# (j) New Revision of the Existing Maintenance or Inspection Program

Except as specified in paragraph (k) of this AD: Comply with all required actions and compliance times specified in, and in accordance with, EASA AD 2023–0063, dated March 20, 2023 (EASA AD 2023–0063). Accomplishing the revision of the existing maintenance or inspection program required by this paragraph terminates the requirements of paragraph (g) of this AD.

## (k) Exceptions to EASA AD 2023-0063

- (1) This AD does not adopt the requirements specified in paragraphs (1) and (2) of EASA AD 2023–0063.
- (2) Paragraph (3) of EASA AD 2023–0063 specifies revising "the approved AMP" within 12 months after its effective date, but this AD requires revising the existing maintenance or inspection program, as applicable, within 90 days after the effective date of this AD.
- (3) The initial compliance time for doing the tasks specified in paragraph (3) of EASA AD 2023–0063 is at the applicable "limitations" and "associated thresholds" as incorporated by the requirements of paragraph (3) of EASA AD 2023–0063, or within 90 days after the effective date of this AD, whichever occurs later.
- (4) This AD does not adopt the provisions specified in paragraphs (4) and (5) of EASA AD 2023–0063.
- (5) This AD does not adopt the "Remarks" section of EASA AD 2023–0063.

# (l) New Provisions for Alternative Actions, Intervals, and CDCCLs

After the existing maintenance or inspection program has been revised as required by paragraph (j) of this AD, no alternative actions (e.g., inspections), intervals, and CDCCLs are allowed unless they are approved as specified in the provisions of the "Ref. Publications" section of EASA AD 2023–0063.

### (m) Terminating Action for Certain Requirements in AD 2014–16–23

Accomplishing the actions required by paragraphs (g) or (j) of this AD terminates the requirements of paragraph (q) of AD 2014–16–23.

# (n) Additional AD Provisions

The following provisions also apply to this AD:

- (1) Alternative Methods of Compliance (AMOCs): The Manager, International Validation Branch, 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 responsible Flight Standards Office, as appropriate. If sending information directly to the International Validation Branch, send it to the attention of the person identified in paragraph (o) of this AD. Information may be emailed to: 9-AVS-AIR-730-AMOC@faa.gov. Before using any approved AMOC, notify your appropriate principal inspector, or lacking a principal inspector, the manager of the responsible Flight Standards Office.
- (2) Contacting the Manufacturer: For any requirement in this AD to obtain instructions

from a manufacturer, the instructions must be accomplished using a method approved by the Manager, International Validation Branch, FAA; or EASA; or Dassault Aviation's EASA Design Organization Approval (DOA). If approved by the DOA, the approval must include the DOAauthorized signature.

### (o) Additional Information

For more information about this AD, contact Tom Rodriguez, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, 1600 Stewart Avenue, Suite 410, Westbury, NY 11590; telephone 206–231–3226; email: tom.rodriguez@faa.gov.

# (p) 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 this AD specifies otherwise.
- (3) The following service information was approved for IBR on [DATE 35 DAYS AFTER PUBLICATION OF THE FINAL RULE].
- (i) European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) AD 2023–0063, dated March 20, 2023
  - (ii) [Reserved]
- (4) The following service information was approved for IBR on May 10, 2023 (88 FR 20062, April 5, 2023.)
- (i) European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) AD 2022–0142, dated July 7, 2022.
  - (ii) [Reserved]
- (5) For EASA ADs 2023–0063 and 2022–0142, contact EASA, Konrad-Adenauer-Ufer 3, 50668 Cologne, Germany; telephone +49 221 8999 000; email *ADs@easa.europa.eu*; website *easa.europa.eu*. You may find these EASA ADs on the EASA website at *ad.easa.europa.eu*.
- (6) You may view this service information at the FAA, Airworthiness Products Section, Operational Safety Branch, 2200 South 216th St., Des Moines, WA. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call 206–231–3195.
- (7) 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, email fr.inspection@nara.gov, or go to: www.archives.gov/federal-register/cfr/ibrlocations.html.

Issued on August 23, 2023.

### Victor Wicklund,

Deputy Director, Compliance & Airworthiness Division, Aircraft Certification Service. [FR Doc. 2023–18568 Filed 8–28–23; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-P

## **DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

## **Federal Aviation Administration**

### 14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. FAA-2023-1721; Project Identifier MCAI-2023-00676-T]

RIN 2120-AA64

# Airworthiness Directives; Dassault Aviation Airplanes

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

**ACTION:** Notice of proposed rulemaking

(NPRM).

**SUMMARY:** The FAA proposes to supersede Airworthiness Directive (AD) 2023-04-13, which applies to certain Dassault Aviation Model FALCON 2000EX airplanes. AD 2023-04-13 requires revising the existing maintenance or inspection program, as applicable, to incorporate new or more restrictive airworthiness limitations. Since the FAA issued AD 2023-04-13, the FAA has determined that new or more restrictive airworthiness limitations are necessary. This proposed AD would continue to require the actions in AD 2023-04-13 and would require revising the existing maintenance or inspection program, as applicable, to incorporate new or more restrictive airworthiness limitations, as specified in a European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) AD, which is proposed for incorporation by reference (IBR). The FAA is proposing this AD to address the unsafe condition on these products.

**DATES:** The FAA must receive comments on this proposed AD by October 13, 2023.

**ADDRESSES:** You may send comments, using the procedures found in 14 CFR 11.43 and 11.45, by any of the following methods:

- Federal eRulemaking Portal: Go to 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: Deliver to Mail address above between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

AD Docket: You may examine the AD docket at regulations gov under Docket No. FAA–2023–1721; or in person at Docket Operations between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The AD docket

contains this NPRM, the mandatory continuing airworthiness information (MCAI), any comments received, and other information. The street address for Docket Operations is listed above.

Material Incorporated by Reference:

- For material that is proposed for IBR in this NPRM, contact EASA, Konrad-Adenauer-Ufer 3, 50668 Cologne, Germany; telephone +49 221 8999 000; email: ADs@easa.europa.eu; website: easa.europa.eu. You may find this material on the EASA website: ad.easa.europa.eu. It is also available at regulations.gov under Docket No. FAA–2023–1721.
- You may view this service information at the FAA, Airworthiness Products Section, Operational Safety Branch, 2200 South 216th Street, Des Moines, WA. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call 206–231–3195.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Tom Rodriguez, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, 1600 Stewart Avenue, Suite 410, Westbury, NY 11590; telephone 206–231–3226; email *Tom.Rodriguez@faa.gov.* 

### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

# **Comments Invited**

The FAA invites you to send any written relevant data, views, or arguments about this proposal. Send your comments to an address listed under ADDRESSES. Include "Docket No. FAA-2023-1721; Project Identifier MCAI-2023-00676-T" at the beginning of your comments. The most helpful comments reference a specific portion of the proposal, explain the reason for any recommended change, and include supporting data. The FAA will consider all comments received by the closing date and may amend this proposal because of those comments.

Except for Confidential Business Information (CBI) as described in the following paragraph, and other information as described in 14 CFR 11.35, the FAA will post all comments received, without change, to regulations.gov, including any personal information you provide. The agency will also post a report summarizing each substantive verbal contact received about this NPRM.

# **Confidential Business Information**

CBI is commercial or financial information that is both customarily and actually treated as private by its owner. Under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) (5 U.S.C. 552), CBI is exempt from public disclosure. If your comments responsive to this NPRM contain commercial or financial

information that is customarily treated as private, that you actually treat as private, and that is relevant or responsive to this NPRM, it is important that you clearly designate the submitted comments as CBI. Please mark each page of your submission containing CBI as "PROPIN." The FAA will treat such marked submissions as confidential under the FOIA, and they will not be placed in the public docket of this NPRM. Submissions containing CBI should be sent to Tom Rodriguez, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, 1600 Stewart Avenue, Suite 410, Westbury, NY 11590; telephone 206-231-3226; email Tom.Rodriguez@faa.gov. Any commentary that the FAA receives that is not specifically designated as CBI will be placed in the public docket for this rulemaking.

# **Background**

The FAA issued AD 2023–04–13, Amendment 39–22360 (88 FR 20741, April 7, 2023) (AD 2023–04–13), for certain Dassault Aviation Model FALCON 2000EX airplanes. AD 2023–04–13 was prompted by an MCAI originated by EASA, which is the Technical Agent for the Member States of the European Union. EASA issued AD 2022–0136, dated July 6, 2022 (EASA 2022–0136) (which corresponds to FAA AD 2023–04–13), to correct an unsafe condition.

AD 2023–04–13 requires revising the existing maintenance or inspection program, as applicable, to incorporate new or more restrictive airworthiness limitations. The FAA issued AD 2023-04-13 to address reduced structural integrity of the airplane. AD 2023-04-13 specifies that accomplishing the revision required by paragraph (g) or (j) of that AD terminates the requirements of paragraph (g)(1) of AD 2010-26-05, Amendment 39-16544 (75 FR 79952, December 21, 2010), for Dassault Aviation Model FALCON 2000EX airplanes. This proposed AD would, therefore, continue to allow that terminating action.

# Actions Since AD 2023-04-13 Was Issued

Since the FAA issued AD 2023–04–13, EASA superseded AD 2022–0136 and issued EASA AD 2023–0100, dated May 11, 2023 (EASA AD 2023–0100) (also referred to after this as the MCAI), for all Dassault Aviation Model FALCON 2000EX airplanes. The MCAI states that new or more restrictive airworthiness limitations have been developed.

Airplanes with an original airworthiness certificate or original export certificate of airworthiness issued after January 15, 2023, must comply with the airworthiness limitations specified as part of the approved type design and referenced on the type certificate data sheet for those airplanes; this AD therefore does not include these airplanes in the applicability.

The FAA is proposing this AD to address reduced structural integrity of the airplane. You may examine the MCAI in the AD docket at regulations.gov under Docket No. FAA–2023–1721.

## Related Service Information Under 1 CFR Part 51

The FAA reviewed EASA AD 2023–0100. This service information specifies new or more restrictive airworthiness limitations for airplane structures and safe life limits.

This proposed AD would also require EASA AD 2022–0136, which the Director of the Federal Register approved for incorporation by reference as of May 12, 2023 (88 FR 20741, April 7, 2023).

This material is reasonably available because the interested parties have access to it through their normal course of business or by the means identified in ADDRESSES section.

## **FAA's Determination**

This product has been approved by the aviation authority of another country and is approved for operation in the United States. Pursuant to the FAA's bilateral agreement with the State of Design Authority, it has notified the FAA of the unsafe condition described in the MCAI described above. The FAA is issuing this NPRM after determining that the unsafe condition described previously is likely to exist or develop in other products of the same type design.

# Proposed AD Requirements in This NPRM

This proposed AD would retain the requirements of AD 2023–04–13. This proposed AD would also require revising the existing maintenance or inspection program, as applicable, to incorporate additional new or more restrictive airworthiness limitations, which are specified in EASA AD 2023–0100 already described, as proposed for incorporation by reference. Any differences with EASA AD 2023–0100 are identified as exceptions in the regulatory text of this AD.

This proposed AD would require revisions to certain operator maintenance documents to include new actions (e.g., inspections). Compliance with these actions is required by 14 CFR

91.403(c). For airplanes that have been previously modified, altered, or repaired in the areas addressed by this proposed AD, the operator may not be able to accomplish the actions 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 (AMOC) according to paragraph (n)(1) of this proposed AD.

# Explanation of Required Compliance Information

In the FAA's ongoing efforts to improve the efficiency of the AD process, the FAA developed a process to use some civil aviation authority (CAA) ADs as the primary source of information for compliance with requirements for corresponding FAA ADs. The FAA has been coordinating this process with manufacturers and CAAs. As a result, the FAA proposes to retain the IBR of EASA AD 2022-0136 and incorporate EASA AD 2023–0100 by reference in the FAA final rule. This proposed AD would, therefore, require compliance with EASA AD 2023-0100 and EASA AD 2022-0136 through that incorporation, except for any differences identified as exceptions in the regulatory text of this proposed AD. Using common terms that are the same as the heading of a particular section in EASA AD 2022-0136 or EASA AD 2023-0100 does not mean that operators need comply only with that section. For example, where the AD requirement refers to "all required actions and compliance times," compliance with this AD requirement is not limited to the section titled "Required Action(s) and Compliance Time(s)" in EASA AD 2022-0136 or EASA AD 2023-0100. Service information required by EASA AD 2022-0136 and EASA AD 2023-0100 for compliance will be available at regulations.gov by searching for and locating Docket No. FAA-2023-1721 after the FAA final rule is published.

# Airworthiness Limitation ADs Using the New Process

The FAA's process of incorporating by reference MCAI ADs as the primary source of information for compliance with corresponding FAA ADs has been limited to certain MCAI ADs (primarily those with service bulletins as the primary source of information for accomplishing the actions required by the FAA AD). However, the FAA is now expanding the process to include MCAI ADs that require a change to airworthiness limitation documents, such as airworthiness limitation sections.

For these ADs that incorporate by reference an MCAI AD that changes airworthiness limitations, the FAA requirements are unchanged. Operators must revise the existing maintenance or inspection program, as applicable, to incorporate the information specified in the new airworthiness limitation document. The airworthiness limitations must be followed according to 14 CFR 91.403(c) and 91.409(e).

The previous format of the airworthiness limitation ADs included a paragraph that specified that no alternative actions (e.g., inspections) or intervals may be used unless the actions and intervals are approved as an AMOC in accordance with the procedures specified in the AMOCs paragraph under "Additional AD Provisions." This new format includes a "New Provisions for Alternative Actions and Intervals" paragraph that does not specifically refer to AMOCs, but operators may still request an AMOC to use an alternative action or interval.

# **Costs of Compliance**

The FAA estimates that this proposed AD affects 245 airplanes of U.S. registry. The FAA estimates the following costs to comply with this proposed AD:

The FAA estimates the total cost per operator for the retained actions from AD 2023-04-13 to be \$7,650 (90 workhours × \$85 per work-hour).

The FAA has determined that revising the existing maintenance or inspection program takes an average of 90 workhours per operator, although the agency recognizes that this number may vary from operator to operator. In the past, the agency has estimated that this action takes 1 work-hour per airplane. Since operators incorporate maintenance or inspection program changes for their affected fleet(s), the FAA has determined that a per-operator estimate is more accurate than a per-airplane estimate.

The FAA estimates the total cost per operator for the new proposed actions to be \$7,650 (90 work-hours  $\times$  \$85 per work-hour).

## **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.

The FAA is 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**

The FAA 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) Would not affect intrastate aviation in Alaska, and
- (3) Would 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.

## 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:
- a. Removing Airworthiness Directive 2023–04–13, Amendment 39–22360 (88 FR 20741, April 7, 2023); and
- b. Adding the following new Airworthiness Directive:

Dassault Aviation: Docket No. FAA-2023-1721; Project Identifier MCAI-2023-00676-T.

### (a) Comments Due Date

The FAA must receive comments on this airworthiness directive (AD) by October 13, 2023.

### (b) Affected ADs

- (1) This AD replaces AD 2023–04–13, Amendment 39–22360 (88 FR 20741, April 7, 2023) (AD 2023–04–13).
- (2) This AD affects AD 2010–26–05, Amendment 39–16544 (75 FR 79952, December 21, 2010) (AD 2010–26–05).

## (c) Applicability

This AD applies to Dassault Aviation Model FALCON 2000EX airplanes, certificated in any category, with an original airworthiness certificate or original export certificate of airworthiness issued on or before January 15, 2023.

#### (d) Subject

Air Transport Association (ATA) of America Code: 05, Time Limits/Maintenance Checks.

### (e) Unsafe Condition

This AD was prompted by a determination that new or more restrictive airworthiness limitations are necessary. The FAA is issuing this AD to address reduced structural integrity of the airplane.

## (f) Compliance

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

## (g) Retained Maintenance or Inspection Program Revision, With No Changes

This paragraph restates the requirements of paragraph (j) of AD 2023–04–13, with no changes. For airplanes with an original airworthiness certificate or original export certificate of airworthiness issued on or before January 15, 2022, except as specified in paragraph (h) of this AD: Comply with all required actions and compliance times specified in, and in accordance with, European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) AD 2022-0136, dated July 6, 2022 (EASA AD 2022-0136). Accomplishing the revision of the existing maintenance or inspection program required by paragraph (j) of this AD terminates the requirements of this paragraph.

# (h) Retained Exceptions to EASA AD 2022–0136, With No Changes

This paragraph restates the exceptions specified in paragraph (k) of AD 2023–04–13, with no changes.

- (1) The requirements specified in paragraphs (1) and (2) of EASA AD 2022–0136 do not apply to this AD.
- (2) Paragraph (3) of EASA AD 2022–0136 specifies revising "the approved AMP" within 12 months after its effective date, but this AD requires revising the existing maintenance or inspection program, as applicable within 90 days after May 12, 2023 (the effective date of AD 2023–04–13).
- (3) The initial compliance time for doing the tasks specified in paragraph (3) of EASA AD 2022–0136 is at the applicable "limitation" and "associated thresholds" as incorporated by the requirements of paragraph (3) of EASA AD 2022–0136, or within 90 days after the May 12, 2023 (the effective date of AD 2023–04–13), whichever occurs later.

- (4) The provisions specified in paragraphs (4) and (5) of EASA AD 2022–0136 do not apply to this AD.
- (5) The "Remarks" section of EASA AD 2022–0136 does not apply to this AD.

## (i) Retained Provisions for Alternative Actions or Intervals, With a New Exception

This paragraph restates the requirements of paragraph (l) of AD 2023–04–13, with a new exception. Except as required by paragraph (j) of this AD, after the existing maintenance or inspection program has been revised as required by paragraph (g) of this AD, no alternative actions (e.g., inspections) or intervals may be used unless they are approved as specified in the provisions of the "Ref. Publications" section of EASA AD 2022–0136.

# (j) New Maintenance or Inspection Program Revision

Except as specified in paragraph (k) of this AD: Comply with all required actions and compliance times specified in, and in accordance with, EASA AD 2023–0100, dated May 11, 2023 (EASA AD 2023–0100). Accomplishing the revision of the existing maintenance or inspection program required by this paragraph terminates the requirements of paragraph (g) of this AD.

## (k) Exceptions to EASA AD 2023-0100

- (1) This AD does not adopt the requirements specified in paragraphs (1) and (2) of EASA AD 2023–0100.
- (2) Paragraph (3) of EASA AD 2023–0100 specifies revising "the approved AMP" within 12 months after its effective date, but this AD requires revising the existing maintenance or inspection program, as applicable, within 90 days after the effective date of this AD.
- (3) The initial compliance time for doing the tasks specified in paragraph (3) of EASA AD 2023–0100 is at the applicable "limitations" and "associated thresholds" as incorporated by the requirements of paragraph (3) of EASA AD 2023–0100, or within 90 days after the effective date of this AD, whichever occurs later.
- (4) This AD does not adopt the provisions specified in paragraphs (4) and (5) of EASA AD 2023–0100.
- (5) This AD does not adopt the "Remarks" section of EASA AD 2023–0100.

# (l) New Provisions for Alternative Actions and Intervals

After the maintenance or inspection program has been revised as required by paragraph (j) of this AD, no alternative actions (e.g., inspections), and intervals are allowed unless they are approved as specified in the provisions of the "Ref. Publications" section of EASA AD 2023—0100

# (m) Terminating Action for Certain Actions in AD 2010–26–05

Accomplishing the actions required by paragraph (g) or (j) of this AD terminates the requirements of paragraph (g)(1) of AD 2010–26–05, for Dassault Aviation Model FALCON 2000EX airplanes only.

#### (n) Additional AD Provisions

The following provisions also apply to this AD:

(1) Alternative Methods of Compliance (AMOCs): The Manager, International Validation Branch, 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 responsible Flight Standards Office, as appropriate. If sending information directly to the International Validation Branch, send it to the attention of the person identified in paragraph (o) of this AD. Information may be emailed to: 9-AVS-AIR-730-AMOC@faa.gov. Before using any approved AMOC, notify your appropriate principal inspector, or lacking a principal inspector, the manager of the responsible Flight Standards Office.

(2) Contacting the Manufacturer: For any requirement in this AD to obtain instructions from a manufacturer, the instructions must be accomplished using a method approved by the Manager, International Validation Branch, FAA; or EASA; or Dassault Aviation's EASA Design Organization Approval (DOA). If approved by the DOA, the approval must include the DOA-authorized signature.

### (o) Additional Information

For more information about this AD, contact Tom Rodriguez, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, 1600 Stewart Avenue, Suite 410, Westbury, NY 11590; telephone 206–231–3226; email *Tom.Rodriguez@faa.gov*.

# (p) 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 this AD specifies otherwise.
- (3) The following service information was approved for IBR on [DATE 35 DAYS AFTER PUBLICATION OF THE FINAL RULE].
- (i) European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) AD 2023–0100, dated May 11, 2023.
  - (ii) [Reserved]
- (4) The following service information was approved for IBR on May 12, 2023 (88 FR 20741, April 7, 2023).
- (i) European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) AD 2022–0136, dated July 6, 2022.
  - (ii) [Reserved]
- (5) For EASA ADs 2022–0136 and 2023–0100, contact EASA, Konrad-Adenauer-Ufer 3, 50668 Cologne, Germany; telephone +49 221 8999 000; email: ADs@easa.europa.eu; website: easa.europa.eu. You may find these EASA ADs on the EASA website: ad.easa.europa.eu.
- (6) You may view this service information at the FAA, Airworthiness Products Section, Operational Safety Branch, 2200 South 216th Street, Des Moines, WA. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call 206–231–3195.
- (7) 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, email fr.inspection@nara.gov, or go to: www.archives.gov/federal-register/cfr/ibrlocations.html.

Issued on August 23, 2023.

### Victor Wicklund.

Deputy Director, Compliance & Airworthiness Division, Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. 2023-18567 Filed 8-28-23; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-P

# DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

## **Federal Aviation Administration**

### 14 CFR Part 110

[Docket No. FAA-2023-1857]

RIN 2120-ZA32

**Revisions to the Regulatory Definitions** of "On-Demand Operation" "Supplemental Operation" and "Scheduled Operation"

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

**ACTION:** Request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** This document alerts the public that the FAA intends to initiate a rulemaking to address the exception from FAA's domestic, flag, and supplemental operations regulations for public charter operators. To inform this effort, the FAA seeks public comment, data, and other information regarding current and planned public charter flights operated under on-demand rules that appear indistinguishable from flights conducted by air carriers as supplemental or domestic operations. The FAA will review comments received in response to this document to evaluate the need for and, if necessary, scope of any rulemaking.

**DATES:** Send comments on or before October 13, 2023.

ADDRESSES: Send comments identified by docket number FAA-2023-1857 using any of the following methods:

- Federal eRulemaking Portal: Go to regulations.gov. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.
- Mail: Send comments to Docket Operations, M-30; U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Room W12–140, West Building Ground Floor, Washington, DC 20590-0001.
- Hand Delivery or Courier: Take comments to Docket Operations in Room W12–140 of the West Building Ground Floor at 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

• Fax: Fax comments to Docket Operations at 202-493-2251.

Docket: Background documents or comments received may be read at https://www.regulations.gov at any time. Follow the online instructions for accessing the docket or go to the Docket Operations in Room W12–140 of the West Building Ground Floor at 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jackie Clow, Aviation Safety Inspector, Air Transportation Division, Flight Standards Service, Federal Aviation Administration, 800 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20591; telephone: (202) 267-8166; email:

### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### Comments Invited

jackie.a.clow@faa.gov.

The FAA invites interested persons to provide comments, written data, views, or arguments relating to this document. Send your comments to an address listed under the ADDRESSES section. The FAA will consider comments received on or before the closing date. All comments received will be available in the docket for examination by interested persons.

Privacy: In accordance with 5 U.S.C. 553(c), DOT solicits comments from the public to better inform its rulemaking process. DOT posts these comments, without edit, including any personal information the commenter provides, to www.regulations.gov, as described in the system of records notice (DOT/ALL-14 FDMS), which can be reviewed at www.dot.gov/privacy. You may review DOT's complete Privacy Act Statement in the Federal Register published on April 11, 2000, see 65 FR 19477, or you may visit https://www.regulations.gov.

## **Background**

Title 14 CFR part 380 is an economic regulation administered by the Department of Transportation. Currently, under 14 CFR 110.2 of FAA's safety regulations, public charters operated under the terms of 14 CFR part 380 may be conducted as "on-demand operations" if the aircraft operator is using airplanes, including turbo-jet powered airplanes, with 30 or fewer passenger seats. On-demand operations must be conducted under the operating rules in 14 CFR part 135. See, 14 CFR 119.21(a)(5) and 135.1(a)(1). Similarly, public charter operations are excepted from the § 110.2 definition of "scheduled operation" and are included in the definition of "supplemental operation" regardless of whether such

operator offers in advance to the public the departure location, departure time, and arrival location of the flight. But for the part 380 exceptions in § 110.2, public charter operators would be required to comply with the operating rules applicable to their operations based on the same criteria as all other air carriers and commercial operators, i.e., 14 CFR part 121.

The FAA intends to initiate a rulemaking to amend title 14, Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR), part 110 to address these public charter operations that, in light of recent highvolume operations, appear to be offered to the public as essentially indistinguishable from flights conducted by air carriers as supplemental or domestic operations under 14 CFR part 121. Specifically, the size, scope, frequency, and complexity of charter operations conducted as "ondemand" operations under the part 135 operating rules has grown significantly over the past 10 years. While the FAA has adjusted its oversight of these increased operations, the FAA is considering whether a regulatory change may be appropriate to ensure the management of the level of safety necessary for those operations.

The FAA is considering issuing a notice of proposed rulemaking that will seek comment on removing the exceptions for part 380 public charter operators from the definitions in 14 CFR 110.2 and delink FAA's safety regulations from DOT's economic regulations. If the FAA were to remove the exceptions, operators would then conduct public charter flights under the operating part applicable to their operation based on the same criteria that apply to all other non-part 380 operators, including the size and complexity of aircraft they operate and

the frequency of flights.

Were FAA to amend its regulatory framework, some operators conducting public charter operations would need to transition from operating under part 135 to part 121. This transition may require affected operators to adjust their service models. As such, this document solicits comment, data, and other information regarding: the effects of any removal of the part 380 exception (including any effect on service to small and underserved communities); potential impacts on competition, innovation, and emerging technologies; alternative regulatory structures that could apply to the provision of commercial passenger services under a regime other than part 121 or part 135; if FAA were to adopt a rule, the reasonable period of time needed to allow affected operators to obtain appropriate certificates and