

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION****Federal Aviation Administration****14 CFR Part 39**

[Docket No. FAA-2008-0012; Directorate Identifier 2007-NM-204-AD; Amendment 39-15584; AD 2008-13-21]

RIN 2120-AA64

**Airworthiness Directives; Boeing Model 767-200, -300, and -400ER Series Airplanes**

**AGENCY:** Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Final rule.

**SUMMARY:** We are adopting a new airworthiness directive (AD) for certain Boeing Model 767-200, -300, and -400ER series airplanes. This AD requires an inspection to determine the manufacturer and manufacture date of the oxygen masks in the passenger service units and the flight attendant and lavatory oxygen boxes, as applicable. This AD also requires related investigative/corrective actions if necessary. This AD results from a report that several passenger masks with broken in-line flow indicators were found following a mask deployment. We are issuing this AD to prevent the in-line flow indicators of the passenger oxygen masks from fracturing and separating, which could inhibit oxygen flow to the masks and consequently result in exposure of the passengers and cabin attendants to hypoxia following a depressurization event.

**DATES:** This AD is effective August 6, 2008.

The Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference of a certain publication listed in this AD as of August 6, 2008.

**ADDRESSES:** For service information identified in this AD, contact Boeing Commercial Airplanes, P.O. Box 3707, Seattle, Washington 98124-2207.

**Examining the AD Docket**

You may examine the AD docket on the Internet at <http://www.regulations.gov>; or in person at the Docket Management Facility between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The AD docket contains this AD, the regulatory evaluation, any comments received, and other information. The address for the Docket Office (telephone 800-647-5527) is the Document Management Facility, 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:** Robert Hettman, Aerospace Engineer, Cabin Safety and Environmental Systems Branch, ANM-150S, FAA, Seattle Aircraft Certification Office, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington 98057-3356; telephone (425) 917-6457; fax (425) 917-6590.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:****Discussion**

We issued a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) to amend 14 CFR part 39 to include an airworthiness directive (AD) that would apply to certain Boeing Model 767-200, -300, and -400ER series airplanes. That NPRM was published in the **Federal Register** on January 14, 2008 (73 FR 2190). That NPRM proposed to require an inspection to determine the manufacturer and manufacture date of the oxygen masks in the passenger service units and the flight attendant and lavatory oxygen boxes, as applicable. That NPRM also proposed to require related investigative/corrective actions if necessary.

**Comments**

We gave the public the opportunity to participate in developing this AD. We considered the comments received from the two commenters.

**Request To Revise the Relevant Service Information Section**

Boeing requests that we revise the Relevant Service Information section of the NPRM to include a general visual inspection of the flow indicator to determine whether the letter "W" appears on the right side of the identification (ID) label. Boeing states that this inspection should be included in the NPRM, since the presence of the letter "W" on the ID label indicates that the corrective actions have already been accomplished.

We agree to clarify the related investigative and corrective actions required by this AD. If the ID label on the oxygen mask shows that the mask was manufactured by B/E Aerospace between January 1, 2002, and March 1, 2006, then the related investigative action must be done. The related investigative action includes doing a general visual inspection of the flow indicator to determine the color of the flow direction mark and the word "flow" on the flow indicator, and to determine whether the letter "W" appears on the right side of the ID label. If the flow direction mark and the word "flow" on the flow indicator of the oxygen mask are not green and the letter "W" is not shown on the right side of the ID label, then the corrective action

must be done. The corrective action includes replacing the oxygen mask with one that was not manufactured by B/E Aerospace between January 1, 2002, and March 1, 2006, or with a modified oxygen mask having an improved flow indicator. We have revised paragraph (f) of this AD accordingly. (Boeing Special Attention Service Bulletin 767-35-0054, dated July 6, 2006, refers to B/E Aerospace Service Bulletin 174080-35-01, dated February 6, 2006; and Revision 1, dated May 1, 2006; as additional sources of service information for modifying the oxygen mask assembly by replacing the flow indicator with an improved flow indicator.) The intent of this AD is to accomplish all of the applicable actions specified in the Accomplishment Instructions of Boeing Special Attention Service Bulletin 767-35-0054. Since the Relevant Service Information section is not retained in an AD, we have not changed this AD in this regard.

**Request To Revise the Discussion Section**

Boeing requests that we add a statement to the Discussion section of the NPRM clarifying that only masks manufactured by B/E Aerospace between January 1, 2002, and March 1, 2006, would require corrective action. Boeing states that no further action is required for oxygen masks manufactured outside those dates or manufactured by other suppliers. Boeing also states that not including all of the contents of Boeing Special Attention Service Bulletin 767-35-0054 in this AD, and not clarifying the intent of the AD, will generate many requests for clarification from operators.

We have clarified the requirements of this AD in our response to the previous comment. No additional change to this AD is necessary in this regard, since the Discussion section of the NPRM is not retained in this final rule.

**Request To Delete Certain Requirements or Add a Terminating Action**

British Airways states that it does not agree with the proposed requirement to replace a discrepant oxygen mask with one having an improved flow indicator because only the oxygen masks identified in Boeing Special Attention Service Bulletin 767-35-0054 are potentially defective. The commenter also states that it has inspected some of its airplanes and replaced all discrepant masks with new masks that do not fall within the rejection criteria. The commenter believes that it should not have to re-inspect the oxygen masks assemblies for the presence of an

improved flow indicator after this AD is issued. The commenter, therefore, requests that we revise this AD in either one of the following ways:

- Delete the phrase from paragraph (f) of this AD that states “\* \* \* except where the service bulletin specifies installing a new oxygen mask, replace the oxygen mask with a new or modified oxygen mask having an improved flow indicator.”

- Add a statement to this AD specifying that inspections done in accordance with Boeing Special Attention Service Bulletin 767–35–0054 before issuance of this AD comply with the intent of this AD and do not need to be repeated.

We agree that inspections done in accordance with Boeing Special Attention Service Bulletin 767–35–0054 before the effective date of this AD do not need to be accomplished again. However, no change is necessary in this regard, since a similar statement is contained in paragraph (e) of this AD. Further, as stated previously, we have clarified the phrase regarding replacement of the oxygen mask in paragraph (f) of this AD. The intent of that phrase is to provide the option of replacing a discrepant oxygen mask with one that was not manufactured by B/E Aerospace between January 1, 2002, and March 1, 2006, or with a modified oxygen mask having an improved flow indicator in accordance with B/E Aerospace Service Bulletin 174080–35–01.

## Conclusion

We reviewed the relevant data, considered the comments received, and determined that air safety and the public interest require adopting the AD with the change described previously. We also determined that this change will not increase the economic burden on any operator or increase the scope of the AD.

## Costs of Compliance

There are about 688 airplanes of the affected design in the worldwide fleet. This AD affects about 242 airplanes of U.S. registry. The required actions take about 53 work hours per airplane, with an average of 360 oxygen masks per airplane, at an average labor rate of \$80 per work hour. Based on these figures, the estimated cost of the AD for U.S. operators is \$1,026,080, or \$4,240 per airplane.

## 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.

We are 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

This AD will not have federalism implications under Executive Order 13132. This AD will 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.

For the reasons discussed above, I certify that this AD:

- (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.

You can find our regulatory evaluation and the estimated costs of compliance in the AD Docket.

## List of Subjects in 14 CFR Part 39

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

## Adoption of 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 adding the following new AD:

**2008–13–21 Boeing:** Amendment 39–15584. Docket No. FAA–2008–0012; Directorate Identifier 2007–NM–204–AD.

## Effective Date

(a) This airworthiness directive (AD) is effective August 6, 2008.

## Affected ADs

(b) None.

## Applicability

(c) This AD applies to Boeing Model 767–200, –300, and –400ER series airplanes, certificated in any category; as identified in Boeing Special Attention Service Bulletin 767–35–0054, dated July 6, 2006.

## Unsafe Condition

(d) This AD results from a report that several passenger masks with broken in-line flow indicators were found following a mask deployment. We are issuing this AD to prevent the in-line flow indicators of the passenger oxygen masks from fracturing and separating, which could inhibit oxygen flow to the masks and consequently result in exposure of the passengers and cabin attendants to hypoxia following a depressurization event.

## Compliance

(e) You are responsible for having the actions required by this AD performed within the compliance times specified, unless the actions have already been done.

## Inspection and Related Investigative/Corrective Actions

(f) Within 60 months after the effective date of this AD, do a general visual inspection to determine the manufacturer and manufacture date of the oxygen masks in the passenger service units and the flight attendant and lavatory oxygen boxes, as applicable, and do the applicable related investigative and corrective actions, by accomplishing all of the applicable actions specified in the Accomplishment Instructions of Boeing Special Attention Service Bulletin 767–35–0054, dated July 6, 2006; except where the service bulletin specifies installing a new oxygen mask, replace the oxygen mask with one that was not manufactured by B/E Aerospace between January 1, 2002, and March 1, 2006, or with a modified oxygen mask having an improved flow indicator. The related investigative and corrective actions must be done before further flight.

**Note 1:** The Boeing service bulletin refers to B/E Aerospace Service Bulletin 174080–35–01, dated February 6, 2006; and Revision 1, dated May 1, 2006; as additional sources of service information for modifying the oxygen mask assembly by replacing the flow indicator with an improved flow indicator.

## Alternative Methods of Compliance (AMOCs)

(g)(1) The Manager, Seattle Aircraft Certification Office, FAA, has the authority to approve AMOCs for this AD, if requested in accordance with the procedures found in 14 CFR 39.19.

(2) To request a different method of compliance or a different compliance time

for this AD, follow the procedures in 14 CFR 39.19. Before using any approved AMOC on any airplane to which the AMOC applies, notify your appropriate principal inspector (PI) in the FAA Flight Standards District Office (FSDO), or lacking a PI, your local FSDO.

#### Material Incorporated by Reference

(h) You must use Boeing Special Attention Service Bulletin 767-35-0054, dated July 6, 2006, to do the actions required by this AD, unless the AD specifies otherwise.

(1) The Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference of this service information under 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 1 CFR part 51.

(2) For service information identified in this AD, contact Boeing Commercial Airplanes, P.O. Box 3707, Seattle, Washington 98124-2207.

(3) You may review copies of the service information incorporated by reference at the FAA, Transport Airplane Directorate, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington; or at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). For information on the availability of this material at NARA, call 202-741-6030, or go to: [http://www.archives.gov/federal\\_register/code\\_of\\_federal\\_regulations/ibr\\_locations.html](http://www.archives.gov/federal_register/code_of_federal_regulations/ibr_locations.html).

Issued in Renton, Washington, on June 8, 2008.

**Michael Kaszycki,**

*Acting Manager, Transport Airplane Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service.*

[FR Doc. E8-14189 Filed 7-1-08; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-13-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Aviation Administration

#### 14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. FAA-2007-28434; Directorate Identifier 2007-CE-053-AD; Amendment 39-15580; AD 2008-13-17]

RIN 2120-AA64

**Airworthiness Directives; Hawker Beechcraft Corporation (Type Certificates No. 3A15, No. 3A16, No. A23CE, and No. A30CE Previously Held by Raytheon Aircraft Company) F33 Series and Models G33, V35B, A36, A36TC, B36TC, 95-B55, D55, E55, A56TC, 58, 58P, 58TC, G58, and 77 Airplanes**

**AGENCY:** Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Final rule.

**SUMMARY:** The FAA adopts a new airworthiness directive (AD) for certain Hawker Beechcraft Corporation F33 series and Models G33, V35B, A36, A36TC, B36TC, 95-B55, D55, E55, A56TC, 58, 58P, 58TC, G58, and 77 airplanes. This AD requires you to

replace certain circuit breaker toggle switches with improved design circuit breaker toggle switches. This AD results from reports of certain circuit breaker toggle switches used in various electrical systems throughout the affected airplanes overheating. We are issuing this AD to prevent failure of the circuit breaker toggle switch, which could result in smoke in the cockpit and the inability to turn off the switch.

**DATES:** This AD becomes effective on August 6, 2008.

On August 6, 2008, the Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference of certain publications listed in this AD.

**ADDRESSES:** To get the service information identified in this AD, contact Hawker Beechcraft Corporation, 9709 East Central, Wichita, Kansas 67291; telephone: (800) 429-5372 or (316) 676-3140.

To view the AD docket, go to U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M-30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC 20590, or on the Internet at <http://www.regulations.gov>. The docket number is FAA-2007-28434; Directorate Identifier 2007-CE-053-AD.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jose Flores, Aviation Safety Engineer, Wichita Aircraft Certification Office, 1801 Airport Road, Room 100, Wichita, Kansas 67209; telephone: (316) 946-4132; fax: (316) 946-4107.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Discussion

On June 29, 2007, we issued a proposal to amend part 39 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR part 39) to include an AD that would apply to certain Hawker Beechcraft Corporation F33 series and Models G33, V35B, A36, A36TC, B36TC, 95-B55, D55, E55, A56TC, 58, 58P, 58TC, G58, and 77 airplanes. This proposal was published in the **Federal Register** as a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) on July 6, 2007 (72 FR 36912). The NPRM proposed to require you to replace certain circuit breaker toggle switches with improved design circuit breaker toggle switches.

##### Comments

We provided the public the opportunity to participate in developing this AD. The following presents the comments received on the proposal and FAA's response to each comment:

##### *Comment Issue No. 1: Reopen the Comment Period*

The American Bonanza Society and six other commenters request more time

to further investigate and evaluate replacing all circuit breaker switches in numerous models of Hawker Beechcraft piston airplanes. One commenter requests the extension to better research the number of service difficulty reports (SDRs), the number of airplanes affected, and the availability of replacement switches.

We do not agree with the commenters. The failure mode creates an internal short circuit that will cause overheating. Testing of the circuit breaker switches revealed all the circuit breaker switches are susceptible to the failure mode and overheating.

We have identified an unsafe condition and determined that reopening the comment period will only allow the unsafe condition to potentially go undetected. If any owner/operator identifies an alternative method of compliance (AMOC) to this AD that will provide a level of safety acceptable to the FAA, they can apply for an AMOC using the procedures outlined in 14 CFR 39.19 and this AD.

We are not changing the final rule AD action based on these comments.

##### *Comment Issue No. 2: Change Required Actions*

James Blodgett and Adam Dagys suggest that turning off the master switch would better eliminate the problem rather than replacing the circuit breaker switches.

The commenters request that the FAA change the proposed AD action to mandate this change to prevent smoke in the cockpit.

We do not agree with the commenters. Turning off the master switch may mitigate the overheating in some circuit breaker switches. However, in certain flight conditions, removing electrical power could create a more hazardous condition by disabling electrical equipment required for continued safe flight and landing, thus creating an additional unsafe condition.

We are not changing the final rule AD action based on these comments.

##### *Comment Issue No. 3: AD Unwarranted*

The American Bonanza Society, the Bonanza Service Ltd., KT Graham Inc., and eight other commenters state that the AD is unwarranted because failure of the affected circuit breaker switches is an uncommon occurrence and that there is no imminent threat to airplane occupants or the public.

The commenters state that they have seen no or very few circuit breaker switch failures in the field. Of the thousands of affected airplanes and over 100,000 circuit breaker switches, none of these resulted in a reportable mishap.