

dated July 13, 2012, for your model helicopter.

(v) Before installing a MGB, modify, reidentify, and reinstall the chip collector in accordance with paragraph (f)(1)(iv) of this AD.

(2) Within 25 hours TIS, and thereafter at intervals not exceeding 25 hours TIS:

(i) For Model AS332C, L, and L1 helicopters with non-electrical chip detectors and electrical chip detectors without a caution light on the instrument panel, inspect the IGB, TGB, tapered housing, and MGB bottom casing chip detectors for a chip or metallic particle.

(ii) For Model AS332L2 helicopters with non-electrical chip detectors and electrical chip detectors without a caution light on the instrument panel, inspect the module, main rotor mast tapered housing, IGB, and TGB chip detectors for a chip or metallic particle.

(3) Within 50 hours TIS, and thereafter at intervals not exceeding 50 hours TIS:

(i) For Model AS332C, L, and L1 helicopters with electrical chip detectors with a caution light on the instrument panel, inspect the MGB bottom casing, TGB, and IGB chip detectors for a chip or metallic particle.

(ii) For Model AS332L2 helicopters with electrical chip detectors with a caution light on the instrument panel, inspect the MGB bottom casing chip detector for a chip or magnetic particle.

(iii) For Model EC225LP helicopters, inspect the MGB, IGB, and TGB chip detectors for a chip or magnetic particle. If there is a chip or magnetic particle, determine whether the "CHIP" caution light illuminates on the "Vehicle" page of the Vehicle Management System. If the "CHIP" caution light does not illuminate on the "Vehicle" page, perform a fault analysis.

#### (g) Alternative Methods of Compliance (AMOCs)

(1) The Manager, Safety Management Group, FAA, may approve AMOCs for this AD. Send your proposal to: Rao Edupuganti, Aerospace Engineer, FAA, Rotorcraft Directorate, Regulations and Policy Group, 2601 Meacham Blvd., Fort Worth, Texas 76137; telephone: (817) 222-5110; fax: (817) 222-5961, email [rao.edupuganti@faa.gov](mailto:rao.edupuganti@faa.gov).

(2) For operations conducted under a 14 CFR part 119 operating certificate or under 14 CFR part 91, subpart K, we suggest that you notify your principal inspector, or lacking a principal inspector, the manager of the local flight standards district office or certificate holding district office, before operating any aircraft complying with this AD through an AMOC.

#### (h) Additional Information

(1) Eurocopter Alert Service Bulletin (ASB) No. AS332-05-00-94, Revision 0, dated July 13, 2012, and ASB No. EC225-05A29, Revision 0, dated July 13, 2012, which are not incorporated by reference, contain additional information about the subject of this AD. For service information identified in this AD, contact American Eurocopter Corporation, 2701 N. Forum Drive, Grand Prairie, Texas 75052, telephone (972) 641-0000 or (800) 232-0323, fax (972) 641-3775,

or at <http://www.eurocopter.com/techpub>. You may review a copy of the service information at the FAA, Office of the Regional Counsel, Southwest Region, 2601 Meacham Blvd., Room 663, Fort Worth, Texas 76137.

(2) The subject of this AD is addressed in European Aviation Safety Agency AD No. 2012-0129-E, dated July 13, 2012.

#### (i) Subject

Joint Aircraft Service Component (JASC) Code: 6320: Main Rotor Gearbox and 6520: Tail Rotor Gearbox.

#### (j) Material Incorporated by Reference

(1) The Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference (IBR) of the service information listed in this paragraph under 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 1 CFR part 51.

(2) You must use this service information as applicable to do the actions required by this AD, unless the AD specifies otherwise.

(i) Eurocopter Emergency Alert Service Bulletin (EASB) No. 05.00.81, Revision 3, dated July 13, 2012.

**Note 1 to paragraph (j)(2)(i):** Eurocopter EASB No. 05.00.81, Revision 3, dated July 13, 2012, and EASB No. 05.00.58, Revision 3, dated July 13, 2012, were published together as a single document. EASB No. 05.00.58, Revision 3, dated July 13, 2012 is not incorporated by reference.

(ii) Eurocopter EASB No. 05A017, Revision 3, dated July 13, 2012.

**Note 2 to paragraph (j)(2)(ii):** Eurocopter EASB No. 05A017, Revision 3, dated July 13, 2012, and EASB No. 05A016, Revision 3, dated July 13, 2012, were published together as a single document. EASB No. 05A016, Revision 3, dated July 13, 2012 is not incorporated by reference.

(3) For Eurocopter service information identified in this AD, contact American Eurocopter Corporation, 2701 N. Forum Drive, Grand Prairie, Texas 75052, telephone (972) 641-0000 or (800) 232-0323, fax (972) 641-3775, or at <http://www.eurocopter.com/techpub>.

(4) You may view this service information at FAA, Office of the Regional Counsel, Southwest Region, 2601 Meacham Blvd., Room 663, Fort Worth, Texas 76137. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call (817) 222-5110.

(5) You may view this service information that is incorporated by reference at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). For information on the availability of this material at NARA, call (202) 741-6030, or go to: <http://www.archives.gov/federal-register/cfr/ibr-locations.html>.

Issued in Fort Worth, Texas, on March 27, 2013.

**Kim Smith,**

*Directorate Manager, Rotorcraft Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service.*

[FR Doc. 2013-08459 Filed 4-18-13; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-13-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Aviation Administration

#### 14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. FAA-2012-0938; Directorate Identifier 2011-NM-271-AD; Amendment 39-17425; AD 2013-08-08]

RIN 2120-AA64

#### Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes

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

**ACTION:** Final rule.

**SUMMARY:** We are adopting a new airworthiness directive (AD) for certain The Boeing Company Model 737-600 series airplanes. This AD was prompted by reports of early fatigue cracks at chem-mill areas on the crown skin panels. This AD requires repetitive inspections for cracking of the fuselage skin at certain locations at chem-mill areas, and repair if necessary. We are issuing this AD to detect and correct fatigue cracking of the skin panel at the specified chem-mill step locations, which could result in rapid decompression of the airplane.

**DATES:** This AD is effective May 24, 2013.

The Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference of a certain publication listed in the AD as of May 24, 2013.

**ADDRESSES:** For service information identified in this AD, contact Boeing Commercial Airplanes, Attention: Data & Services Management, P.O. Box 3707, MC 2H-65, Seattle, WA 98124-2207; telephone 206-544-5000, extension 1; fax 206-766-5680; Internet <https://www.myboeingfleet.com>. You may review copies of the referenced service information at the FAA, Transport Airplane Directorate, 1601 Lind Avenue SW., Renton, WA. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call 425-227-1221.

#### 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 AD, the regulatory evaluation, any comments received, and other information. The address for the Docket Office (phone: 800-647-5527) is Document Management Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M-30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200

New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**  
Wayne Lockett, Aerospace Engineer, Airframe Branch, ANM-120S, FAA, Seattle Aircraft Certification Office, 1601 Lind Avenue SW., Renton, WA 98057-3356; phone: (425) 917-6447; fax: (425) 917-6590; email: [Wayne.Lockett@faa.gov](mailto:Wayne.Lockett@faa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Discussion**

We issued a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) to amend 14 CFR part 39 to include an AD that would apply to the specified products. That NPRM published in the **Federal Register** on September 18, 2012 (77 FR 57541). That NPRM proposed to require repetitive inspections for cracking of the fuselage skin at certain locations at chem-mill areas, and repair if necessary.

**Comments**

We gave the public the opportunity to participate in developing this AD. The following presents the comments received on the proposal (77 FR 57541, September 18, 2012) and the FAA's response to each comment.

**Request To Revise Federal Aviation Regulations Citations**

Boeing stated that references to section 129.109(c)(2) of the Federal Aviation regulations (14 CFR 129.109(c)(2)) are incorrect, since that

paragraph does not exist in the current revision of the Federal Aviation Regulations and that the correct paragraph reference is section 129.109(b)(2). Boeing noted that this error occurred in the second paragraph of the "Differences Between the Proposed AD and the Service Information" section, and in Note 1 to paragraph (k) of the proposed AD (77 FR 57541, September 18, 2012).

We agree that the specified references are incorrect. We agree that the citation in the proposed AD (77 FR 57541, September 18, 2012) is inaccurate, but since that section of the preamble does not reappear in this AD, no corresponding change to this AD is necessary. We have corrected the citation in Note 1 to paragraph (k) of this AD.

**Winglet Supplemental Type Certificate (STC) Comment**

Aviation Partners Boeing stated that the installation of winglets per STC ST00830SE ([http://rgl.faa.gov/Regulatory and Guidance Library/rgstc.nsf/07408E012E008616A7862578880060456C?OpenDocument&Highlight=st00830se](http://rgl.faa.gov/Regulatory%20and%20Guidance%20Library/rgstc.nsf/07408E012E008616A7862578880060456C?OpenDocument&Highlight=st00830se)) does not affect the actions specified in the NPRM (77 FR 57541, September 18, 2012).

We concur. We have added paragraph (c)(2) to this AD to state that installation of STC ST00830SE ([http://rgl.faa.gov/Regulatory and Guidance Library/rgstc.nsf/07408E012E008616A78625](http://rgl.faa.gov/Regulatory%20and%20Guidance%20Library/rgstc.nsf/07408E012E008616A78625)

[78880060456C?OpenDocument &Highlight=st00830se](http://rgl.faa.gov/Regulatory%20and%20Guidance%20Library/rgstc.nsf/07408E012E008616A7862578880060456C?OpenDocument&Highlight=st00830se)) does not affect the ability to accomplish the actions required by this AD. Therefore, for airplanes on which STC ST00830SE is installed, a "change in product" alternative method of compliance (AMOC) approval request is not necessary to comply with the requirements of 14 CFR 39.17.

**Conclusion**

We reviewed the relevant data, considered the comments received, and determined that air safety and the public interest require adopting the AD with the changes described previously and minor editorial changes. We have determined that these minor changes:

- Are consistent with the intent that was proposed in the NPRM (77 FR 57541, September 18, 2012) for correcting the unsafe condition; and
- Do not add any additional burden upon the public than was already proposed in the NPRM (77 FR 57541, September 18, 2012).

We also determined that these changes will not increase the economic burden on any operator or increase the scope of the AD.

**Costs of Compliance**

We estimate that this AD affects 6 airplanes of U.S. registry.

We estimate the following costs to comply with this AD:

**ESTIMATED COSTS**

Action	Labor cost	Parts cost	Cost per product	Cost on U.S. operators
Inspection of chem-mill step locations.	37 work-hours × \$85 per hour = \$3,145, per inspection cycle.	None .....	\$3,145, per inspection cycle ..	\$18,870, per inspection cycle.

We have received no definitive data that would enable us to provide cost estimates for the on-condition actions specified in this AD.

**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**

This AD will not have federalism implications under Executive Order 13132. This AD will 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 this AD:

- (1) Is not a "significant regulatory action" under Executive Order 12866,
- (2) Is not a "significant rule" under DOT Regulatory Policies and Procedures (44 FR 11034, February 26, 1979),
- (3) Will not affect intrastate aviation in Alaska, and
- (4) 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.

**List of Subjects in 14 CFR Part 39**

Air transportation, Aircraft, Aviation safety, Incorporation by reference, Safety.

## Adoption of the Amendment

Accordingly, under the authority delegated to me by the Administrator, the FAA amends 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 airworthiness directive (AD):

#### 2013-08-08 The Boeing Company:

Amendment 39-17425 ; Docket No. FAA-2012-0938; Directorate Identifier 2011-NM-271-AD.

#### (a) Effective Date

This AD is effective May 24, 2013.

#### (b) Affected ADs

None.

#### (c) Applicability

(1) This AD applies to The Boeing Company Model 737-600 series airplanes, certificated in any category, as identified in Boeing Service Bulletin 737-53-1309, dated October 20, 2011.

(2) Installation of Supplemental Type Certificate (STC) ST00830SE ([http://rgl.faa.gov/Regulatory\\_and\\_Guidance\\_Library/rgstc.nsf/0/408E012E008616A7862578880060456C?OpenDocument&Highlight=st00830se](http://rgl.faa.gov/Regulatory_and_Guidance_Library/rgstc.nsf/0/408E012E008616A7862578880060456C?OpenDocument&Highlight=st00830se)) does not affect the ability to accomplish the actions required by this AD. Therefore, for airplanes on which STC ST00830SE is installed, a "change in product" alternative method of compliance (AMOC) approval request is not necessary to comply with the requirements of 14 CFR 39.17.

#### (d) Subject

Joint Aircraft System Component (JASC)/ Air Transport Association (ATA) of America Code 53, Fuselage.

#### (e) Unsafe Condition

This AD was prompted by reports of early fatigue cracks at chem-mill areas on the crown skin panels. We are issuing this AD to detect and correct fatigue cracking of the skin panel at the specified chem-mill step locations, which could result in rapid decompression of the airplane.

#### (f) Compliance

Comply with this AD within the compliance times specified, unless already done.

#### (g) Inspections

At the applicable time specified in paragraph 1.E., "Compliance," of Boeing Service Bulletin 737-53-1309, dated October 20, 2011, except as required by paragraph (j) of this AD: Do an external detailed inspection and an external nondestructive inspection (a

medium frequency eddy current (MFEC), magneto optic imager (MOI), C-scan, or ultrasonic phased array (UTPA) inspection) for cracking in the fuselage skin along the chem-mill steps at certain locations specified in, and in accordance with, the Accomplishment Instructions of Boeing Service Bulletin 737-53-1309, dated October 20, 2011. Repeat the inspections thereafter at the applicable times specified in paragraph 1.E., "Compliance," of Boeing Service Bulletin 737-53-1309, dated October 20, 2011.

#### (h) Repair

If any cracking is found during any inspection required by paragraph (g) of this AD, before further flight, repair the cracking using a method approved in accordance with the procedures specified in paragraph (l) of this AD. Accomplishing the repair approved in accordance with the procedures specified in paragraph (l) of this AD terminates the repetitive inspection requirement for that area under the repair only.

#### (i) Optional Terminating Modification

Modification of an inspection area, including an external detailed inspection and an external nondestructive inspection (MFEC, MOI, C-scan, or UTPA) for cracking of the area to be modified and a high frequency eddy current inspection of all existing holes for cracking, in accordance with the Accomplishment Instructions of Boeing Service Bulletin 737-53-1309, dated October 20, 2011, terminates the repetitive inspections required by paragraph (g) of this AD for that modified area only. If any cracking is found during any inspection described by this paragraph, before further flight, repair the cracking using a method approved in accordance with the procedures specified in paragraph (l) of this AD.

#### (j) Service Bulletin Exception

Boeing Service Bulletin 737-53-1309, dated October 20, 2011, specifies compliance times "after the original issue date of this service bulletin." However, this AD requires compliance within the specified compliance times "after the effective date of this AD."

#### (k) Post-Modification Inspections

The post-modification inspections specified in Tables 2 and 3 of paragraph 1.E., "Compliance," of Boeing Service Bulletin 737-53-1309, dated October 20, 2011, are not required by this AD.

**Note 1 to paragraph (k) of this AD:** The damage tolerance inspections specified in Tables 2 and 3 of paragraph 1.E., "Compliance," of Boeing Service Bulletin 737-53-1309, dated October 20, 2011, may be used in support of compliance with section 121.1109(c)(2) or 129.109(b)(2) of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR 121.1109(c)(2) or 14 CFR 129.109(b)(2)). The actions specified in Part 5 of the Accomplishment Instructions and corresponding figures of Boeing Service Bulletin 737-53-1309, dated October 20, 2011, are not required by this AD.

#### (l) Alternative Methods of Compliance (AMOCs)

(1) The Manager, Seattle Aircraft Certification Office (ACO), FAA, has the authority to approve AMOCs for this AD, if requested using the procedures found in 14 CFR 39.19. In accordance with 14 CFR 39.19, send your request to your principal inspector or local Flight Standards District Office, as appropriate. If sending information directly to the manager of the ACO, send it to the attention of the person identified in the Related Information section of this AD. Information may be emailed to: [9-ANM-Seattle-ACO-AMOC-Requests@faa.gov](mailto:9-ANM-Seattle-ACO-AMOC-Requests@faa.gov).

(2) Before using any approved AMOC, notify your appropriate principal inspector, or lacking a principal inspector, the manager of the local flight standards district office/ certificate holding district office.

(3) An AMOC that provides an acceptable level of safety may be used for any repair required by this AD if it is approved by the Boeing Commercial Airplanes Organization Designation Authorization (ODA) that has been authorized by the Manager, Seattle ACO, to make those findings. For a repair method to be approved, the repair must meet the certification basis of the airplane, and the approval must specifically refer to this AD.

#### (m) Related Information

For more information about this AD, contact Wayne Lockett, Aerospace Engineer, Airframe Branch, ANM-120S, FAA, Seattle Aircraft Certification Office, 1601 Lind Avenue SW., Renton, WA 98057-3356; phone: (425) 917-6447; fax: (425) 917-6590; email: [Wayne.Lockett@faa.gov](mailto:Wayne.Lockett@faa.gov).

#### (n) Material Incorporated by Reference

(1) The Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference (IBR) of the service information listed in this paragraph under 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 1 CFR part 51.

(2) You must use this service information as applicable to do the actions required by this AD, unless the AD specifies otherwise.

(i) Boeing Service Bulletin 737-53-1309, dated October 20, 2011.

(ii) Reserved.

(3) For service information identified in this AD, contact Boeing Commercial Airplanes, Attention: Data & Services Management, P.O. Box 3707, MC 2H-65, Seattle, WA 98124-2207; telephone 206-544-5000, extension 1; fax 206-766-5680; Internet <https://www.myboeingfleet.com>.

(4) You may view this service information at FAA, Transport Airplane Directorate, 1601 Lind Avenue SW., Renton, Washington. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call 425-227-1221.

(5) You may view this service information that is incorporated by reference at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). For information on the availability of this material at NARA, call 202-741-6030, or go to <http://www.archives.gov/federal-register/cfr/ibr-locations.html>.

Issued in Renton, Washington, on April 4, 2013.

Ali Bahrami,

Manager, Transport Airplane Directorate,  
Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. 2013-08905 Filed 4-18-13; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-P

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Aviation Administration

#### 14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. FAA-2012-0803; Directorate Identifier 2011-NM-214-AD; Amendment 39-17419; AD 2013-08-02]

RIN 2120-AA64

#### Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes

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

**ACTION:** Final rule.

**SUMMARY:** We are superseding an existing airworthiness directive (AD) that applies to all The Boeing Company Model 777-200, -200LR, -300, and -300ER series airplanes. That AD currently requires repetitive inspections for cracking of the elevator actuator fittings. This new AD requires, for previously modified airplanes, repetitive inspections for movement of the fittings or fastener heads, and eventual replacement of certain bolts (including related investigative and corrective actions if necessary). For all airplanes, this replacement, with corrected torque values, would terminate the requirements of the existing AD. This new AD also removes certain airplanes from the applicability. This AD was prompted by the manufacturer's development of a modification that was approved as an optional terminating action to the existing AD's required repetitive inspections. We have been advised that the modification procedures include certain incorrect torque values. We are issuing this AD to detect and correct a cracked actuator fitting or incorrectly installed bolts to the actuator fitting, which could lead to the elevator becoming detached and unrestrained, and a consequent unacceptable flutter condition and loss of control of the airplane.

**DATES:** This AD is effective May 24, 2013.

The Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference of certain publications listed in the AD as of May 24, 2013.

The Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference

of a certain other publication listed in this AD as of January 22, 2008 (72 FR 71212, December 17, 2007).

**ADDRESSES:** For service information identified in this AD, contact Boeing Commercial Airplanes, Attention: Data & Services Management, P.O. Box 3707, MC 2H-65, Seattle, WA 98124-2207; telephone 206-544-5000, extension 1; fax 206-766-5680; Internet <https://www.myboeingfleet.com>. You may review copies of the referenced service information at the FAA, Transport Airplane Directorate, 1601 Lind Avenue SW., Renton, Washington. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call 425-227-1221.

#### 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 AD, the regulatory evaluation, any comments received, and other information. The address for the Docket Office (phone: 800-647-5527) is Document Management Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M-30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Melanie Violette, Aerospace Engineer, Airframe Branch, ANM-120S, FAA, Seattle Aircraft Certification Office, 1601 Lind Avenue SW., Renton, WA 985057-3356; phone: 425-917-6422; fax: 425-917-6590; email: [melanie.violette@faa.gov](mailto:melanie.violette@faa.gov).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Discussion

We issued a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) to amend 14 CFR part 39 to supersede AD 2007-26-05, Amendment 39-15307 (72 FR 71212, December 17, 2007). That AD applies to the specified products. The NPRM published in the **Federal Register** on August 3, 2012 (77 FR 46340). The NPRM proposed to continue to require repetitive dye penetrant or high-frequency eddy current (HFEC) inspections, or detailed inspections for cracking of the elevator actuator fittings, and replacement of any cracked fitting. The NPRM also proposed to require, for previously modified airplanes, repetitive inspections for movement of the fittings or fastener heads, and eventual replacement of certain bolts (including related investigative and corrective actions if necessary). For all airplanes, this replacement, with

corrected torque values, would terminate the requirements of the existing AD. The NPRM also proposed to remove certain airplanes from the applicability.

#### Comments

We gave the public the opportunity to participate in developing this AD. The following presents the comments received on the proposal (77 FR 46340, August 3, 2012) and the FAA's response to each comment.

#### Support for the NPRM (77 FR 46340, August 3, 2012)

Boeing supports the NPRM (77 FR 46340, August 3, 2012).

#### Request To Amend Installed Part Number (P/N)

Air New Zealand requested that we revise the NPRM (77 FR 46340, August 3, 2012) to require that the installed part number be amended to reflect accomplishment of Boeing Alert Service Bulletin 777-55A0016, Revision 1, dated August 25, 2011, instead of the current data plate modification. Air New Zealand explained that the benefits of Boeing re-numbering the modified elevator assembly would be to ensure that the airplane shows clear pre/post modification configuration of the elevator assemblies, and also that the part number changes would add clarity. Air New Zealand reasoned that, otherwise, installing a pre-modified elevator and not re-instating the repeat inspection per Boeing Alert Service Bulletin 777-55A0015 would be an unsafe condition and that the airplane would be out of compliance with the NPRM.

Air New Zealand also indicated that accomplishment of Boeing Alert Service Bulletin 777-55A0016, Revision 1, dated August 25, 2011, leaves the elevator assembly part number unaffected, but the elevator data plate has the service bulletin added to it. Air New Zealand also noted that Boeing Alert Service Bulletin 777-55A0016, Revision 1, dated August 25, 2011, modifies the elevator as a stand-alone component and does not affect the airframe. Further, Air New Zealand stated that the elevator assembly is an interchangeable component, but the current illustrated parts catalog (IPC) does not show a one-way part interchangeability with pre- and post-embodiment of Boeing Alert Service Bulletin 777-55A0016, Revision 1, dated August 25, 2011, terminating action assemblies due to the part number remaining unchanged.

Air New Zealand expressed that, if an operator accomplishes Boeing Alert