

§ 39.13 [Amended]

2. Section 39.13 is amended by adding the following new airworthiness directive:

98-25-08 British Aerospace Regional Aircraft (Formerly Jetstream Aircraft Limited; British Aerospace (Commercial Aircraft) Limited): Amendment 39-10934. Docket 98-NM-216-AD.

Applicability: Model ATP airplanes, constructor's numbers 2002 through 2063 inclusive; certificated in any category.

Note 1: This AD applies to each airplane identified in the preceding applicability provision, regardless of whether it has been modified, altered, or repaired in the area subject to the requirements of this AD. For airplanes that have been modified, altered, or repaired so that the performance of the requirements of this AD is affected, the owner/operator must request approval for an alternative method of compliance in accordance with paragraph (d) of this AD. The request should include an assessment of the effect of the modification, alteration, or repair on the unsafe condition addressed by this AD; and, if the unsafe condition has not been eliminated, the request should include specific proposed actions to address it.

Compliance: Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously.

To prevent failure of the nosewheel steering control cables, which could result in loss of the nosewheel steering or collapse of the nose landing gear (NLG), and possible injury to the flightcrew and passengers, accomplish the following:

(a) Perform a visual and tactile inspection of the nosewheel steering control cables located in the nosewheel bay of the NLG to detect excessive wear, and test the cable pulleys for seizing, in accordance with British Aerospace Service Bulletin ATP-32-91, dated May 19, 1998; at the applicable time specified in paragraph (a)(1) or (a)(2) of this AD. Thereafter, repeat the inspection and test at intervals not to exceed 1,800 flight hours, or 2,400 landings, whichever occurs first.

(1) For airplanes on which the nosewheel steering control cables have accumulated 6,000 or more total flight hours, or 8,000 or more total landings as of the effective date of this AD, and for airplanes on which the time-in-service of the nosewheel steering control cables is unknown: Inspect and test within 600 flight hours or 800 landings after the effective date of this AD, whichever occurs first.

(2) For airplanes on which the nosewheel steering control cables have accumulated less than 6,000 total flight hours or 8,000 total landings as of the effective date of this AD: Inspect and test within 900 flight hours or 1,200 landings after the effective date of this AD, whichever occurs first.

(b) If any cable wear is outside the limits specified in British Aerospace Service Bulletin ATP-32-91, dated May 19, 1998, or if any discrepant pulley is detected during any inspection or test required by paragraph (a) of this AD, prior to further flight, replace the discrepant cable or pulley with a new component in accordance with the service bulletin. Thereafter, continue

accomplishment of the actions required by paragraphs (a) and (c) of this AD at the intervals specified in those paragraphs.

(c) Replace the nosewheel steering control cables with new cables at the later of the times specified in paragraphs (c)(1) and (c)(2) of this AD in accordance with British Aerospace Service Bulletin ATP-32-91, dated May 19, 1998. Thereafter, repeat the replacement at intervals not to exceed 6,000 total flight hours or 8,000 total landings on the nosewheel steering cables, whichever occurs first.

(1) Within 900 flight hours or 1,200 landings after the effective date of this AD, whichever occurs first.

(2) Prior to the accumulation of 6,000 total flight hours or 8,000 total landings on the nosewheel steering cables, whichever occurs first.

Note 2: Accomplishment of the initial inspection or initial replacement of the nosewheel steering control cables prior to the effective date of this AD in accordance with British Aerospace Alert Service Bulletin ATP-A32-90, dated March 21, 1998, is considered acceptable for compliance with the initial inspection or initial replacement required by this AD.

(d) An alternative method of compliance or adjustment of the compliance time that provides an acceptable level of safety may be used if approved by the Manager, International Branch, ANM-116, FAA, Transport Airplane Directorate. Operators shall submit their requests through an appropriate FAA Principal Maintenance Inspector, who may add comments and then send it to the Manager, International Branch, ANM-116.

Note 3: Information concerning the existence of approved alternative methods of compliance with this AD, if any, may be obtained from the International Branch, ANM-116.

(e) Special flight permits may be issued in accordance with sections 21.197 and 21.199 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR 21.197 and 21.199) to operate the airplane to a location where the requirements of this AD can be accomplished.

(f) The actions shall be done in accordance with British Aerospace Service Bulletin ATP-32-91, dated May 19, 1998. This incorporation by reference was approved by the Director of the Federal Register in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 1 CFR part 51. Copies may be obtained from AI(R) American Support, Inc., 13850 McLean Road, Herndon, Virginia 20171. Copies may be inspected at the FAA, Transport Airplane Directorate, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington; or at the Office of the Federal Register, 800 North Capitol Street, NW., suite 700, Washington, DC.

Note 4: The subject of this AD is addressed in British airworthiness directive 004-05-98.

(g) This amendment becomes effective on January 14, 1999.

Issued in Renton, Washington, on December 2, 1998.

John W. McGraw,

Acting Manager, Transport Airplane Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. 98-32621 Filed 12-9-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. 98-NM-348-AD; Amendment 39-10937; AD 98-25-11]

RIN 2120-AA64

Airworthiness Directives; McDonnell Douglas Model MD-11 Series Airplanes

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Final rule; request for comments.

SUMMARY: This amendment adopts a new airworthiness directive (AD) that is applicable to all McDonnell Douglas Model MD-11 series airplanes. This action requires a one-time inspection to detect discrepancies at certain areas around the entry light connector of the sliding ceiling panel above the forward passenger doors, and repair, if necessary. This amendment is prompted by a report indicating that damaged electrical wires were found above the forward passenger doors due to flapper panels moving inboard and chafing the electrical wire assemblies of this area. The actions specified in this AD are intended to prevent such chafing, which could result in an electrical fire in the passenger compartment.

DATES: Effective December 28, 1998.

Comments for inclusion in the Rules Docket must be received on or before February 8, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments in triplicate to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Transport Airplane Directorate, ANM-114, Attention: Rules Docket No. 98-NM-348-AD, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington 98055-4056.

Information pertaining to this amendment may be examined at the FAA, Transport Airplane Directorate, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington; or at the FAA, Transport Airplane Directorate, Los Angeles Aircraft Certification Office, 3960 Paramount Boulevard, Lakewood, California.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Brett Portwood, Aerospace Engineer,

ANM-130L, FAA, Transport Airplane Directorate, Los Angeles Aircraft Certification Office, 3960 Paramount Boulevard, Lakewood, California 90712; telephone (562) 627-5347; fax (562) 627-5210.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: As part of its practice of re-examining all aspects of the service experience of a particular aircraft whenever an accident occurs, the FAA has become aware that damaged electrical wires were found above the forward left- and right-hand passenger doors on a McDonnell Douglas Model MD-11 series airplane during a regularly scheduled heavy maintenance visit. Investigation revealed that, when the passenger doors are raised to the open position, the flapper panels above the passenger doors move inboard and chafe the electrical wire assemblies of this area. This condition, if not corrected, could lead to an electrical fire in the passenger compartment.

This incident is not considered to be related to a recent accident that occurred off the coast of Nova Scotia involving a McDonnell Douglas Model MD-11 series airplane. The cause of that accident is still under investigation.

Explanation of the Requirements of the Rule

Since an unsafe condition has been identified that is likely to exist or develop on other McDonnell Douglas Model MD-11 series airplanes of the same type design, this AD is being issued to prevent chafing of the electrical wires above the forward passenger doors, which could result in an electrical fire in the passenger compartment. This AD requires a one-time visual inspection to detect discrepancies (including, but not limited to, frayed, chafed, or nicked wires and wire insulation) in the areas listed below; and repair, if necessary:

- At the area around the entry light connector of the sliding ceiling panel above the forward left passenger door (1L) at station location x = 24.75, y = 435, and z = 64.5; and

- At the area above the forward right passenger door (1R) at station location x = -30, y = 430, and z = 70 in the area of bracket part number 4225419-1.

This AD also requires operators to submit a report of the inspection results to the FAA.

Interim Action

This is considered to be interim action until final action is identified, at which time the FAA may consider further rulemaking.

Determination of Rule's Effective Date

Since a situation exists that requires the immediate adoption of this regulation, it is found that notice and opportunity for prior public comment hereon are impracticable, and that good cause exists for making this amendment effective in less than 30 days.

Comments Invited

Although this action is in the form of a final rule that involves requirements affecting flight safety and, thus, was not preceded by notice and an opportunity for public comment, comments are invited on this rule. Interested persons are invited to comment on this rule by submitting such written data, views, or arguments as they may desire. Communications shall identify the Rules Docket number and be submitted in triplicate to the address specified under the caption **ADDRESSES**. All communications received on or before the closing date for comments will be considered, and this rule may be amended in light of the comments received. Factual information that supports the commenter's ideas and suggestions is extremely helpful in evaluating the effectiveness of the AD action and determining whether additional rulemaking action would be needed.

Comments are specifically invited on the overall regulatory, economic, environmental, and energy aspects of the rule that might suggest a need to modify the rule. All comments submitted will be available, both before and after the closing date for comments, in the Rules Docket for examination by interested persons. A report that summarizes each FAA-public contact concerned with the substance of this AD will be filed in the Rules Docket.

Commenters wishing the FAA to acknowledge receipt of their comments submitted in response to this rule must submit a self-addressed, stamped postcard on which the following statement is made: "Comments to Docket Number 98-NM-348-AD." The postcard will be date stamped and returned to the commenter.

Regulatory Impact

The regulations adopted herein will not have substantial direct effects 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. Therefore, in accordance with Executive Order 12612, it is determined that this final rule does not have sufficient federalism implications to warrant the preparation of a Federalism Assessment.

The FAA has determined that this regulation is an emergency regulation that must be issued immediately to correct an unsafe condition in aircraft, and that it is not a "significant regulatory action" under Executive Order 12866. It has been determined further that this action involves an emergency regulation under DOT Regulatory Policies and Procedures (44 FR 11034, February 26, 1979). If it is determined that this emergency regulation otherwise would be significant under DOT Regulatory Policies and Procedures, a final regulatory evaluation will be prepared and placed in the Rules Docket. A copy of it, if filed, may be obtained from the Rules Docket at the location provided under the caption **ADDRESSES**.

List of Subjects in 14 CFR Part 39

Air transportation, Aircraft, Aviation safety, Safety.

Adoption of the Amendment

Accordingly, pursuant to the authority delegated to me by the Administrator, the Federal Aviation Administration amends part 39 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (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. Section 39.13 is amended by adding the following new airworthiness directive:

98-25-11 McDonnell Douglas: Amendment 39-10937. Docket 98-NM-348-AD.

Applicability: All Model MD-11 series airplanes, certificated in any category.

Note 1: This AD applies to each airplane identified in the preceding applicability provision, regardless of whether it has been modified, altered, or repaired in the area subject to the requirements of this AD. For airplanes that have been modified, altered, or repaired so that the performance of the requirements of this AD is affected, the owner/operator must request approval for an alternative method of compliance in accordance with paragraph (d) of this AD. The request should include an assessment of the effect of the modification, alteration, or repair on the unsafe condition addressed by this AD; and, if the unsafe condition has not been eliminated, the request should include specific proposed actions to address it.

Compliance: Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously.

To prevent chafing of certain electrical wires above the forward passenger doors, which could result in an electrical fire in the passenger compartment, accomplish the following:

(a) Within 10 days after the effective date of this AD, perform a visual inspection to detect discrepancies that include but are not limited to frayed, chafed, or nicked wires and wire insulation in the areas specified in paragraphs (a)(1) and (a)(2) of this AD.

(1) At the area around the entry light connector of the sliding ceiling panel above the forward left passenger door (1L) at station location x = 24.75, y = 435, and z = 64.5; and

(2) At the area above the forward right passenger door (1R) at station location x = -30, y = 430, and z = 70 in the area of bracket part number 4225419-1.

(b) If any discrepancy is detected during the visual inspection required by paragraph (a) of this AD, prior to further flight, repair in accordance with Chapter 20, Standard Wiring Practices of the MD-11 Wiring Diagram Manual, dated January 1, 1998.

(c) Within 10 days after accomplishing the visual inspection required by paragraph (a) of this AD, submit a report of the inspection results (both positive and negative findings) to the Manager, FAA, Transport Airplane Directorate, Los Angeles Aircraft Certification Office (ACO), 3960 Paramount Boulevard, Lakewood, California 90712; telephone (562) 627-5350; fax (562) 627-5210. Information collection requirements contained in this regulation have been approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*) and have been assigned OMB Control Number 2120-0056.

(d) An alternative method of compliance or adjustment of the compliance time that provides an acceptable level of safety may be used if approved by the Manager, Los Angeles ACO. Operators shall submit their requests through an appropriate FAA Principal Maintenance Inspector, who may add comments and then send it to the Manager, Los Angeles ACO.

Note 2: Information concerning the existence of approved alternative methods of compliance with this AD, if any, may be obtained from the Los Angeles ACO.

(e) Special flight permits may be issued in accordance with sections 21.197 and 21.199 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR 21.197 and 21.199) to operate the airplane to a location where the requirements of this AD can be accomplished.

(f) This amendment becomes effective on December 28, 1998.

Issued in Renton, Washington, on December 3, 1998.

John W. McGraw,

Acting Manager, Transport Airplane Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service.
[FR Doc. 98-32791 Filed 12-9-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 71

[Airspace Docket No. 98-ASO-17]

Establishment of Class E2 Airspace; Atlanta Dekalb-Peachtree Airport, GA

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This amendment establishes Class E2 airspace at Atlanta, GA, for the Dekalb-Peachtree Airport. An automated weather observing system transmits the required weather observations continuously to The William B. Hartsfield, Atlanta International Airport Traffic Control Tower, the controlling facility for the airport, when the Dekalb-Peachtree Airport Traffic Control Tower is closed. Therefore, the airport now meets the criteria for Class E2 surface area airspace. The Class E airspace will consist of that airspace extending upward from the surface to but not including 700 feet within a 4-mile radius of Dekalb-Peachtree Airport.

EFFECTIVE DATE: 0901 UTC, March 25, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Nancy B. Shelton, Manager, Airspace Branch, Air Traffic Division, Federal Aviation Administration, P.O. Box 20636, Atlanta, Georgia 30320; telephone (404) 305-5627.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

History

On October 15, 1998, the FAA proposed to amend part 71 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR part 71) by establishing Class E2 airspace at Atlanta, GA, (63 FR 55354). This action provides adequate Class E airspace for IFR operations at Dekalb-Peachtree Airport. Designations for Class E2 airspace extending upward from the surface of the earth are published in FAA Order 7400.9F dated September 10, 1998, and effective September 16, 1998, which is incorporated by reference in 14 CFR part 71.1. The Class E designation listed in this document will be published subsequently in the Order.

Interested parties were invited to participate in this rulemaking proceeding by submitting written comments on the proposal to the FAA. No comment objecting to the proposal was received.

The Rule

This amendment to part 71 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR part 71) establishes Class E2 airspace at

Atlanta, GA for the Dekalb-Peachtree Airport. An automated weather observing system transmits the required weather observations continuously to The William B. Hartsfield, Atlanta International Airport Traffic Control Tower, the controlling facility for the airport, when the Dekalb-Peachtree Airport Traffic Control Tower is closed. Therefore, the airport now meets the criteria for Class E2 surface area airspace.

The FAA has determined that this regulation only involves an established body of technical regulations for which frequent and routine amendments are necessary to keep them operationally current. It, therefore, (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); and (3) does not warrant preparation of a Regulatory Evaluation, as the anticipated impact is so minimal. Since this is a routine matter that will only affect air traffic procedures and air navigation, it is certified that this rule will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities under the criteria of the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

List of Subjects in 14 CFR Part 71

Airspace, Incorporation by reference, Navigation (air).

Adoption of the Amendment

In consideration of the foregoing, the Federal Aviation Administration amends 14 CFR part 71 as follows:

PART 71—DESIGNATION OF CLASS A, CLASS B, CLASS C, CLASS D AND CLASS E AIRSPACE AREAS; AIRWAYS; ROUTES; AND REPORTING POINTS

1. The authority citation for 14 CFR part 71 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 106(g), 40103, 40113, 40120; EO 10854, 24 FR 9565, 3 CFR, 1959-1963 Comp., p. 389.

§ 71.1 [Amended]

2. The incorporation by reference in 14 CFR 71.1 of Federal Aviation Administration Order 7400.9F, Airspace Designations and Reporting Points, dated September 10, 1998, and effective September 16, 1998, is amended as follows:

Paragraph 6002 Class E Airspace Designated as Surface Areas

* * * * *

ASO GA E2 Atlanta Dekalb-Peachtree Airport, GA [New]

Atlanta Dekalb-Peachtree Airport