

## 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 <http://dms.dot.gov>; 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 Federal Aviation Administration 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:

**Fuji Heavy Industries, Ltd.:** FAA-2006-25259; Directorate Identifier 2006-CE-36-AD.

## Comments Due Date

(a) We must receive comments on this proposed airworthiness directive (AD) by September 8, 2006.

## Affected ADs

(b) None.

## Applicability

(c) This AD applies to all FA-200 series airplanes, certificated in any U.S. category.

## Reason

(d) The mandatory continuing airworthiness information (MCAI) states that the aircraft manufacturer has identified field reports indicating corrosion of the flanges of the main wing spars. If not corrected, the corrosion could cause deterioration of wing strength. The MCAI requires creation of inspection holes, corrosion inspection of the flange of wing spar, repair of corrosion if necessary and removal of the sealing compound. You may obtain further information by examining the MCAI in the docket.

## Actions and Compliance

(e) Unless already done, do the following except as stated in paragraph (f) below.

(1) Within 1 year after the effective date of this AD, carry out creation of inspection holes, corrosion inspection of the flange of wing spar, repair of corrosion if necessary and removal of the sealing compound in accordance with Fuji Heavy Industries, Ltd. (FHI) Service Bulletin No. 200-015, dated February 28, 2006 (SB).

(2) Within intervals not to exceed 5 years from the previous inspection of paragraph (e)(1) of this AD, carry out repetitive corrosion inspection of the flange of wing spar and repair of corrosion if necessary in accordance with the SB.

## FAA AD Differences

(f) The SB calls out contacting Fuji Heavy Industries Ltd. for a structural integrity evaluation if measured thickness exceeds minimum allowable limits or if corrosion is found on main spar flange in areas other than fuel tank bay. Per paragraph (g)(2) of this AD, any corrective action in this aspect or any other aspect per this AD must be FAA-approved before returning the airplane to service.

## Other FAA AD Provisions

(g) The following provisions also apply to this AD:

(1) *Alternative Methods of Compliance (AMOCs):* The Manager, Standards Staff, FAA, ATTN: Doug Rudolph, Aerospace Engineer, Small Airplane Directorate, FAA, 901 Locust, Room 301, Kansas City, Missouri 64106; telephone: (816) 329-4059; facsimile: (816) 329-4090, has the authority to approve AMOCs for this AD, if requested using the procedures found in 14 CFR 39.19.

(2) *Return to Airworthiness:* When complying with this AD, perform FAA-approved corrective actions before returning the product to an airworthy condition.

(3) *Reporting Requirements:* For any reporting requirement in this AD, under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB)

has approved the information collection requirements and has assigned OMB Control Number 2120-0056.

## Related Information

(h) This AD is related to Japan Civil Aviation Bureau AD TCD-6832-2006, Date of Issue: April 10, 2006, which references Fuji Heavy Industries Ltd Service Bulletin No. 200-015, dated February 28, 2006.

Issued in Kansas City, Missouri, on August 3, 2006.

**John R. Colomy,**

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

[FR Doc. E6-12953 Filed 8-8-06; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-13-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Aviation Administration

#### 14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. FAA-2006-25260; Directorate Identifier 2006-CE-37-AD]

RIN 2120-AA64

#### Airworthiness Directives; Air Tractor, Inc. Models AT-502, AT-502A, AT-502B, AT-602, AT-802, and AT-802A 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 Air Tractor, Inc. (Air Tractor) Models AT-502, AT-502A, AT-502B, AT-602, AT-802, and AT-802A airplanes. This proposed AD would require you to repetitively visually inspect the rudder and vertical fin hinge attaching structure for loose fasteners, any cracks in the rudder or vertical fin skins, spars, hinges or brackets, or corrosion. The AD would also require you to replace any damaged parts found as a result of the inspection and install an external doubler at the upper rudder hinge. Installation of the external doubler at the upper rudder hinge is terminating action for the repetitive inspection requirements. This proposed AD results from two reports (one Model AT-602 airplane and one Model AT-802A airplane) of in-flight rudder separation from the vertical fin at the upper attach hinge area, and other reports of Models AT-502B, AT-602, and AT-802/802A airplanes with loose hinges, skin cracks, or signs of repairs to the affected area. We are proposing this AD to detect and correct loose fasteners; any cracks in the rudder or vertical fin skins, spars,

hinges or brackets, or corrosion of the rudder and vertical fin hinge attaching structure. Hinge failure adversely affects ability to control yaw and has led to the rudder folding over in flight. This condition could allow the rudder to contact the elevator and affect ability to control pitch with consequent loss of control of the airplane.

**DATES:** We must receive comments on this proposed AD by October 10, 2006.

**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 Air Tractor, Inc., P.O. Box 485, Olney, Texas 76374; telephone: (940) 564-5616; facsimile: (940) 564-5612.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Andrew McAnaul, Aerospace Engineer, ASW-150 (c/o MIDO-43), 10100 Reunion Place, Suite 650, San Antonio, Texas 78216; telephone: (210) 308-3365; facsimile: (210) 308-3370.

**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-2006-25260; Directorate Identifier 2006-CE-37-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 two reports (one Air Tractor Model AT-602 airplane and one Model AT-802A airplane) of in-flight rudder separation at the upper attach hinge area and other reports of Models AT-502B, AT-602, and AT-802/802A airplanes with loose hinges, skin cracks, or signs of repairs to the affected area.

Hinge failure adversely affects ability to control yaw and has led to the rudder folding over in flight. This condition could allow the rudder to contact the elevator and affect ability to control pitch with consequent loss of control of the airplane.

**Relevant Service Information**

We have reviewed Snow Engineering Co. Service Letter #247, dated August 14, 2005, revised May 17, 2006, and

Snow Engineering Co. Process Specification Number 145, dated December 6, 1991. The service information describes procedures for:

- Inspecting (visually) the rudder and fin hinge attaching structure for loose fasteners, any cracks in the rudder or vertical fin skins, spars, hinges or brackets, or corrosion;
- Replacing any damaged parts found as a result of the inspection;
- Installing an external doubler at the upper rudder hinge; and
- Balancing of the rudder.

**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 repetitively visually inspect the rudder and vertical fin hinge attaching structure for loose fasteners, any cracks in the rudder or vertical fin skins, spars, hinges or brackets, or corrosion. This AD would also require you to replace any damaged parts found as a result of the inspection and install an external doubler at the upper rudder hinge. Installation of the external doubler at the upper rudder hinge is terminating action for the repetitive inspection requirements.

**Costs of Compliance**

We estimate that this proposed AD would affect 945 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 |
|--|----------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 work-hour × \$80 per hour = \$80 ..... | Not Applicable ..... | \$80                    | \$75,600                     |

We have no way of determining the number of airplanes that may need any replacements that would be required

based on the results of the proposed inspection.

We estimate the following costs to do the installation of the external doubler at the upper rudder hinge:

| Labor cost                                 | Parts cost  | Total cost per airplane | Total cost on U.S. operators |
|--|-------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| 5 work-hours × \$80 per hour = \$400 ..... | \$217 ..... | \$617                   | \$583,065                    |

**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 <http://dms.dot.gov>; 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:

**Air Tractor, Inc.:** Docket No. FAA-2006-25260; Directorate Identifier 2006-CE-37-AD.

**Comments Due Date**

(a) We must receive comments on this airworthiness directive (AD) action by October 10, 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 Nos.                          |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| (1) AT-502 and AT-502B ..... | 502/502B-0003 through 502/502B-2600. |
| (2) AT-502A .....            | 502A-0003 through 502A-2582.         |
| (3) AT-602 .....             | 602-0337 through 602-1138.           |
| (4) AT-802 and AT-802A ..... | 802/802A-0001 through 802/802A-0215. |

**Unsafe Condition**

(d) This AD results from two reports (one Model AT-602 airplane and one Model AT-802A airplane) of in-flight rudder separations at the upper attach hinge area and other reports of Models AT-502B, AT-602, and AT-802/802A airplanes with loose hinges,

skin cracks, or signs of repairs to the affected area. We are issuing this AD to detect and correct loose fasteners; any cracks in the rudder or vertical fin skins, spars, hinges or brackets, or corrosion of the rudder and vertical fin hinge attaching structure. Hinge failure adversely affects ability to control yaw and has led to the rudder folding over in

flight. This condition could allow the rudder to contact the elevator and affect ability to control pitch with consequent loss of control of the airplane.

**Compliance**

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

| Actions   | Compliance   | Procedures   |
|---|--|--|
| (1) Inspect visually the rudder and vertical hinge attachment for loose fasteners; any cracks in the rudder or vertical fin skins, spars, hinges or brackets, or corrosion.   | Initially inspect upon reaching 3,500 hours time-in-service (TIS), or within the next 100 hours TIS after the effective date of this AD, whichever occurs later, unless already done. Thereafter, repetitively inspect every 100 hours TIS. Installation of the external doubler at the upper rudder hinge required by paragraph (e)(2)(ii) or (e)(3) of this AD is terminating action for the repetitive inspections required by this AD. | Follow Snow Engineering Co. Service Letter #247, dated August 14, 2005, revised May 17, 2006.  |
| (2) If you find any damage as a result of any inspection required by paragraph (e)(1) of this AD, you must:<br>(i) Replace any damaged parts with new parts; and<br>(ii) Do the installation of the external doubler at the upper rudder hinge. | Before further flight after any inspection required by paragraph (e)(1) of this AD where you find any damaged parts. The installation of the external doubler at the upper rudder hinge required by paragraph (e)(2)(ii) or (e)(3) of this AD is the terminating action for the repetitive inspections required by this AD.  | Follow Snow Engineering Co. Service Letter #247, dated August 14, 2005, revised May 17, 2006, and Snow Engineering Co. Process Specification Number 145, dated December 6, 1991. |

| Actions   | Compliance  | Procedures   |
|---|---|--|
| (3) Do the installation of the external doubler at the upper rudder hinge.  | Upon accumulating 5,000 hours TIS or within the next 100 hours TIS after the effective date of this AD, whichever occurs later, unless already done. The installation of the external doubler at the upper rudder hinge required by paragraph (e)(2)(ii) or (e)(3) of this AD is the terminating action for the repetitive inspections required by this AD. | Follow Snow Engineering Co. Service Letter #247, dated August 14, 2005, revised May 17, 2006, and Snow Engineering Co. Process Specification Number 145, dated December 6, 1991. |
| (4) Do not install any rudder without the external doubler at the upper rudder hinge required by paragraph (e)(3) of this AD. | As of the effective date of this AD .....   | Not Applicable.  |

**Alternative Methods of Compliance (AMOCs)**

(f) The Manager, Fort Worth Aircraft Certification Office, FAA, ATTN: Andrew McAnaul, Aerospace Engineer, ASW-150 (c/o MIDO-43), 10100 Reunion Place, Suite 650, San Antonio, Texas 78216; telephone: (210) 308-3365; facsimile: (210) 308-3370, 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 Air Tractor, Inc., P.O. Box 485, Olney, Texas 76374; telephone: (940) 564-5616; facsimile: (940) 564-5612. 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 <http://dms.dot.gov>. The docket number is Docket No. FAA-2006-25260; Directorate Identifier 2006-CE-37-AD.

Issued in Kansas City, Missouri, on August 3, 2006.

**John R. Colomy,**

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

[FR Doc. E6-12940 Filed 8-8-06; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-13-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**Federal Aviation Administration**

**14 CFR Part 39**

[Docket No. FAA-2006-25261; Directorate Identifier 2006-CE-38-AD]

**RIN 2120-AA64**

**Airworthiness Directives; Cessna Aircraft Company Models 172R, 172S, 182S, 182T, T182T, 206H, and T206H 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

Cessna Aircraft Company (Cessna) Models 172R, 172S, 182S, 182T, T182T, 206H, and T206H airplanes. This proposed AD would require you to install Modification Kit MN172-25-10B or a steel lock rod/bar on both crew seat back cylinder lock assemblies. If a steel lock rod/bar has already been installed on the crew seat back cylinder lock assembly, no further action is required. If Modification Kit MK172-25-10A has previously been installed, this proposed AD would require you to do an installation inspection and correct any discrepancies found. This proposed AD results from reports of the crew seat back cylinder lock assembly failing at the aft end and other cylinder lock assemblies found cracked. We are proposing this AD to prevent the crew seat cylinder lock assembly from bending, cracking, or failing. This failure could cause uncontrolled movement of the seat back, resulting in possible backward collapse during flight. Backward collapse of either crew seat back could result in an abrupt pitch-up if the affected crew member continues to hold on to the control yoke during this failure and could cause difficulty in exiting the airplane from an aft passenger seat after landing.

**DATES:** We must receive comments on this proposed AD by October 10, 2006.

**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 Cessna Aircraft Company, Product Support, P.O. Box 7706, Wichita, KS 67277; telephone: (316) 517-5800; fax: (316) 942-9006.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Gary Park, Aerospace Engineer, FAA, Wichita Aircraft Certification Office, 1801 Airport Road, Mid-Continent Airport, Wichita, Kansas 67209; telephone: (316) 946-4123; 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-2006-25261; Directorate Identifier 2006-CE-38-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 reports of the crew seat back cylinder lock bending at the aft end and failing. We have also received reports of cracks found in the cylinder lock assembly.

This condition, if not corrected, could result in failure of the crew seat back cylinder lock assembly. This failure could cause uncontrolled movement of the seat back, resulting in possible backward collapse during flight. Backward collapse of either crew seat back could result in an abrupt pitch-up