- (b) The term award does not include:
- (1) Technical assistance that provides services instead of money.
  - (2) Loans.
  - (3) Loan guarantees.
  - (4) Interest subsidies.
  - (5) Insurance.
  - (6) Direct appropriations.
- (7) Veterans' benefits to individuals (i.e., any benefit to veterans, their families, or survivors by virtue of the service of a veteran in the Armed Forces of the United States).

#### § 182.610 Controlled substance.

Controlled substance means a controlled substance in schedules I through V of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 812), and as further defined by regulation at 21 CFR 1308.11 through 1308.15.

## § 182.615 Conviction.

Conviction means a finding of guilt (including a plea of nolo contendere) or imposition of sentence, or both, by any judicial body charged with the responsibility to determine violations of the Federal or State criminal drug statutes.

#### § 182.620 Cooperative agreement.

Cooperative agreement means an award of financial assistance that, consistent with 31 U.S.C. 6305, is used to enter into the same kind of relationship as a grant (see definition of grant in § 182.650), except that substantial involvement is expected between the Federal agency and the recipient when carrying out the activity contemplated by the award. The term does not include cooperative research and development agreements as defined in 15 U.S.C. 3710a.

#### § 182.625 Criminal drug statute.

Criminal drug statute means a Federal or non-Federal criminal statute involving the manufacture, distribution, dispensing, use, or possession of any controlled substance.

## § 182.630 Debarment.

Debarment means an action taken by a Federal agency to prohibit a recipient from participating in Federal Government procurement contracts and covered nonprocurement transactions. A recipient so prohibited is debarred, in accordance with the Federal Acquisition Regulation for procurement contracts (48 CFR part 9, subpart 9.4) and agency regulations implementing the OMB guidance on nonprocurement debarment and suspension (2 CFR part 180, which implements Executive Orders 12549 and 12689).

#### § 182.635 Drug-free workplace.

Drug-free workplace means a site for the performance of work done in connection with a specific award at which employees of the recipient are prohibited from engaging in the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of a controlled substance.

#### § 182.640 Employee.

(a) Employee means the employee of a recipient directly engaged in the performance of work under the award, including-

(1) All direct charge employees;

(2) All indirect charge employees, unless their impact or involvement in the performance of work under the award is insignificant to the performance of the award; and

(3) Temporary personnel and consultants who are directly engaged in the performance of work under the award and who are on the recipient's

payroll.

(b) This definition does not include workers not on the payroll of the recipient (e.g., volunteers, even if used to meet a matching requirement; consultants or independent contractors not on the payroll; or employees of subrecipients or subcontractors in covered workplaces).

## § 182.645 Federal agency or agency.

Federal agency or agency means any United States executive department, military department, government corporation, government controlled corporation, any other establishment in the executive branch (including the Executive Office of the President), or any independent regulatory agency.

#### § 182.650 Grant.

Grant means an award of financial assistance that, consistent with 31 U.S.C. 6304, is used to enter into a

relationship-

(a) The principal purpose of which is to transfer a thing of value to the recipient to carry out a public purpose of support or stimulation authorized by a law of the United States, rather than to acquire property or services for the Federal Government's direct benefit or use; and

(b) In which substantial involvement is not expected between the Federal agency and the recipient when carrying out the activity contemplated by the award.

#### § 182.655 Individual.

Individual means a natural person.

#### § 182.660 Recipient.

Recipient means any individual, corporation, partnership, association, unit of government (except a Federal agency) or legal entity, however organized, that receives an award directly from a Federal agency.

#### § 182.665 State.

State means any of the States of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or any territory or possession of the United States.

#### §182.670 Suspension.

Suspension means an action taken by a Federal agency that immediately prohibits a recipient from participating in Federal Government procurement contracts and covered nonprocurement transactions for a temporary period, pending completion of an investigation and any judicial or administrative proceedings that may ensue. A recipient so prohibited is suspended, in accordance with the Federal Acquisition Regulation for procurement contracts (48 CFR part 9, subpart 9.4) and agency regulations implementing the OMB guidance on nonprocurement debarment and suspension (2 CFR part 180, which implements Executive Orders 12549 and 12689). Suspension of a recipient is a distinct and separate action from suspension of an award or suspension of payments under an award.

[FR Doc. E8-22717 Filed 9-25-08; 8:45 am] BILLING CODE 3110-01-P

#### **DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

#### **Federal Aviation Administration**

### 14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. FAA-2008-0018; Directorate Identifier 2007-NM-145-AD]

#### RIN 2120-AA64

### Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Model A310 Series Airplanes and Model A300-600 Series Airplanes

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

**ACTION:** Supplemental notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM); reopening of comment period.

**SUMMARY:** The FAA is revising an earlier NPRM for an airworthiness directive (AD) that applies to all Airbus Model A310 series airplanes and Model A300-600 series airplanes. The original NPRM would have required superseding two existing ADs. One existing AD applies to certain Airbus Model A310 series airplanes and currently requires

repetitive inspections for cracking of the flap transmission shafts, and replacement of the transmission shafts if necessary. That existing AD also provides an optional terminating action for the repetitive inspections. The other existing AD applies to all Airbus Model A310 and A300–600 series airplanes and currently requires a one-time inspection of the trimmable horizontal stabilizer actuator, corrective actions if necessary, and follow-on repetitive tasks. The original NPRM would have added revising the Airworthiness Limitations Section of the Instructions for Continued Airworthiness to incorporate new limitations and maintenance tasks for aging systems maintenance. The original NPRM resulted from the manufacturer's determination that life limitations and maintenance tasks are necessary in order to ensure continued operational safety of the affected airplanes. This new action revises the original NPRM by reducing the initial compliance times. We are proposing this supplemental NPRM to prevent reduced structural integrity of these airplanes due to the failure of system components. DATES: We must receive comments on this supplemental NPRM by October 21, 2008.

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

- Federal eRulemaking Portal: Go to http://www.regulations.gov. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.
  - 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: U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M-30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

For service information identified in this AD, contact Airbus, 1 Rond Point Maurice Bellonte, 31707 Blagnac Cedex, France.

## **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 proposed AD, the regulatory evaluation, any comments received, and other information. The street address for the Docket 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: Tom Stafford, Aerospace Engineer, International Branch, ANM-116, Transport Airplane Directorate, FAA, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington 98057-3356; telephone (425) 227-1622; fax (425) 227-1149.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

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#### **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—2008—0018; Directorate Identifier 2007—NM—145—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 because of those comments.

We will post all comments we receive, without change, to http://www.regulations.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 FAA issued a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) (the "original NPRM") to amend 14 CFR part 39 to include an AD that supersedes two existing ADs: AD 2006-10-11, amendment 39-14595 (71 FR 28254, May 16, 2006), which applies to certain Airbus Model A310 series airplanes; and AD 2006-15-10, amendment 39-14690 (71 FR 42021, July 25, 2006), which applies to all Airbus Model A310 and A300-600 series airplanes. The original NPRM was published in the Federal Register on January 14, 2008 (73 FR 2197). The original NPRM applies to all Airbus Model A310 series airplanes and Model A300-600 series airplanes. The original NPRM proposed to retain the requirements of the existing ADs. The original NPRM also proposed to add revising the Airworthiness Limitations Section (ALS) of the Instructions for Continued Airworthiness (ICA) to incorporate new limitations and maintenance tasks for aging systems maintenance.

# Actions Since Original NPRM Was Issued

Since the original NPRM was issued, we have determined that the initial compliance times for the revision

specified in paragraph (o) of the original NPRM need to be reduced. In paragraph (o) of the original NPRM, we specified that for all tasks "\* \* the initial compliance times start from the effective date of this AD \* \* \*." However, the thresholds specified in Airbus A310 ALS Part 4—Aging Systems Maintenance, Revision 01. dated December 21, 2006; and Airbus A300-600 ALS Part 4—Aging Systems Maintenance, Revision 01, dated December 21, 2006; (which are referred to as the appropriate sources of service information for accomplishing the required actions in paragraph (o) of the original NPRM); start from "\* \* \* the initial entry into service of a specific maintenance task."

In order to ensure timely action to address the identified unsafe condition, we have reduced the initial compliance times in order to match the service information. We have revised paragraph (o) of the supplemental NPRM accordingly.

#### Comments

We provided the public the opportunity to participate in the development of this AD. We have considered the comments that have been received on the original NPRM.

### **Request To Refer to Latest Revisions of Service Bulletins**

Federal Express (FedEx) requests that we refer to the latest revision of Airbus Service Bulletin A300-27-6044, Revision 04, dated September 10, 2001; and Airbus Service Bulletin A310–27– 2089, Revision 02, dated June 28, 2001 (which are referred to in Table 1 of paragraph (k) of the original NPRM as the appropriate sources of service information for doing the actions specified in paragraphs (l), (m), and (n) of the original NPRM). FedEx states that Airbus Service Bulletin A300-27-6044, Revision 05, dated August 29, 2006; and Airbus Service Bulletin A310-27-2089, Revision 03, dated August 29, 2006; do not specify any additional work and were primarily issued to adjust the service bulletin effectivity as well as to provide additional reference data.

We agree with the commenter to refer to Airbus Service Bulletin A300–27–6044, Revision 05, dated August 29, 2006; and Airbus Service Bulletin A310–27–2089, Revision 03, dated August 29, 2006. We have reviewed the service bulletins and determined no additional work is required. We have revised Table 1 of this supplemental NPRM accordingly.

#### Request To Clarify Definition of "New"

FedEx requests that we clarify the word "new" specified in paragraph (m) of the original NPRM. FedEx states that the word "new" pertains to the replacement of the trimmable horizontal stabilizer actuator (THSA), and the replacement could be with a new or used (serviceable) THSA provided that the THSA has not been operated more than 65,000 flight hours or 40,000 flight cycles or been in service more than 25 years since new, whichever occurs first. FedEx also states that if an THSA that was operated more than 47,000 flight hours has been installed, it must be inspected in accordance with Airbus Service Bulletins A300-27-6044 or A310-27-2089 (as specified in paragraph (n) of the original NPRM). FedEx further states that Airbus is in concurrence with FedEx's comment.

We agree with the commenter that the replacement specified in paragraph (m) of this supplemental NPRM could be with a new or serviceable THSA. Subpart 4-2 of the Airbus A300-600 and A310 ALS Part 4 lists the life limits for the operational life of the listed components. When a component (e.g., the THSA) reaches the earliest of any of the life limits in flight hours, flight cycles, or calendar time, that component has reached the end of its given operational life and must be removed from the airplane and replaced by another unit. It is not necessary that the replacement unit/component be "new." The rules of application for the ALS Part 4 are given in sub-part 4-0 of the ALS.

It is a requirement that a life-limited component not be operated beyond the limitation stated in the ALS Part 4-2. Thus, for the THSA, as long as none of the limits (65,000 flight hours, 40,000 flight cycles, or 25 years of operation) have been exceeded and the component is classified "serviceable," then the component can be installed and operated on the airplane. Airbus Operators Information Telex (OIT) SE 999.0074/05/BB, dated August 3, 2005, provides clarification on these limits. We have revised paragraph (m) of this supplemental NPRM to clarify that the installed part may be "new" or "serviceable," and we have added Note 6 and Note 7 to this supplemental NPRM to refer to the OIT for clarification of these limits.

## Request To Clarify Starting Point of 25-Year Life Limit

FedEx requests that we clarify the starting point for the 25-year life limit specified in the Airbus A300–600 and A310 ALS Part 4 for THSAs built as spare parts and not originally installed on airplanes. FedEx suggests that operators be required to use the date of manufacture of the THSA as documented by Goodrich, the original equipment manufacturer (OEM) of the THSA. FedEx states that it would be difficult to determine when the component, produced as a spare by Goodrich, was first installed on an airplane.

We agree to clarify the starting point for the 25-year life limit. The ALS Part 4 does not provide the calendar limit guidance that is provided in Airbus Service Information Letter (SIL) 05–008, dated July 7, 2006. Airbus issued SIL 05–008 to give guidance (i.e., a calculation method) for life limitations in calendar parameters for components whose history is partially or completely unknown. This calculation method could be used by operators when they comply with the ALS Parts 4–2 and 4–3(a).

The SIL is intended for use when operators cannot retrieve their parts history (in flight hours/flight cycles). This method provides an estimated parts life (flight hours/flight cycles) and is very conservative. As suggested in the FedEx request, one method employed in the life calculation (starting point) is the date of manufacture (DOM). The DOM is shown in one of the tables and examples within the SIL.

The SIL is not currently referenced in the ALS Part 4. However, Airbus has issued OIT SE 999.0008/07/LB, dated January 16, 2007. Section 4 of the OIT advises users of the availability of SIL 05–008. We have added Note 8 to this supplemental NPRM to refer to the OIT and SIL for clarification.

### Request To Include New THSA Part

FedEx requests that we include the new configuration of THSA, part number (P/N) 47142-323, and its life limitation. FedEx states that P/N 47142-323 does not have the 25-year life limit due to the application of enhanced materials and processes used during manufacture to reinforce their resistance to corrosion. FedEx notes that Airbus issued Service Bulletins A300-27-6058 and A310-27-2100, both dated August 30, 2007, to introduce this new THSA configuration, which does not carry a calendar life limit. FedEx further states that ALS Part 4 does not address this THSA configuration.

We do not agree to include the new THSA part number. We acknowledge that Airbus Service Bulletins A300–27–6058 (for Model A300–600 airplanes) and A310–27–2100 (for Model A310 airplanes) specify procedures to install THSA P/N 47142–323. However, Airbus has not published a revised inspection

task that will apply to P/N 47142–323 to address the corrosion issue. After this task has been published, operators may request an alternative method of compliance (AMOC) according to the provisions of paragraph (r) of this supplemental NPRM. We have not revised this supplemental NPRM in this regard.

# Request To Allow Additional Compliance Time

FedEx requests that we add a grace period of 1,200 flight hours for Task Number 274411-12-1. FedEx states that the task is contained within Airbus A310 ALS Part 4—Aging Systems Maintenance, Revision 01, dated December 21, 2006; and Airbus A300-600 ALS Part 4—Aging Systems Maintenance, Revision 01, dated December 21, 2006; which were referred to in paragraph (o) of the original NPRM for the incorporation of new limitations and maintenance tasks for aging systems maintenance. FedEx states that the task establishes a threshold for accomplishment at 47,000 flight hours or 20 years, whichever occurs first, but does not provide a grace period for the inspection on actuators that have exceeded 20 years in service but not yet reached 25 years in service (the established life limit of the THSA). FedEx suggests a grace period of 1,200 flight hours to provide sufficient time to sequence airplanes through maintenance for accomplishment of this THSA inspection at the new established threshold.

We agree that a grace period is necessary. In accordance with paragraph (o) of this supplemental NPRM, operators have three months to revise the ALS of the ICA to incorporate the tasks specified in Airbus A310 ALS Part 4—Aging Systems Maintenance, Revision 01, dated December 21, 2006; and A300–600 ALS Part 4—Aging Systems Maintenance, Revision 01, dated December 21, 2006; as applicable. For the initial compliance times for the tasks identified in the ALS, we have added paragraph (o)(2) of this supplemental NPRM to provide a grace period of within 3 months after revising the ALS of the ICA.

## FAA's Determination and Proposed Requirements of the Supplemental NPRM

The changes discussed above expand the scope of the original NPRM; therefore, we have determined that it is necessary to reopen the comment period to provide additional opportunity for public comment on this supplemental NPRM.

### Costs of Compliance

The following table provides the estimated costs for U.S. operators to comply with this supplemental NPRM.

#### **ESTIMATED COSTS**

Action	Work hours	Average labor rate per hour	Cost per airplane	Number of U.Sregistered airplanes	Fleet cost
Inspection (required by AD 2006–10–11)	1	\$80	\$80, per inspection cycle.	59	\$4,720, per inspection cycle.
Inspection (required by AD 2006–15–10)	3	80	\$240	213	\$51,120 <sup>°</sup> .
Repetitive follow-on tasks (required by AD 2006–15–10).	12	80	\$960, per inspection cycle.	213	\$204,480, per inspection cycle.
ALS revision (new action)	1	80	\$80	213	\$17,040.

## **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 supplemental NPRM 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 removing amendment 39–14595 (71 FR 28254, May 16, 2006) and amendment 39–14690 (71 FR 42021, July 25, 2006) and adding the following new airworthiness directive (AD):

Airbus: Docket No. FAA-2008-0018; Directorate Identifier 2007-NM-145-AD.

#### **Comments Due Date**

(a) The FAA must receive comments on this AD action by October 21, 2008.

#### Affected ADs

(b) This AD supersedes AD 2006–10–11 and AD 2006–15–10.

## Applicability

(c) This AD applies to all Airbus Model A310 series airplanes; and Model A300–600 series airplanes; certificated in any category.

Note 1: This AD requires revisions to certain operator maintenance documents to include new inspections. Compliance with these inspections is required by 14 CFR 91.403(c). For airplanes that have been previously modified, altered, or repaired in the areas addressed by these inspections, the operator may not be able to accomplish the

inspections described in the revisions. In this situation, to comply with 14 CFR 91.403(c), the operator must request approval for an alternative method of compliance according to paragraph (r) of this AD. The request should include a description of changes to the required inspections that will ensure the continued operational safety of the airplane.

## **Unsafe Condition**

(d) This AD results from the manufacturer's determination that life limitations and maintenance tasks are necessary in order to ensure continued operational safety of the affected airplanes. We are issuing this AD to prevent reduced structural integrity of these airplanes due to the failure of system components.

#### 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.

## Restatement of Requirements of AD 2006–10–11

Inspection and Corrective Action

(f) For Airbus Model A310-203, -204, -221, -222, -304, -322, -324, and -325 airplanes, except for airplanes on which Airbus Modification 12247 has been embodied in production: At the earlier of the compliance times specified in paragraph (f)(1) or (f)(2) of this AD, perform a detailed inspection for stress corrosion cracking of the flight transmission shafts located between the power control unit (PCU) and the torque limiters in accordance with the Accomplishment Instructions of Airbus Service Bulletin A310–27–2092, Revision 02, dated April 11, 2005. Thereafter, repeat the inspections as required by paragraph (g) of this AD. Before further flight, replace any cracked transmission shaft discovered during any inspection required by this AD with a new or reconditioned shaft, in accordance with the Accomplishment Instructions of Airbus Service Bulletin A310-27-2095, dated March 29, 2000. Doing an inspection in accordance with paragraph (o) or (p) of this AD terminates the requirements of this

(1) Within 2,000 flight hours after the last flap asymmetry protection test performed in accordance with Airbus A310 Maintenance Planning Document (MPD) Task 275600–01–

(2) Within 8,000 flight cycles after the last flap asymmetry protection test performed in accordance with Airbus A310 MPD Task 275600–02–1 or 800 flight cycles after June 20, 2006 (the effective date of AD 2006–10–11), whichever comes later.

Note 2: Airbus Service Bulletin A310–27–2092, Revision 02, dated April 11, 2005, refers to Lucas Liebherr Service Bulletin 551A–27–624, Revision 1, dated August 18, 2000, as an additional source of service information for accomplishing the inspections.

**Note 3:** Airbus Service Bulletin A310–27–2092, Revision 02, refers to Airbus Service Bulletin A310–27–2095, dated March 29, 2000, as a source of service information for replacing the flap transmission shafts.

**Note 4:** Airbus Service Bulletin A310–27–2095 refers to Lucas Liebherr Service Bulletin 551A–27–M551–05, dated January 12, 2000, as an additional source of service information for replacing the flap transmission shafts.

#### **Repetitive Inspections**

(g) Repeat the inspection required by paragraph (f) of this AD at the applicable

times specified in paragraphs (g)(1), (g)(2), and (g)(3) of this AD. Doing an inspection in accordance with paragraph (o) or (p) of this AD terminates the requirements of this paragraph.

- (1) Before further flight after any occurrence of jamming of the flap transmission system.
- (2) At intervals not to exceed 2,000 flight hours after each flap asymmetry protection test performed in accordance with Airbus A310 MPD Task 275600–01–1.
- (3) At intervals not to exceed 8,000 flight cycles after each flap asymmetry protection test performed in accordance with Airbus A310 MPD Task 275600–02–1.

#### **Optional Terminating Action**

(h) Replacing any flap transmission shaft with a new or reconditioned transmission shaft in accordance with the Accomplishment Instructions of Airbus Service Bulletin A310–27–2095, dated March 29, 2000, ends the inspections required by paragraphs (f) and (g) of this AD for that transmission shaft only.

## Actions Performed Using Previously Issued Service Information

(i) Actions performed in accordance with Airbus Service Bulletin A310–27–2092,

dated April 9, 1999; or Revision 01, dated December 11, 2001; are considered acceptable for compliance with the corresponding requirements of paragraphs (f) and (g) of this AD.

#### No Reporting

(j) Although Airbus Service Bulletin A310–27–2092, Revision 02, dated April 11, 2005, specifies to submit certain information to the manufacturer, this AD does not include that requirement.

#### Restatement of Requirements of AD 2006– 15–10

Service Bulletin References

(k) Unless otherwise specified in this AD, the term "service bulletin," as used in paragraphs (l), (m), and (n) of this AD, means the applicable required service bulletin identified in Table 1 of this AD. The service bulletins refer to Goodrich Actuation Systems Service Bulletin 47142–27–11, Revision 3, dated April 25, 2005, as an additional source of service information for the required actions.

#### TABLE 1—SERVICE BULLETINS

Required Airbus Service Bulletin	Approved Airbus Service Bulletin version for actions done before the effective date of this AD	Airbus airplane model	
A300-27-6044, Revision 04, dated September 10, 2001; or A300-27-6044, Revision 05, dated August 29, 2006.	A300–27–6044, Revision 02, dated August 26, 2000; or Revision 03, dated June 28, 2001.	A300 B4–601, B4–603, B4–620, and B4–622. A300 B4–605R and B4–622R. A300 F4–605R and F4–622R. A300 C4–605R Variant F.	
A310–27–2089, Revision 02, dated June 28, 2001; or A310–27–2089, Revision 03, dated August 29, 2006.	A310–27–2089, Revision 01, dated August 25, 2000.	A310–203, –204, –221, and –222 A310–304, –322, –324, and –325.	

#### Inspection

(l) At the applicable time specified in paragraph (l)(1) or (l)(2) of this AD, do a detailed inspection of specified components of the trimmable horizontal stabilizer actuator (THSA) in accordance with paragraph 1.E.(2)(a) and the Accomplishment Instructions of the applicable service bulletin. Repair any discrepancy before further flight in accordance with a method approved by the Manager, International Branch, ANM-116, Transport Airplane Directorate, FAA; or the European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) (or its delegated agent). TRW Aeronautical Systems/Lucas Aerospace Component Maintenance Manual 27-44-13, dated September 14, 2001, is one acceptable method for the repair. Doing an inspection in accordance with paragraph (o) or (p) of this AD terminates the requirements of this paragraph.

(1) If the flight hours accumulated on the THSA can be positively determined: Inspect at the earlier of:

(i) Before the accumulation of 47,000 total flight hours on the THSA, or within 600 flight hours after August 29, 2006 (the

effective date of AD 2006–15–10), whichever occurs later.

- (ii) Within 25 years since the THSA was new or within 600 flight hours after August 29, 2006, whichever occurs later.
- (2) If the flight hours accumulated on the THSA cannot be positively determined: Inspect before the accumulation of 47,000 total flight hours on the airplane, or within 600 flight hours after August 29, 2006, whichever occurs later.

Note 5: For the purposes of this AD, a detailed inspection is: "An intensive examination of a specific item, installation, or assembly to detect damage, failure, or irregularity. Available lighting is normally supplemented with a direct source of good lighting at an intensity deemed appropriate. Inspection aids such as mirror, magnifying lenses, etc., may be necessary. Surface cleaning and elaborate procedures may be required."

## $Follow-on\ Repetitive\ Tasks$

(m) After the inspection required by paragraph (l) of this AD: Do the repetitive tasks in accordance with the Accomplishment Instructions and at the times specified in paragraph 1.E.(2)(b) of the service bulletin, as applicable, except as provided by paragraph (n) of this AD. The

repetitive tasks are valid only until the THSA operational life exceeds 65,000 flight hours, 40,000 flight cycles, or 25 years, whichever occurs first. Before the THSA is operated beyond these extended life goals, it must be replaced with a new or serviceable THSA, except as required by paragraph (n) of this AD. Doing an inspection in accordance with paragraph (o) or (p) of this AD terminates the requirements of this paragraph.

**Note 6:** Refer to Airbus Operators Information Telex (OIT) SE 999.0074/05/BB, dated August 3, 2005, for additional information on the THSA life limits.

#### THSA Replacement

(n) For any THSA, whether discrepant or not, that is replaced with a new or serviceable THSA: Within 47,000 flight hours or 25 years, whichever occurs first, after the THSA is replaced, do the applicable tasks specified in paragraph 1.E.(2)(a) and the Accomplishment Instructions of the applicable service bulletin. Thereafter repeat the tasks within the repetitive intervals specified in paragraph 1.E.(2)(b) of the applicable service bulletin. Doing the corresponding tasks in accordance with

paragraph (o) or (p) of this AD terminates the requirements of this paragraph.

#### New Requirements of This AD

Revise Airworthiness Limitations Section (ALS) To Incorporate Limitations and Maintenance Tasks for Aging Systems Maintenance

- (o) Within 3 months after the effective date of this AD, revise the ALS of the Instructions for Continued Airworthiness (ICA) to incorporate Airbus A310 ALS Part 4—Aging Systems Maintenance, Revision 01, dated December 21, 2006; or Airbus A300-600 ALS Part 4—Aging Systems Maintenance, Revision 01, dated December 21, 2006; as applicable. For all tasks identified in Airbus A310 ALS Part 4—Aging Systems Maintenance, Revision 01; and Airbus A300-600 ALS Part 4—Aging Systems Maintenance, Revision 01; do the tasks at the later of the times specified in paragraphs (0)(1) and (0)(2) of this AD, except as provided by paragraph (p) of this AD. The repetitive inspections must be accomplished thereafter at the interval specified in Airbus A310 ALS Part 4—Aging Systems Maintenance, Revision 01; and Airbus A300-600 ALS Part 4—Aging Systems Maintenance, Revision 01. Doing an inspection required by this paragraph terminates the corresponding inspection required by paragraph (f), (g), (l), (m), or (n) of this AD.
- (1) At the initial compliance times (thresholds) specified in the applicable ALS Part 4—Aging Systems Maintenance, with the compliance times starting from the later of the times specified in paragraphs (o)(1)(i) and (o)(1)(ii) of this AD.

(i) Since first flight of the airplane.

- (ii) Since the applicable part was new or refurbished if the part's life (in flight hours, flight cycles, landings, or calendar time, as applicable) can be conclusively determined.
- (2) Within 3 months after doing the revision of the ALS of the ICA required by paragraph (o) of this AD.

**Note 7:** Refer to Airbus OIT SE 999.0074/05/BB, dated August 3, 2005, for additional information on the THSA life limits.

Note 8: Refer to Airbus OIT SE 999.0008/07/LB, dated January 16, 2007; and Airbus Service Information Letter (SIL) 05–008, Revision 1, dated February 21, 2007; for additional information on the THSA life limits and calculation method for unknown history of parts.

(p) For airplanes on which any life limitation/maintenance task has been complied with in accordance with the requirements of paragraph (f), (g), (l), (m), or (n) of this AD (e.g., AD 2006-10-11 or AD 2006-15-10), the last accomplishment of each limitation/task must be retained as a starting point for the accomplishment of each corresponding limitation/task interval now introduced in Airbus A310 ALS Part 4-Aging Systems Maintenance, Revision 01, dated December 21, 2006; and A300-600 ALS Part 4—Aging Systems Maintenance, Revision 01, dated December 21, 2006; as applicable. Doing an inspection required by this paragraph terminates the corresponding inspection required by paragraph (f), (g), (l), (m), or (n) of this AD.

(q) Except as provided by paragraph (r) of this AD: After accomplishing the actions specified in paragraphs (o) and (p) of this AD, no alternative inspection, inspection intervals, or limitations may be used.

Alternative Methods of Compliance (AMOCs)

- (r)(1) The Manager, International Branch, ANM-116, Transport Airplane Directorate, 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: Tom Stafford, Aerospace Engineer, International Branch, ANM-116, Transport Airplane Directorate, FAA, 1601 Lind Avenue SW., Renton, Washington 98057-3356; telephone (425) 227-1622; 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) AMOCs approved previously in accordance with AD 2006–10–11 are not approved as AMOCs with this AD.
- (3) AMOCs approved previously in accordance with AD 2006–15–10 are not approved as AMOCs with this AD.

Related Information

(s) EASA airworthiness directive 2007–0092, dated April 10, 2007, also addresses the subject of this AD.

Issued in Renton, Washington, on September 18, 2008.

#### Michael Kaszycki,

Acting Manager, Transport Airplane Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service. [FR Doc. E8–22632 Filed 9–25–08; 8:45 am]

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#### **DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

#### **Federal Aviation Administration**

#### 14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. FAA-2008-1020; Directorate Identifier 2008-CE-053-AD]

#### RIN 2120-AA64

# Airworthiness Directives; Vulcanair S.p.A. Model P68 Series 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 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:

The Safe Fatigue Limits (SFL) of the Wing Structure in the P68 Series aircraft have been redefined from the current 8,500 Flight Hours to a new value to be calculated up to a maximum of 17,500 Flight Hours. This has been developed by Vulcanair under Change No. MOD.P68/79 Rev. 1 and approved by EASA with No. EASA.A.C.02482 on 07 June 2006.

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 October 27, 2008. **ADDRESSES:** You may send comments by any of the following methods:

- Federal eRulemaking Portal: Go to http://www.regulations.gov. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.
  - 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: U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M—30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12–140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

#### **Examining the AD Docket**

You may examine the AD docket on the Internet at <a href="http://www.regulations.gov">http://www.regulations.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 AD docket contains this proposed AD, the regulatory evaluation, any comments received, and other information. The street address for the Docket Office (telephone (800) 647–5527) is in the ADDRESSES section. Comments will be available in the AD docket shortly after receipt.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Sarjapur Nagarajan, Aerospace Engineer, FAA, Small Airplane Directorate, 901 Locust, Room 301, Kansas City, Missouri 64106; telephone: (816) 329–4145; fax: (816) 329–4090.

## 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-2008-1020; Directorate Identifier 2008-CE-053-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