

### 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.

Issued in Renton, Washington, on July 30, 2007.

**Ali Bahrami,**

Manager, Transport Airplane Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. E7-16115 Filed 8-15-07; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-13-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Aviation Administration

#### 14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. FAA-2007-28925; Directorate Identifier 2007-NM-123-AD]

RIN 2120-AA64

#### Airworthiness Directives; Airbus A330-200 and -300 Series Airplanes and Model A340-200 and -300 Series 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:

During ground inspection of an A340-311 aircraft, it has been discovered that 5 fasteners were missing between Frame (FR) 18 and FR19 on longitudinal joint at stringer 28RH (right hand).

Further investigations have revealed that the missing fasteners have not been installed in production due to incorrect production instructions.

If not corrected, this situation could affect the structural integrity of the aircraft in the area of stringer 28 between FR18 and FR19 at longitudinal joint.

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 September 17, 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:* U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M-30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC 20590.
- *Hand Delivery:* Room W12-140 on the ground floor of the West Building, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., 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 Operations office 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 Operations office (telephone (800) 647-5527) is in the **ADDRESSES** section. Comments will be available in the AD docket shortly after receipt.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Tim Backman, Aerospace Engineer, International Branch, ANM-116, FAA, Transport Airplane Directorate, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington 98057-3356; telephone (425) 227-2797; fax (425) 227-1149.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### 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-2007-28925; Directorate Identifier 2007-NM-123-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 European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA), which is the Technical Agent for the Member States of the European Community, has issued EASA Airworthiness Directive 2007-0125, dated May 4, 2007 (referred to after this as "the MCAI"), to correct an unsafe condition for the specified products. The MCAI states:

During ground inspection of an A340-311 aircraft, it has been discovered that 5 fasteners were missing between Frame (FR) 18 and FR19 on longitudinal joint at stringer 28RH (right hand).

Further investigations have revealed that the missing fasteners have not been installed in production due to incorrect production instructions.

If not corrected, this situation could affect the structural integrity of the aircraft in the area of stringer 28 between FR18 and FR19 at longitudinal joint.

In order to re-establish the structural strength of the aircraft, this Airworthiness Directive (AD) renders mandatory the inspection of the longitudinal joint at stringer 28 RH between FR18 and FR19 [for missing fasteners].

For airplanes on which any fastener is missing, the corrective actions include doing a detailed visual inspection for cracking of the adjacent fastener area from the outside, without removing the fasteners; and if no crack is found, doing a rotating probe inspection for cracks of the adjacent fastener holes after removing the fasteners, and replacing any missing fastener. The corrective actions also include contacting Airbus for repair instructions and repair if fasteners are not at nominal diameter or if any crack is found. You may obtain further information by examining the MCAI in the AD docket.

#### Relevant Service Information

Airbus has issued Service Bulletins A330-53-3170 and A340-53-4175, both dated March 27, 2007. 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 affect about 9 products of U.S. registry. We also estimate that it would take about 4 work-hours per product to comply with the basic requirements of this proposed AD. The average labor rate is \$80 per work-hour. Based on these figures, we estimate the cost of the proposed AD on U.S. operators to be \$2,880, or \$320 per product.

#### 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 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 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. 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.

#### 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:

**AIRBUS:** Docket No. FAA-2007-28925; Directorate Identifier 2007-NM-123-AD.

#### Comments Due Date

(a) We must receive comments by September 17, 2007.

#### Affected ADs

(b) None.

#### Applicability

(c) This AD applies to Airbus Model A330-200 and -300 series airplanes and Model A340-200 and -300 series airplanes; certificated in any category; all serial numbers (MSN) up to MSN 0402 included, except MSN 051.

#### Subject

(d) Air Transport Association (ATA) of America Code 53: Fuselage.

#### Reason

(e) The mandatory continuing airworthiness information (MCAI) states:

During ground inspection of an A340-311 aircraft, it has been discovered that 5 fasteners were missing between Frame (FR) 18 and FR19 on longitudinal joint at stringer 28RH (right hand).

Further investigations have revealed that the missing fasteners have not been installed

in production due to incorrect production instructions.

If not corrected, this situation could affect the structural integrity of the aircraft in the area of stringer 28 between FR18 and FR19 at longitudinal joint.

In order to re-establish the structural strength of the aircraft, this Airworthiness Directive (AD) renders mandatory the inspection of the longitudinal joint at stringer 28 RH between FR18 and FR19 [for missing fasteners].

For airplanes on which any fastener is missing, the corrective actions include doing a detailed visual inspection for cracking of the adjacent fastener area from the outside, without removing the fasteners; and if no crack is found, doing a rotating probe inspection for cracks of the adjacent fastener holes after removing the fasteners, and replacing any missing fastener. The corrective actions also include contacting Airbus for repair instructions and repair if fasteners are not at nominal diameter or if any crack is found.

#### Actions and Compliance

(f) Before the accumulation of 14,000 flight cycles from the first flight of the aircraft, or within 1,500 flight cycles following the effective date of this AD, whichever occurs later, unless already done, do the following actions: Perform a detailed visual inspection of the longitudinal joint at stringer 28 RH between FR18 and FR19 for missing fasteners, and do all applicable corrective actions before further flight, in accordance with the instructions defined in Airbus Service Bulletin A330-53-3170 or A340-53-4175, both dated March 27, 2007.

#### FAA AD Differences

**Note:** This AD differs from the MCAI and/or service information as follows: No differences.

#### Other FAA AD Provisions

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

(1) Alternative Methods of Compliance (AMOCs): The Manager, International Branch, 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: Tim Backman, Aerospace Engineer, International Branch, ANM-116, FAA, Transport Airplane Directorate, 1601 Lind Avenue SW., Renton, Washington 98057-3356; telephone (425) 227-2797; 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 European Aviation Safety Agency Airworthiness Directive 2007-0125, dated May 4, 2007, and Airbus Service Bulletins A330-53-3170 and A340-53-4175, both dated March 27, 2007, for related information.

Issued in Renton, Washington, on July 30, 2007.

**Ali Bahrami,**

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

[FR Doc. E7-16111 Filed 8-15-07; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Aviation Administration

#### 14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. FAA-2007-28921; Directorate Identifier 2007-NM-091-AD]

RIN 2120-AA64

#### Airworthiness Directives; Boeing Model 737-300, -400, and -500 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 Boeing Model 737-300, -400, and -500 series airplanes. This proposed AD would require, among other actions, modifying the door-mounted escape system of the forward right side door slide compartment. This proposed AD results from reports indicating that the forward right escape slide inflated 90 degrees out of alignment after deployment from the forward right side slide compartment. We are proposing this AD to prevent the escape slide from being unusable during an emergency evacuation and consequent injury to passengers or crewmembers.

**DATES:** We must receive comments on this proposed AD by October 1, 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:* U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M-30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC 20590.

- *Fax:* (202) 493-2251.
- *Hand Delivery:* Room W12-140 on the ground floor of the West Building, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

Contact Boeing Commercial Airplanes, P.O. Box 3707, Seattle, Washington 98124-2207, for the service information identified in this proposed AD.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Robert Hettman, Aerospace Engineer, Cabin & Environmental Systems Safety 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:

##### 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-2007-28921; Directorate Identifier 2007-NM-091-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 Operations office between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The Docket Operations office (telephone (800) 647-5527) is located on the ground level of the West 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 indicating that the forward door escape slide inflated 90 degrees out of alignment after deployment from the forward right side slide compartment, on Boeing Model 737-300, -400, and -500 airplanes. During deployment of the escape slide, the escape slide may be temporarily restricted within the slide compartment. This added restriction can delay the escape slide from aligning to a proper orientation before inflation. If inflation begins before the escape slide extends from the door, it can result in a sideways slide deployment. This condition, if not corrected, could result in the escape slide being unusable during an emergency evacuation and consequent injury to passengers or crewmembers.

##### Relevant Service Information

We have reviewed Boeing Special Attention Service Bulletin 737-25-1567, dated March 21, 2007. The service information describes procedures for modifying the door-mounted escape system of the forward right side door slide compartment. The modification includes:

- Removing the bottle retainer, rubber pad, and window; and cleaning the pan assembly.
- Modifying the window cutout and applying a primer coating and enamel finish.
- Installing a new window.

Boeing Service Bulletin 737-25-1430, Revision 1, dated April 10, 2003, which is required by AD 2004-02-08, amendment 39-13443 (69 FR 4452, January 30, 2004), is necessary to be done prior to or concurrently with Boeing Special Attention Service Bulletin 737-25-1567. Boeing Service Bulletin 737-24-1430 describes procedures for replacing the hinge assembly of the escape slide compartment with a new assembly.

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