

hand) hinge fittings due to stress corrosion on in-service aircraft. If undetected, they could lead to complete rupture of one or two of the fittings.

The unsafe condition is collapse of the nose landing gear. The MCAI requires repetitive inspections of the nose landing gear LH and RH hinge fittings for cracking, and replacing the hinge fitting with a new fitting if any cracking is found.

#### Actions and Compliance

(f) Unless already done, do the following actions.

(1) Within 200 flight hours or 6 months after the effective date of this AD, whichever occurs first: Inspect the nose landing gear LH (left-hand) and RH (right-hand) hinge fittings for cracking, in accordance with the instructions of Airbus SN-601 Corvette Service Bulletin 32-17, dated September 23, 2004.

(2) In case of finding one or several cracks, before further flight, replace the hinge fitting with a new hinge fitting in accordance with the instructions of Airbus SN-601 Corvette Service Bulletin 32-17, dated September 23, 2004. Repeat the requirements of paragraph (f)(1) of this AD thereafter at intervals not to exceed 3,600 flight hours or 36 months, whichever occurs first.

(3) If no crack is detected, repeat the requirements of paragraph (f)(1) of this AD thereafter at intervals not to exceed 3,600 flight hours or 36 months, whichever occurs first.

#### FAA AD Differences

**Note:** This AD differs from the MCAI and/or service information as follows: Although the MCAI or service information allows further flight after cracks are found during compliance with the required action, paragraph (f)(2) of this AD requires that you repair the cracks before further flight.

#### Other FAA AD Provisions

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

(1) *Alternative Methods of Compliance (AMOCs):* The Manager, International Branch, ANM-116, FAA, has the authority to approve AMOCs for this AD, if requested using the procedures found in 14 CFR 39.19. Send information to ATTN: Mike Borfitz, Aerospace Engineer, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington 98057-3356; telephone (425) 227-2677; fax (425) 227-1149. 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.

(2) *Airworthy Product:* For any requirement in this AD to obtain corrective actions from a manufacturer or other source, use these actions if they are FAA-approved. Corrective actions are considered FAA-approved if they are approved by the State of Design Authority (or their delegated agent). You are required to assure the product is airworthy before it is returned to service.

(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) Refer to MCAI French Airworthiness Directive F-2004-169, dated October 27, 2004; and Airbus SN-601 Corvette Service Bulletin 32-17, dated September 23, 2004; for related information.

Issued in Renton, Washington, on May 15, 2007.

**Ali Bahrami,**

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

[FR Doc. E7-10046 Filed 5-23-07; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-13-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Aviation Administration

#### 14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. FAA-2007-28255; Directorate Identifier 2007-NM-023-AD]

RIN 2120-AA64

#### Airworthiness Directives; Lockheed Model 1329 Series Airplanes

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

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

**SUMMARY:** The FAA proposes to adopt a new airworthiness directive (AD) for certain Lockheed Model 1329 series airplanes. This proposed AD would require determining the part number on the steering cylinder assembly for the nose landing gear (NLG), determining the total flight cycles accumulated on the NLG steering cylinder assembly, repetitive replacement of the assembly, inspecting for missing tow turning limit markings, and performing corrective actions if necessary. This proposed AD results from reports of numerous failures of the NLG steering cylinder. We are proposing this AD to prevent the loss of hydraulic pressure and steering control.

**DATES:** We must receive comments on this proposed AD by June 25, 2007.

**ADDRESSES:** Use one of the following addresses to submit comments 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.

- *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.

Contact Lockheed Martin Aircraft & Logistics Center, 120 Orion Street, Greenville, South Carolina 29605, for the service information identified in this proposed AD.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Hector Hernandez, Aerospace Engineer, Systems and Equipment Branch, ACE-119A, FAA, Atlanta Aircraft Certification Office, One Crown Center, 1895 Phoenix Boulevard, Suite 450, Atlanta, Georgia 30349; telephone (770) 703-6069; fax (770) 703-6097.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Comments Invited

We invite you to submit any relevant written data, views, or arguments regarding this proposed AD. Send your comments to an address listed in the **ADDRESSES** section. Include the docket number "FAA-2007-28255; Directorate Identifier 2007-NM-023-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 with FAA personnel concerning this proposed AD. Using the search function of that Web site, anyone can find and read the comments in any of our dockets, including the name of the individual who sent the comment (or signed the comment on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). You may review DOT's complete Privacy Act Statement in the **Federal Register** published on April 11, 2000 (65 FR 19477-78), or you may visit <http://dms.dot.gov>.

#### Examining the Docket

You may examine the AD docket on the Internet at <http://dms.dot.gov>, or in person at the Docket Management Facility office between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The Docket Management Facility office (telephone (800) 647-5227) is located on the plaza

level of the Nassif Building at the DOT street address stated in the **ADDRESSES** section. Comments will be available in the AD docket shortly after the Docket Management System receives them.

**Discussion**

We have received reports of numerous failures of the nose landing gear (NLG)

steering cylinder on Lockheed Model 1329 series airplanes. These failures have been attributed to stress corrosion cracking, compounded by towing of the aircraft and exceeding the allowable turn limits with the scissor links connected. The manufacturer has reviewed service history and performed structural analysis on the cylinder

assembly. Failure of the steering cylinder, if not corrected, could result in the loss of hydraulic pressure and steering control.

**Relevant Service Information**

We have reviewed the Lockheed service bulletins identified in the following table.

**SERVICE BULLETINS**

Service bulletin	Revision	Date	Affected airplanes
329–300 .....	C .....	September 5, 2006 .....	1329–23A, 1329–23D, 1329–23E, 1329–25.
329II–32–8 .....	B .....	September 5, 2006 .....	

The service bulletins describe procedures for the following actions:

- Inspecting the NLG steering cylinder assembly for the installed part number;
- Removing from service NLG steering cylinder assemblies, part number (P/N) JL1955–1 and JL1955–3;
- Reviewing airplane records to determine the total flight cycles accumulated on the cylinder assembly;

- Removing from service those cylinders that have exceeded their life limit;
- Establishing life limits (including a repetitive replacement schedule) for all other part-numbered cylinder assemblies (as set forth in the Life Limits table below);
- Replacing, with new parts, any cylinder assembly if its part number is

JL1955–1 or JL1955–3 or its components’ life limits have been exceeded;

- Inspecting the exterior fuselage to confirm that the tow turning limit markings are present on the airplane; and
- Restoring/applying the markings.

**JETSTAR NLG STEERING CYLINDER ASSEMBLY LIFE LIMITS**

Component	Part No.	Life limit (in flight cycles)
7049–T73 die forging .....	JL1955–7 ....	2,100
7050–T7451 plate .....	JL1955–9 ....	1,075
4340 steel bar .....	JL1955–801	3,100
15–5PH plate .....	JL1955–13 ..	>1,000,000

Accomplishing the actions specified in the service information is intended to adequately address the unsafe condition.

**FAA’s Determination and Requirements of the Proposed AD**

We have evaluated all pertinent information and identified an unsafe condition that is likely to exist or develop on other airplanes of this same type design. For this reason, we are proposing this AD, which would require

accomplishing the actions specified in the service information described previously.

We have determined that a reliable inspection of the subject area is not possible. Because the initial detectable crack is longer than the critical crack length in this case, we cannot show crack growth using damage tolerance analysis or develop appropriate inspection intervals. Further, disassembling the actuator steering cylinder—the only possible way to

perform the inspection—would destroy the cylinder. As a result of service history and engineering evaluation, a fatigue-based life limit of the actuator steering cylinder is necessary to ensure the continued airworthiness of the fleet.

**Costs of Compliance**

There are about 48 airplanes of the affected design in the worldwide fleet. The following table provides the estimated costs for U.S. operators to comply with this proposed AD.

**ESTIMATED COSTS**

Work hours	Average labor rate per hour	Parts	Cost per airplane	Number of U.S.-registered airplanes	Fleet cost
3 .....	\$80	\$0	\$240	34	\$8,160

**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. See the **ADDRESSES** section for a location to examine the regulatory evaluation.

**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 Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) amends § 39.13 by adding the following new airworthiness directive (AD):

**Lockheed:** Docket No. FAA-2007-28255; Directorate Identifier 2007-NM-023-AD.

TABLE 1.—SERVICE BULLETINS

Lockheed service bulletin	Revision	Date	Affected airplanes
329-300 .....	C .....	September 5, 2006 .....	1329-23A, 1329-23D, 1329-23E.
329II-32-8 .....	B .....	September 5, 2006 .....	1329-25.

**Inspection for Cylinder Assembly Part Number**

(g) Within 30 days after the effective date of this AD, inspect to determine the part number (P/N) on the steering cylinder assembly for the nose landing gear (NLG). A review of airplane maintenance records is acceptable in lieu of this inspection if the part number can be conclusively determined from that review. Replace any cylinder assembly having P/N JL1955-1 or JL1955-3 with a new assembly before further flight in accordance with the applicable service bulletin.

**Life Limits**

(h) Within 30 days after the effective date of this AD: Review the airplane records to determine the total flight cycles accumulated on the NLG steering cylinder assembly, in accordance with the applicable service bulletin. Before any steering cylinder assembly component reaches its life limit, as specified in Table 1 of the Accomplishment Instructions of the applicable service bulletin, or within 30 days after the effective date of this AD, whichever occurs later: Replace the cylinder assembly with a new assembly in accordance with the applicable service bulletin. If the steering cylinder

assembly's age cannot be positively determined from the records review, replace it within 30 days after the effective date of this AD, in accordance with the applicable service bulletin. Thereafter, replace the cylinder assembly at intervals not to exceed the life limits as specified in the applicable service bulletin.

**Inspection for Tow Turning Limit Markings**

(i) Within 30 days after the effective date of this AD: Perform a general visual inspection above the NLG doors to detect missing tow turning limit markings, in accordance with the applicable service bulletin. If any markings are absent, restore/apply markings before further flight in accordance with the applicable service bulletin.

**Note 1:** For the purposes of this AD, a general visual inspection is: "A visual examination of an interior or exterior area, installation, or assembly to detect obvious damage, failure, or irregularity. This level of inspection is made from within touching distance unless otherwise specified. A mirror may be necessary to ensure visual access to all surfaces in the inspection area. This level of inspection is made under normally available lighting conditions such as

**Comments Due Date**

(a) The FAA must receive comments on this AD action by June 25, 2007.

**Affected ADs**

(b) None.

**Applicability**

- (c) This AD applies to the following airplanes, certificated in any category.
- (1) Lockheed Model 1329-23A, 1329-23D, and 1329-23E series airplanes; serial numbers 5001 through 5162 inclusive.
  - (2) Lockheed Model 1329-25 series airplanes, serial numbers 5201 through 5240 inclusive.

**Unsafe Condition**

(d) This AD results from reports of numerous failures of the nose landing gear (NLG) steering cylinder. We are issuing this AD to prevent the loss of hydraulic pressure and steering control.

**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.

**Service Information**

(f) The term "service bulletin," as used in this AD, means the Accomplishment Instructions of the applicable service bulletin identified in Table 1 of this AD.

daylight, hangar lighting, flashlight, or droplight and may require removal or opening of access panels or doors. Stands, ladders, or platforms may be required to gain proximity to the area being checked."

**Parts Installation**

(j) As of the effective date of this AD, do not install on any airplane a NLG steering cylinder assembly that has P/N JL1955-1 or JL1955-3.

**Alternative Methods of Compliance (AMOCs)**

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

(2) Before using any AMOC approved in accordance with § 39.19 on any airplane to which the AMOC applies, notify the appropriate principal inspector in the FAA Flight Standards Certificate Holding District Office.

Issued in Renton, Washington, on May 15, 2007.

Ali Bahrami,

Manager, Transport Airplane Directorate,  
Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. E7-10033 Filed 5-23-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-P

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Aviation Administration

#### 14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. FAA-2007-28256; Directorate Identifier 2007-NM-041-AD]

RIN 2120-AA64

#### Airworthiness Directives; Empresa Brasileira de Aeronautica S.A. (EMBRAER) Model EMB-135BJ Airplanes

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

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

**SUMMARY:** We propose to adopt a new airworthiness directive (AD) for the products listed above. This proposed AD results from mandatory continuing airworthiness information (MCAI) originated by an aviation authority of another country to identify and correct an unsafe condition on an aviation product. The MCAI describes the unsafe condition as:

It has been found the occurrence of smoke on the passenger cabin originated from the valance panel lighting system wiring.

The proposed AD would require actions that are intended to address the unsafe condition described in the MCAI.

**DATES:** We must receive comments on this proposed AD by June 25, 2007.

**ADDRESSES:** You may send comments by any of the following methods:

- *DOT Docket Web Site:* Go to <http://dms.dot.gov> and follow the instructions for sending your comments electronically.

- *Fax:* (202) 493-2251.

- *Mail:* Docket Management Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Nassif Building, Room PL-401, Washington, DC 20590-0001.

- *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.

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

#### Examining the AD Docket

You may examine the AD docket 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 AD docket contains this proposed AD, the regulatory evaluation, any comments received, and other information. The street address for the Docket Office (telephone (800) 647-5227) is in the **ADDRESSES** section. Comments will be available in the AD docket shortly after receipt.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Todd Thompson, Aerospace Engineer, International Branch, ANM-116, FAA, Transport Airplane Directorate, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington 98057-3356; telephone (425) 227-1175; fax (425) 227-1149.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Streamlined Issuance of AD

The FAA is implementing a new process for streamlining the issuance of ADs related to MCAI. This streamlined process will allow us to adopt MCAI safety requirements in a more efficient manner and will reduce safety risks to the public. This process continues to follow all FAA AD issuance processes to meet legal, economic, Administrative Procedure Act, and **Federal Register** requirements. We also continue to meet our technical decision-making responsibilities to identify and correct unsafe conditions on U.S.-certificated products.

This proposed AD references the MCAI and related service information that we considered in forming the engineering basis to correct the unsafe condition. The proposed AD contains text copied from the MCAI and for this reason might not follow our plain language principles.

##### Comments Invited

We invite you to send any written relevant data, views, or arguments about this proposed AD. Send your comments to an address listed under the **ADDRESSES** section. Include "Docket No. FAA-2007-28256; Directorate Identifier 2007-NM-041-AD" at the beginning of your comments. We specifically invite comments on the overall regulatory, economic, environmental, and energy aspects of this proposed AD. We will consider all comments received by the closing date and may amend this proposed AD based on 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 about this proposed AD.

#### Discussion

The Agência Nacional de Aviação Civil (ANAC), which is the aviation authority for Brazil, has issued Brazilian Airworthiness Directive 2007-01-03, effective January 22, 2007 (referred to after this as "the MCAI"), to correct an unsafe condition for the specified products. The MCAI states:

It has been found the occurrence of smoke on the passenger cabin originated from the valance panel lighting system wiring.

The corrective action is replacement of the valance panel lighting system wiring. You may obtain further information by examining the MCAI in the AD docket.

#### Relevant Service Information

EMBRAER has issued Service Bulletin 145LEG-25-0070, dated October 11, 2006. The actions described in this service information are intended to correct the unsafe condition identified in the MCAI.

#### FAA's Determination and Requirements of This Proposed AD

This product has been approved by the aviation authority of another country, and is approved for operation in the United States. Pursuant to our bilateral agreement with the State of Design Authority, we have been notified of the unsafe condition described in the MCAI and service information referenced above. We are proposing this AD because we evaluated all pertinent information and determined an unsafe condition exists and is likely to exist or develop on other products of the same type design.

#### Differences Between This AD and the MCAI or Service Information

We have reviewed the MCAI and related service information and, in general, agree with their substance. But we might have found it necessary to use different words from those in the MCAI to ensure the AD is clear for U.S. operators and is enforceable. In making these changes, we do not intend to differ substantively from the information provided in the MCAI and related service information.

We might also have proposed different actions in this AD from those in the MCAI in order to follow FAA policies. Any such differences are highlighted in a NOTE within the proposed AD.

#### Costs of Compliance

Based on the service information, we estimate that this proposed AD would