Issued in Kansas City, Missouri, on July 24, 2006.

#### James E. Jackson,

Acting Manager, Small Airplane Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service.

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### **DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

#### **Federal Aviation Administration**

# 14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. FAA-2006-25157; Directorate Identifier 2006-CE-34-AD]

RIN 2120-AA64

Airworthiness Directives; Raytheon Aircraft Company Models C90A, B200, B200C, B300, and B300C Airplanes

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

**ACTION:** Notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM).

**SUMMARY:** We propose to adopt a new airworthiness directive (AD) for certain Raytheon Aircraft Company (Raytheon) (formerly Beech) Models C90A, B200, B200C, B300, and B300C airplanes. This proposed AD would require you to inspect the flight controls for improper assembly or damage, and if any improperly assembled or damaged flight controls are found, take corrective action. This proposed AD results from a report of inspections of several affected airplanes with improperly assembled or damaged flight controls. We are proposing this AD to detect and correct improperly assembled or damaged flight controls, which could result in an unsafe condition by reducing capabilities of the flight controls and lead to loss of control of the airplane. DATES: We must receive comments on this proposed AD by September 29,

**ADDRESSES:** Use one of the following addresses to comment on this proposed AD:

• DOT Docket Web site: Go to http://dms.dot.gov and follow the instructions for sending your comments electronically.

- Government-wide rulemaking Web site: Go to *http://www.regulations.gov* and follow the instructions for sending your comments electronically.
- Mail: Docket Management Facility; U.S. Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Nassif Building, Room PL—401, Washington, DC 20590— 0001.
  - Fax: (202) 493-2251.
- Hand Delivery: Room PL-401 on the plaza level of the Nassif Building, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

For service information identified in this proposed AD, contact Raytheon Aircraft Company, P.O. Box 85, Wichita, Kansas 67201–0085; telephone: (800) 429–5372 or (316) 676–3140.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Chris B. Morgan, Aerospace Engineer, FAA, Wichita Aircraft Certification Office, 1801 Airport Road, Wichita, Kansas 67209; telephone: (316) 946–4154; facsimile: (316) 946–4107.

### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

### **Comments Invited**

We invite you to send any written relevant data, views, or arguments regarding this proposed AD. Send your comments to an address listed under the ADDRESSES section. Include the docket number, "FAA–2006–25157; Directorate Identifier 2006–CE–34–AD" at the beginning of your comments. We specifically invite comments on the overall regulatory, economic, environmental, and energy aspects of the proposed AD. We will consider all comments received by the closing date and may amend the proposed AD in light of those comments.

We will post all comments we receive, without change, to http://dms.dot.gov, including any personal information you provide. We will also post a report summarizing each substantive verbal contact we receive concerning this proposed AD.

# Discussion

We have received a report from an FAA Manufacturing Inspection District Office that describes numerous nonconformities during the manufacture of Raytheon Models C90A, B200,

B200C, B300, and B300C airplanes. These nonconformities affected the flight controls and included improper assembly and damage to the flight controls that could lead to loss of control of the airplane.

This condition, if not corrected, could result in an unsafe condition by reducing capabilities of the flight controls.

## **Relevant Service Information**

We have reviewed Raytheon Aircraft Company Mandatory Service Bulletin Number SB 27–3761, Issued: February 2006

The service information describes procedures for inspecting the flight control systems to ensure conformity with type design and correct the unsafe condition.

# FAA's Determination and Requirements of the Proposed AD

We are proposing this AD because we evaluated all information and determined the unsafe condition described previously is likely to exist or develop on other products of the same type design. This proposed AD would require you to inspect the flight controls for improper assembly or damage, and if any improperly assembled or damaged flight controls are found, take corrective action.

# Differences Between This Proposed AD and the Service Information

We are requiring all phases of the flight control system be inspected at one time. The service information as presented allows some sections of the system to go 800 hours time-in-service before they are scheduled for inspection. We feel this time is excessive to allow potential safety items and nonconformities to exist. We have determined that the proposed compliance time will not inadvertently ground the affected airplanes.

# **Costs of Compliance**

We estimate that this proposed AD would affect 135 airplanes in the U.S. registry.

We estimate the following costs to do the proposed inspection:

| Labor cost                              | Parts cost     | Total cost per airplane | Total cost on U.S. operators |
|---|----------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| 80 work-hours × \$80 per hour = \$6,400 | Not Applicable | \$6,400                 | \$864,000                    |

We have no way of determining the number of airplanes that may need any corrective action that would be required based on the results of the proposed inspection.

## **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**

We have determined that this proposed AD would not have federalism implications under Executive Order 13132. This proposed AD 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.

For the reasons discussed above, I certify that the 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. 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.

We prepared a regulatory evaluation of the estimated costs to comply with this proposed AD and placed it in the AD docket.

# **Examining the AD Docket**

You may examine the AD docket that contains the proposed AD, the regulatory evaluation, any comments received, and other information on the Internet at <a href="http://dms.dot.gov">http://dms.dot.gov</a>; or in person at the Docket Management Facility between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The Docket Office (telephone (800) 647–5227) is located at the street address stated in the ADDRESSES section. Comments will be available in the AD docket shortly after receipt.

### List of Subjects in 14 CFR Part 39

Air transportation, Aircraft, Aviation safety, Safety.

### The Proposed Amendment

Accordingly, under the authority delegated to me by the Administrator, the FAA proposes to amend 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:

## **Raytheon Aircraft Company (Formerly**

**Beech):** Docket No. FAA-2006-25157; Directorate Identifier 2006-CE-34-AD.

#### **Comments Due Date**

(a) We must receive comments on this airworthiness directive (AD) action by September 29, 2006.

#### Affected ADs

(b) None.

#### **Applicability**

(c) This AD affects the following airplane models and serial numbers that are certificated in any category:

| Model                 | Serial numbers   |  |  |
|-----------------------|--|--|--|
| C90A                  | LJ-1697 through LJ-1726, LJ-<br>1728, LJ-1729, and LJ-1731<br>through LJ-1739. |  |  |
| B200<br>B200C<br>B300 | BB-1827 through BB-1912.<br>BL-148 and BL-149.                                 |  |  |
| B300C                 | FM-11.   |  |  |

#### **Unsafe Condition**

(d) This AD results from a report of inspections of several affected airplanes with improperly assembled or damaged flight controls. We are issuing this AD to detect and correct improperly assembled or damaged flight controls, which could result in an unsafe condition by reducing capabilities of the flight control and lead to loss of control of the airplanes.

## Compliance

(e) To address this problem, you must do the following, unless already done:

| Actions  | Compliance  | Procedures  |
|--|---|---|
| (1) Inspect the flight controls for improper assembly and any damage.  | At whichever of the following occurs first:  (i) Within 100 hours time-in-service after the effective date of this AD; or  (ii) At the next annual inspection that occurs at least 30 days after the effective date of this AD. | Follow Raytheon Aircraft Company Mandatory<br>Service Bulletin Number SB 27–3761,<br>Issued: February 2006. |
| (2) If you find any improperly assembled or<br>damaged flight controls as a result of the in-<br>spection required by paragraph (e)(1) of this<br>AD, take corrective action as specified in the<br>service information. | Before further flight after the inspection required by paragraph (e)(1) of this AD.   | Follow Raytheon Aircraft Company Mandatory<br>Service Bulletin Number SB 27–3761,<br>Issued: February 2006. |

# Alternative Methods of Compliance (AMOCs)

(f) The Manager, Wichita Aircraft Certification Office (ACO), FAA, ATTN: Chris B. Morgan, Aerospace Engineer, FAA, Wichita ACO, 1801 Airport Road, Wichita, Kansas 67209; telephone: (316) 946–4154; facsimile: (316) 946–4107, has the authority to approve AMOCs for this AD, if requested using the procedures found in 14 CFR 39.19.

#### **Related Information**

(g) To get copies of the service information referenced in this AD, contact Raytheon Aircraft Company, P.O. Box 85, Wichita, Kansas 67201–0085; telephone: (800) 429–5372 or (316) 676–3140. To view the AD docket, go to the Docket Management Facility; U.S. Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Nassif Building, Room PL–401, Washington, DC, or on the Internet at <a href="http://dms.dot.gov">http://dms.dot.gov</a>. The docket number is Docket No. FAA–2006–25157; Directorate Identifier 2006–CE–34–AD.

Issued in Kansas City, Missouri, on July 24, 2006.

## James E. Jackson,

Acting Manager, Small Airplane Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service.

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