

prolonged storage at a low state of charge.

The ICA maintenance procedures must contain precautions to prevent mishandling of the lithium battery, which could result in short-circuit or other unintentional damage that, in turn, could result in personal injury or property damage.

Note 1: The term “sufficiently charged” means that the battery will retain enough of a charge, expressed in ampere-hours, to ensure that the battery cells will not be damaged. A battery cell may be damaged by lowering the charge below a point where the battery’s ability to charge and retain a full charge is reduced. This reduction would be greater than the reduction that may result from normal, operational degradation.

Note 2: These special conditions are not intended to replace § 25.1353(b) in the certification basis of the Airbus Model A330-200 and A330-300 airplanes. These special conditions apply only to lithium batteries and their installations. The requirements of § 25.1353(b) remain in effect for batteries and battery installations in Airbus Model A330-200 and A330-300 airplanes that do not use lithium batteries.

Compliance with the requirements of these special conditions must be shown by test, or analysis by the Aircraft Certification Office or its designees, with the concurrence of the FAA Transport Airplane Directorate.

Issued in Renton, Washington, on August 20, 2009.

Ali Bahrami,

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

[FR Doc. E9-20698 Filed 8-28-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 25

[Docket No. NM406; Special Conditions No. 25-384-SC]

Special Conditions: Bombardier Inc. Model CL-600-2B19, -2C10, -2D15 and -2D24 Airplanes; Passenger Seats With Non-Traditional, Large, Non-Metallic Panels

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Final special conditions.

SUMMARY: These special conditions are issued for Bombardier Inc. model CL-600-2B19, -2C10, -2D15 and -2D24 airplanes. These airplanes will have a novel or unusual design feature(s) associated with seats that include non-

traditional, large, non-metallic panels that would affect survivability during a post-crash fire event. The applicable airworthiness regulations do not contain adequate or appropriate safety standards for this design feature. These special conditions contain the additional safety standards that the Administrator considers necessary to establish a level of safety equivalent to that established by the existing airworthiness standards.

DATES: *Effective Date:* August 12, 2009.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

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Background

On July 1, 2008, Bombardier Inc. 400 Cote Vertu West, Dorval, Quebec, Canada, H4S 1Y9 applied for a design change to Type Certificate No. A21EA for installation of seats that include non-traditional, large, non-metallic panels in the following Bombardier Inc. airplanes: Model CL-600-2B19, Model CL-600-2C10, Model CL-600-2D15 and Model CL-600-2D24. These airplanes, which are currently approved under Type Certificate No. A21EA, are swept-wing, T-tail, twin-engine, fuselage mounted turbofan-powered, single aisle, medium sized transport category airplanes.

The applicable regulations to airplanes currently approved under Type Certificate No. A21EA do not require seats to meet the more stringent flammability standards required of large, non-metallic panels in the cabin interior. At the time the applicable rules were written, seats were designed with a metal frame covered by fabric, not with large, non-metallic panels. Seats also met the then recently adopted standards for flammability of seat cushions. With the seat design being mostly fabric and metal, the contribution to a fire in the cabin had been minimized and was not considered a threat. For these reasons, seats did not need to be tested to heat release and smoke emission requirements.

Seat designs have now evolved to occasionally include non-traditional, large, non-metallic panels. Taken in total, the surface area of these panels is on the same order as the sidewall and overhead stowage bin interior panels. To provide the level of passenger protection intended by the airworthiness standards, these non-traditional, large, non-metallic panels in the cabin must meet the standards of

Title 14 Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR), part 25, Appendix F, parts IV and V, heat release and smoke emission requirements.

Type Certification Basis

Under the provisions of § 21.101 Bombardier must show that the following airplane models, CL-600-2B19, CL-600-2C10, CL-600-2D15 and CL-600-2D24, as changed, continue to meet the applicable provisions of the regulations incorporated by reference in Type Certificate No. A21AE, or the applicable regulations in effect on the date of application for the change. The regulations incorporated by reference in the type certificate are commonly referred to as the “original type certification basis.”

The regulations incorporated by reference in Type Certificate No. A21AE are for the following models:

- CL-600-2B19, part 25, effective February 1, 1965, including Amendments 25-1 through 25-62;
- CL-600-2C10, part 25, effective February 1, 1965, including Amendments 25-1 through 25-86;
- CL-600-2D15, part 25, effective February 1, 1965, including Amendments 25-1 through 25-86, Amendments 25-88 through Amendments 25-90 and Amendments 25-92 through Amendments 25-98.
- CL-600-2D24, part 25, effective February 1, 1965, including Amendments 25-1 through 25-86, Amendments 25-88 through Amendments 25-90 and Amendments 25-92 through Amendments 25-98.

In addition, the certification basis includes other regulations and special conditions that are not pertinent to these special conditions.

If the Administrator finds that the applicable airworthiness regulations (*i.e.*, 14 CFR part 25) do not contain adequate or appropriate safety standards for the Model CL-600 series airplanes because of a novel or unusual design feature, special conditions are prescribed under the provisions of 14 CFR 21.16.

In addition to the applicable airworthiness regulations and special conditions, the Model CL-600 series airplanes must comply with the fuel vent and exhaust emission requirements of 14 CFR part 34 and the noise certification requirements of 14 CFR part 36.

The FAA issues special conditions, as defined in 14 CFR 11.19, in accordance with § 11.38 and they become part of the type certification basis under § 21.17(a)(2).

Special conditions are initially applicable to the model for which they

are issued. Should the type certificate for that model be amended later to include any other model that incorporates the same novel or unusual design feature, or should any other model already included on the same type certificate be modified to incorporate the same novel or unusual design feature, the special conditions would also apply to the other model under § 21.101.

Novel or Unusual Design Features

The Model CL-600 series airplanes will incorporate the following novel or unusual design features: These models offer interior arrangements that include passenger seats that incorporate non-traditional, large, non-metallic panels in lieu of the traditional metal frame covered by fabric. The flammability properties of these panels have been shown to significantly affect the survivability of occupants of the cabin in the case of fire. These seats are considered a novel design for transport category airplanes that include Amendment 25-61 and Amendment 25-66 in the certification basis, and were not considered when those airworthiness standards were established.

The existing regulations do not provide adequate or appropriate safety standards for seat designs that incorporate non-traditional, large, non-metallic panels. In order to provide a level of safety that is equivalent to that provided by the balance of the cabin, additional airworthiness standards, in the form of special conditions, are necessary. These special conditions supplement 14 CFR 25.853. The requirements contained in these special conditions consist of applying the identical test conditions required of all other large panels in the cabin, to seats with non-traditional, large, non-metallic panels.

Definition of "Non-Traditional, Large, Non-Metallic Panel"

A non-traditional, large, non-metallic panel, in this case, is defined as a panel with exposed-surface areas greater than 1.5 square feet installed per seat place. The panel may consist of either a single component or multiple components in a concentrated area. Examples of parts of the seat where these non-traditional panels are installed include, but are not limited to: Seat backs, bottoms and leg/foot rests, kick panels, back shells, credenzas and associated furniture. Examples of traditional exempted parts of the seat include: Arm caps, armrest close-outs such as end bays and armrest-styled center consoles, food trays, video monitors and shrouds.

Clarification of "Exposed"

"Exposed" is considered to include those panels directly exposed to the passenger cabin in the traditional sense, plus those panels enveloped such as by a dress cover. Traditional fabrics or leathers currently used on seats are excluded from these special conditions. These materials must still comply with 14 CFR 25.853(a) and § 25.853(c) if used as a covering for a seat cushion, or § 25.853(a) if installed elsewhere on the seat. Non-traditional, large, non-metallic panels covered with traditional fabrics or leathers will be tested without their coverings or covering attachments.

Discussion

In the early 1980s the FAA conducted extensive research on the effects of post-crash flammability in the passenger cabin. As a result of this research and service experience, we adopted new standards for interior surfaces associated with large surface area parts. Specifically, the rules require measurement of heat release and smoke emission (part 25, Appendix F, parts IV and V) for the affected parts. Heat release has been shown to have a direct correlation with post-crash fire survival time. Materials that comply with the standards (*i.e.*, § 25.853 entitled "Compartment interiors" as amended by Amendment 25-61 and Amendment 25-66) extend survival time by approximately 2 minutes, over materials that do not comply.

At the time these standards were written, the potential application of the requirements of heat release and smoke emission to seats was explored. The seat frame itself was not a concern because it was primarily made of aluminum and there were only small amounts of non-metallic materials. It was determined that the overall effect on survivability was negligible, whether or not the food trays met the heat release and smoke requirements. The requirements, therefore, did not address seats. The preambles to both the Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM), Notice No. 85-10 (50 FR 15038, April 16, 1985), and the Final Rule at Amendment 25-61 (51 FR 26206, July 21, 1986), specifically note that seats were excluded "because the recently-adopted standards for flammability of seat cushions will greatly inhibit involvement of the seats."

Subsequently, the Final Rule at Amendment 25-83 (60 FR 6615, March 6, 1995) clarified the definition of minimum panel size: "It is not possible to cite a specific size that will apply in all installations; however, as a general rule, components with exposed-surface

areas of one square foot or less may be considered small enough that they do not have to meet the new standards. Components with exposed-surface areas greater than two square feet may be considered large enough that they do have to meet the new standards. Those with exposed-surface areas greater than one square foot, but less than two square feet, must be considered in conjunction with the areas of the cabin in which they are installed before a determination could be made."

In the late 1990s, the FAA issued Policy Memorandum 97-112-39, "Guidance for Flammability Testing of Seat/Console Installations," October 17, 1997. That memo was issued when it became clear that seat designs were evolving to include large non-metallic panels with surface areas that would impact survivability during a cabin fire event, comparable to partitions or galleys. The memo noted that large surface area panels must comply with heat release and smoke emission requirements, even if they were attached to a seat. If the FAA had not issued such policy, seat designs could have been viewed as a loophole to the airworthiness standards that would result in an unacceptable decrease in survivability during a cabin fire event.

In October of 2004, an issue was raised regarding the appropriate flammability standards for passenger seats that incorporated non-traditional, large, non-metallic panels in lieu of the traditional metal covered by fabric. The Seattle Aircraft Certification Office and Transport Standards Staff reviewed this design and determined that it represented the kind and quantity of material that should be required to pass the heat release and smoke emissions requirements. We have determined that special conditions would be promulgated to apply the standards defined in § 25.853(d) to seats with large non-metallic panels in their design.

Discussion of Comments

Notice of proposed special conditions no. 25-284-SC for the Bombardier Inc. Model CL-600-2B19, -2C10, -2D15 and -2D24 Airplanes was published in the **Federal Register** on June 5, 2009. No comments were received and the special conditions are adopted as proposed.

Applicability

These special conditions are applicable to Bombardier model CL-600-2B19 airplanes. Because the heat release testing requirements of § 25.853 per Appendix F, part IV are part of the type certification basis for airplane model CL-600-2B19, these special conditions are applicable to airplane

model CL-600-2B19. Although smoke testing requirements of § 25.853 per Appendix F, part V, are not part of the part 25 certification basis for Bombardier Model CL-600-2B19 airplanes, these special conditions are applicable if the airplanes are in 14 CFR part 121 service. Part 121 requires applicable interior panels to comply with § 25.853 and Appendix F, part V, regardless of the certification basis. It is not our intent to require seats with large non-metallic panels to meet § 25.853 and Appendix F, parts V, if they are installed in cabins of airplanes that otherwise are not required to meet these standards. Should Bombardier apply at a later date for a change to the type certificate to include another model incorporating the same novel or unusual design feature, the special conditions would apply to that model as well.

These special conditions are applicable to Bombardier airplane Models CL-600-2C10, -2D15 and -2D24. Because the heat release and smoke testing requirements of § 25.853 are part of the type certification basis for the airplane Models CL-600-2C10, -2D15 and -2D24, these special conditions are applicable to the airplane Models CL-600-2C10, -2D15 and -2D24. Should Bombardier apply at a later date for a change to the type certificate to include another model incorporating the same novel or unusual design feature, the special conditions would apply to that model as well.

Seats do not have to meet these special conditions when installed in compartments that are not otherwise required to meet the test requirements of CFR part 25, Appendix F, parts IV and V. For example, airplanes that do not have § 25.853, Amendment 25-61 or later, in their certification basis and those airplanes that do not need to comply with the requirements of § 121.312.

Conclusion

This action affects only certain novel or unusual design features on Bombardier Inc.: airplane Models CL-600-2B19, -2C10, -2D15 and -2D24. It is not a rule of general applicability.

The substance of these special conditions has been subjected to the notice and comment period in several prior instances and has been derived without substantive change from those previously issued. These special conditions were also subjected to a notice and comment period of 45 days with no changes made. Therefore, the FAA has determined that good cause exists for adopting these special conditions upon issuance.

List of Subjects in 14 CFR Part 25

Aircraft, Aviation safety, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Authority Citation

■ The authority citation for these special conditions is as follows:

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 106(g), 40113, 44701, 44702, 44704.

The Special Conditions

Accordingly, pursuant to the authority delegated to me by the Administrator, the following special conditions are issued as part of the type certification basis for Bombardier Inc. airplane Models CL-600-2B19, -2C10, -2D15 and -2D24.

1. Passenger Seats with Non-Traditional, Large, Non-metallic Panels.

2. Except as provided in paragraph 3 of these special conditions, compliance with heat release and smoke emission testing requirements per 14 CFR part 25 and Appendix F, parts IV and V, is required for seats that incorporate non-traditional, large non-metallic panels that may either be a single component or multiple components in a concentrated area in their design.

3. The applicant may designate up to and including 1.5 square feet of non-traditional, non-metallic panel material per seat place that does not have to comply with special condition Number 1, above. A triple seat assembly may have a total of 4.5 square feet excluded on any portion of the assembly (*e.g.*, outboard seat place 1 square foot, middle 1 square foot, and inboard 2.5 square feet).

4. Seats do not have to meet the test requirements of 14 CFR part 25 and Appendix F, parts IV and V, when installed in compartments that are not otherwise required to meet these requirements. Examples include:

a. Airplanes with passenger capacities of 19 or less,

b. Airplanes that do not have 14 CFR 25.853, Amendment 25-61 or later, in their certification basis and do not need to comply with the requirements of 14 CFR 121.312, and

c. Airplanes exempted from 14 CFR 25.853, Amendment 25-61 or later.

5. Only airplanes associated with new seat certification programs approved after the effective date of these special conditions will be affected by the requirements in these special conditions. Previously certificated interiors on the existing airplane fleet and follow-on deliveries of airplanes with previously certificated interiors are not affected.

Issued in Renton, Washington, on August 4, 2009.

Ali Bahrami,

Manager, Transport Airplane Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. E9-20742 Filed 8-28-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

15 CFR Part 902

50 CFR Part 622

[Docket No. 090206149-91081-03]

RIN 0648-AX39

Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Reef Fish Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico; Amendment 29

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: NMFS issues this final rule to implement Amendment 29 to the Fishery Management Plan for Reef Fish Resources of the Gulf of Mexico (FMP), as prepared and submitted by the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Council). This final rule implements a multi-species individual fishing quota (IFQ) program for the grouper and tilefish component of the commercial sector of the reef fish fishery in the Gulf of Mexico (Gulf) exclusive economic zone. In addition, the final rule allows permit consolidation and dual classifications to the shallow-water grouper (SWG) and deep-water grouper (DWG) management units for speckled hind, warsaw grouper, and scamp, and modifies some provisions of the Gulf red snapper IFQ program for consistency with this final rule. NMFS also informs the public of the approval by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) of the collection-of-information requirements contained in this final rule and publishes the OMB control numbers for those collections. This rule is intended to reduce effort in the grouper and tilefish component of the commercial Gulf reef fish fishery.

DATES: This final rule is effective September 30, 2009; however, the applicability date for all the amendments except for amendments to § 622.7 (gg) and (hh), § 622.20(b), § 622.20(c)(3)(v), and § 622.20(c)(6) is January 1, 2010.