what conditions we should accept financial statements of foreign private issuers that are prepared using the standards promulgated by the International Accounting Standards Committee.

DATES: Comments should be received on or before May 23, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Please send three copies of your comments to Jonathan G. Katz, Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20549-0609. You also may submit your comments electronically at the following e-mail address: rule-comments@sec.gov. All comment letters should refer to File No. S7-04-00; you should include this file number in the subject line if e-mail is used. Comment letters can be inspected and copied in our public reference room at 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20549-0102. We will post electronically submitted comments on our Internet Web site at www.sec.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Sandra Folsom Kinsey, Senior International Counsel, Division of Corporation Finance at (202) 942-2990, or D.J. Gannon, Professional Accounting Fellow, Office of the Chief Accountant at (202) 942 4400.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Introduction and Purpose of This Release

Over the last two decades, the global financial landscape has undergone a significant transformation. These developments have been attributable, in part, to dramatic changes in the business and political climates, increasing global competition, the development of more market-based economies, and rapid technological improvements. At the same time, the world's financial centers have grown increasingly interconnected.

Corporations and borrowers look beyond their home country's borders for capital. An increasing number of foreign companies routinely raise or borrow capital in U.S. financial markets, and U.S. investors have shown great interest in investing in foreign enterprises. This globalization of the securities markets has challenged securities regulators around the world to adapt to meet the needs of market participants while maintaining the current high levels of investor protection and market integrity.

Our efforts to develop a global financial reporting framework have been