

Proposed Rules

Federal Register

Vol. 89, No. 145

Monday, July 29, 2024

This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains notices to the public of the proposed issuance of rules and regulations. The purpose of these notices is to give interested persons an opportunity to participate in the rule making prior to the adoption of the final rules.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. FAA-2024-1897; Project Identifier AD-2023-00774-T]

RIN 2120-AA64

Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM).

SUMMARY: The FAA proposes to adopt a new airworthiness directive (AD) for certain The Boeing Company Model 737-300 and -400 series airplanes. This proposed AD was prompted by a report that flight control rigging tolerances could result in spoiler deflection not reaching the minimal level required to engage the cruise thrust split monitor (MONFD) used by the autothrottle (A/T) system. This proposed AD would require changing certain wire bundles, installing a new housing assembly, removing the mechanical aileron force limiter (MAFL), doing an inspection or records check to determine if certain flight control computers (FCCs) are installed, and applicable on-condition actions. 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 September 12, 2024.

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-2024-1897; 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, any comments received, and other information. The street address for Docket Operations is listed above.

Material Incorporated by Reference:

- For material identified in this NPRM, contact Boeing Commercial Airplanes, Attention: Contractual & Data Services (C&DS), 2600 Westminister Blvd., MC 110-SK57, Seal Beach, CA 90740-5600; telephone 562-797-1717; website *myboeingfleet.com*.

- You may view this material 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. It is also available at *regulations.gov* by searching for and locating Docket No. FAA-2024-1897.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Eric Igama, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, 2200 South 216th Street, Des Moines, WA 98198; telephone 562-627-5388; email *roderick.igama@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-2024-1897; Project Identifier AD-2023-00774-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 Eric Igama, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, 2200 South 216th Street, Des Moines, WA 98198; telephone 562-627-5388; email *roderick.igama@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 has received a report indicating that flight control rigging tolerances could result in spoiler deflection not reaching the minimal level required to engage the MONFD used by the A/T system. The manufacturer reported that the rigging procedure for Boeing Model 737-300 and -400 series airplanes equipped with a MAFL allows for rigging of the autopilot roll authority limit to a minimum of 15 degrees control wheel. However, this control wheel position could result in the spoiler deflection not reaching the 2.5 degree A/T MONFD activation point, which could prevent the A/T MONFD from engaging. This condition, if not addressed, could lead to significant throttle split, leading to asymmetric thrust and the subsequent lack of autothrottle disengagement, which could result in an uncommanded roll and consequent loss of control of the airplane, and reduced ability of the flightcrew to maintain the safe flight and landing of the airplane.

FAA’s Determination

The FAA is issuing this NPRM after determining that the unsafe condition described previously is likely to exist or develop on other products of the same type design.

Material Incorporated by Reference Under 1 CFR Part 51

The FAA reviewed Boeing Alert Requirements Bulletin 737-22A1399 RB, dated April 13, 2023. This material specifies procedures for changing certain wire bundles, installing a new housing assembly, removing the MAFL, doing an inspection or records check to determine if certain FCCs are installed

(FCCs that have an electronic aileron limiter (EAL) revision), and applicable on-condition actions. On-condition actions include installing new FCCs or re-installing kept FCCs (the installation includes doing specified tests and applicable corrective actions until the tests are passed).

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**.

Proposed AD Requirements in This NPRM

This proposed AD would require accomplishing the actions specified in

the material already described, except for any differences identified as exceptions in the regulatory text of this proposed AD. For information on the procedures and compliance times, see this material at *regulations.gov* under Docket No. FAA-2024-1897.

Costs of Compliance

The FAA estimates that this AD, if adopted as proposed, would affect 110 airplanes of U.S. registry. The FAA estimates the following costs to comply with this proposed AD:

ESTIMATED COSTS

Action	Labor cost	Parts cost	Cost per product	Cost on U.S. operators
Wire bundle change, MAFL removal, housing assembly installation, and inspection/records review.	Up to 10 work-hours × \$85 per hour = up to \$850.	\$0	Up to \$850	Up to \$93,500.

The FAA estimates the following costs to do any necessary on-condition actions that would be required based on

the results of the proposed inspection/records review. The agency has no way of determining the number of aircraft

that might need these on-condition actions:

ON-CONDITION COSTS

Action	Labor cost	Parts cost	Cost per product
Installation of FCCs	2 work-hours × \$85 per hour = \$170	\$7,250	\$7,420

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 adding the following new airworthiness directive:

The Boeing Company: Docket No. FAA-2024-1897; Project Identifier AD-2023-00774-T.

(a) Comments Due Date

The FAA must receive comments on this airworthiness directive (AD) by September 12, 2024.

(b) Affected ADs

None.

(c) Applicability

This AD applies to The Boeing Company Model 737-300 and -400 series airplanes, certificated in any category, as identified in

Boeing Alert Requirements Bulletin 737–22A1399 RB, dated April 13, 2023.

(d) Subject

Air Transport Association (ATA) of America Code 27, Flight controls.

(e) Unsafe Condition

This AD was prompted by a report that flight control rigging tolerances could result in spoiler deflection not reaching the minimal level required to engage the cruise thrust split monitor (MONFD) used by the autothrottle (A/T) system. The FAA is issuing this AD to address failure of the spoiler deflection to engage the MONFD. The unsafe condition, if not addressed, could lead to significant throttle split, leading to asymmetric thrust and the subsequent lack of autothrottle disengagement, which could result in an uncommanded roll and consequent loss of control of the airplane, and reduced ability of the flightcrew to maintain the safe flight and landing of the airplane.

(f) Compliance

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

(g) Required Actions

Except as specified by paragraph (h) of this AD: At the applicable times specified in the “Compliance” paragraph of Boeing Alert Requirements Bulletin 737–22A1399 RB, dated April 13, 2023, do all applicable actions identified in, and in accordance with, the Accomplishment Instructions of Boeing Alert Requirements Bulletin 737–22A1399 RB, dated April 13, 2023.

Note 1 to paragraph (g): Guidance for accomplishing the actions required by this AD can be found in Boeing Alert Service Bulletin 737–22A1399, dated April 13, 2023, which is referred to in Boeing Alert Requirements Bulletin 737–22A1399 RB, dated April 13, 2023.

(h) Exceptions to Requirements Bulletin Specifications

Where the Compliance Time columns of the table in the “Compliance” paragraph of Boeing Alert Requirements Bulletin 737–22A1399 RB, dated April 13, 2023, use the phrase “the original issue date of Requirements Bulletin 737–22A1399 RB,” this AD requires using the effective date of this AD.

(i) Alternative Methods of Compliance (AMOCs)

(1) The Manager, AIR–520, Continued Operational Safety 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 manager of the certification office, send it to the attention of the person identified in paragraph (j)(1) of this AD. Information may be emailed to: AMOC@faa.gov.

(2) Before using any approved AMOC, notify your appropriate principal inspector,

or lacking a principal inspector, the manager of the responsible Flight Standards Office.

(3) An AMOC that provides an acceptable level of safety may be used for any repair, modification, or alteration required by this AD if it is approved by The Boeing Company Organization Designation Authorization (ODA) that has been authorized by the Manager, AIR–520, Continued Operational Safety Branch, FAA, to make those findings. To be approved, the repair method, modification deviation, or alteration deviation must meet the certification basis of the airplane, and the approval must specifically refer to this AD.

(j) Related Information

(1) For more information about this AD, contact Eric Igama, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, 2200 South 216th Street, Des Moines, WA 98198; phone: 562–627–5388; email: roderick.igama@faa.gov.

(2) Material identified in this AD that is not incorporated by reference is available at the address specified in paragraph (k)(3) of this AD.

(k) Material Incorporated by Reference

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

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

(i) Boeing Alert Requirements Bulletin 737–22A1399 RB, dated April 13, 2023.

(ii) [Reserved]

(3) For the material identified in this AD, contact Boeing Commercial Airplanes, Attention: Contractual & Data Services (C&DS), 2600 Westminister Blvd., MC 110–SK57, Seal Beach, CA 90740–5600; telephone 562–797–1717; website myboeingfleet.com.

(4) You may view this material 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.

(5) You may view this material at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). For information on the availability of this material at NARA, visit www.archives.gov/federal-register/cfr/ibr-locations or email fr.inspection@nara.gov.

Issued on July 23, 2024.

Peter A. White,

Deputy Director, Integrated Certificate Management Division, Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. 2024–16474 Filed 7–26–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–13–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. FAA–2024–1898; Project Identifier AD–2023–01013–E]

RIN 2120–AA64

Airworthiness Directives; CFM International, S.A. Engines

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM).

SUMMARY: The FAA proposes to adopt a new airworthiness directive (AD) for certain CFM International, S.A. (CFM) Model LEAP–1B engines. This proposed AD was prompted by a report of a quality escape involving certain high-pressure compressor (HPC) stage 2 seals manufactured without detailed finish machining, which could result in deeper rubs and mechanical damage to the seal teeth of the stage 3–4 compressor rotor blisk (stage 3–4 blisk) of the mating compressor rotor during initial operation. This proposed AD would require a visual inspection of the HPC stage 2 seal, a visual inspection of the forward arm seal teeth of the stage 3–4 blisk, an eddy current inspection (ECI) of the forward arm seal teeth of the stage 3–4 blisk, and replacement of the HPC stage 2 seal and the stage 3–4 blisk, if necessary. 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 September 12, 2024.

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.

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