

Proposed Rules

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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.

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

10 CFR Part 50

RIN 3150-AF73

Codes and Standards; IEEE National Consensus Standard

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: The Nuclear Regulatory Commission is amending its regulations to incorporate by reference IEEE Std 603-1991, a national consensus standard for power, instrumentation, and control portions of safety systems in nuclear power plants. This action is necessary to endorse the latest version of this national consensus standard in NRC's regulations, and replace an IEEE Standard currently endorsed in the NRC's regulations which has been withdrawn by the IEEE.

DATES: Comments on the proposed rule must be received on or before December 1, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Mail comments to: Secretary, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001; Attention: Rulemakings and Adjudications Staff. Hand deliver comments to 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland, between 7:30 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. on Federal workdays.

Copies of any comments received may be examined at the NRC Public Document Room, 2120 L Street, NW, (lower level), Washington, DC.

For information on submitting comments electronically, see the discussion under Electronic Access in the Supplementary Information Section.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Satish K. Aggarwal, Senior Program Manager, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555, Telephone (301) 415-6005, Fax (301) 415-5074, E-mail: SKA@NRC.GOV

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: For additional information, see the direct final rule published in the Rules and Regulations Section of this **Federal Register**.

Procedural Background

Because NRC considers this rulemaking noncontroversial, we are publishing this proposed rule concurrently as a direct final rule. The direct final rule will become effective on January 1, 1998. However, if the NRC receives significant adverse comments on the direct final rule by December 1, 1997, then the NRC will publish a document that withdraws the direct final rule. If the direct final rule is withdrawn, the NRC will address the comments received in a subsequent final rule. The NRC will not initiate a second comment period on this action in the event the direct final rule is withdrawn.

Electronic Access

You may also provide comments via the NRC's interactive rulemaking website through the NRC home page (<http://www.nrc.gov>). This site provides the availability to upload comments as files (any format), if your web browser supports that function. For information about the interactive rulemaking website, contact Ms. Carol Gallagher, (301) 415-5905 (e-mail: CAG@nrc.gov).

List of Subjects in 10 CFR Part 50

Antitrust, Classified Information, Criminal penalties, Fire protection, Incorporation by reference, Intergovernmental relations, Nuclear power plants and reactors, Radiation protection, Reactor siting criteria, and Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

For the reasons set out in the preamble and under the authority of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, the Energy Reorganizations Act of 1974, as amended, and 5 U.S.C. 552 and 553, the NRC is adopting the following amendment to 10 CFR part 50.

PART 50—DOMESTIC LICENSING OF PRODUCTION AND UTILIZATION FACILITIES

1. The authority citation for part 50 continues to read as follows:

Authority: Secs. 102, 103, 104, 105, 161, 182, 183, 186, 189, 68 Stat. 936, 937, 938, 948, 953, 954, 955, 956, as amended, sec.

234, 83 Stat. 1244, as amended (42 U.S.C. 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2201, 2232, 2233, 2236, 2239, 2282); secs. 201, as amended, 202, 206, 88 Stat. 1242, as amended, 1244, 1246 (42 U.S.C. 5841, 5842, 5846).

Section 50.7 also issued under Pub. L. 95-601, sec. 10, 92 Stat. 2951 (42 U.S.C. 5851). Section 50.10 also issued under secs. 101, 185, 68 Stat. 955 as amended (42 U.S.C. 2131, 2235), sec. 102, Pub. L. 91-190, 83 Stat. 853 (42 U.S.C. 4332). Sections 50.13, and 50.54 (dd), and 50.103 also issued under sec. 108, 68 Stat. 939, as amended (42 U.S.C. 2138), Sections 50.23, 50.35, 50.55, and 50.56 also issued under sec. 185, 68 Stat. 955 (42 U.S.C. 2235), Sections 50.33a, 50.55a and Appendix Q also issued under sec. 102, Pub. L. 91-190, 83 Stat. 853 (42 U.S.C. 4332). Sections 50.34 and 50.54 also issued under sec. 204, 88 Stat. 1245 (42 U.S.C. 5844). Sections 50.58, 50.91, and 50.92 also issued under Pub. L. 97-415, 96 Stat. 2073 (42 U.S.C. 2239). Section 50.78 also issued under sec. 122, 68 Stat. 939 (42 U.S.C. 2152). Sections 50.80-50.81 also issued under sec. 184, 68 Stat. 954, as amended (42 U.S.C. 2234). Appendix F also issued under sec. 187, 68 Stat. 955 (42 U.S.C. 2237).

2. In § 50.55a, paragraph (h) is revised to read as follows:

§ 50.55a Codes and standards.

* * * * *

(h) *Protection and Safety Systems.* (1) IEEE Std. 603-1991, including the correction sheet dated January 30, 1995, which is referenced in paragraph (h)(3), are approved for incorporation by reference by the Director of the Federal Register in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 1 CFR part 51. A notice of any changes made to the material incorporated by reference will be published in the **Federal Register**. Copies of IEEE Std. 603-1991 may be purchased from the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers Service Center, 445 Hoes Lane, Piscataway, NJ 08855. It is also available for inspection at the NRC Library, 11545 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852-2738, and at the Office of the Federal Register, 800 North Capital Street, NW, Suite 700, Washington, DC. IEEE Std. 279, which is referenced in paragraph (h)(2) of this section was approved for incorporation by reference by the Director of the Federal Register in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 1 CFR Part 51. Copies of this standard are also available as indicated for IEEE Std. 603-1991.

(2) Definitions.

(i) For purposes of this paragraph the terms "protection systems," "safety

systems," and "safety-related systems" are synonymous.

(ii) Changes to protection systems include modification, augmentation or replacement of protection systems permitted by license amendments, changes made to protection systems by licensees pursuant to 10 CFR 50.59, and plant specific departures from a design certification rule under 10 CFR part 52.

(3) Protection systems. For nuclear power plants with construction permits issued after January 1, 1971, but prior to January 1, 1998, protection systems must meet the requirements set forth in either the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) Std. 279, "Criteria for Protection Systems for Nuclear Power Generating Stations," or in IEEE Std. 603-1991, "Criteria for Safety Systems for Nuclear Power Generating Stations," and the correction sheet dated January 30, 1995. However, changes to protection systems initiated on or after January 1, 1998 must meet the requirements set forth in IEEE Std. 603-1991, and the correction sheet dated January 30, 1995.

(4) Safety systems. For construction permits, operating licenses, final design approvals, design certifications and combined licenses issued on or after January 1, 1998, safety systems must meet the requirements set forth in IEEE Std. 603-1991, and the correction sheet, dated January 30, 1995.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 9th day of October, 1997.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

John C. Hoyle,

Secretary of the Commission.

[FR Doc. 97-27419 Filed 10-16-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. 97-NM-245-AD]

RIN 2120-AA64

Airworthiness Directives; Fokker Model F28 Mark 0070 and Mark 0100 Series Airplanes

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM).

SUMMARY: This document proposes the adoption of a new airworthiness directive (AD) that is applicable to certain Fokker Model F28 Mark 0070 and Mark 0100 series airplanes. This proposal would require replacement of

the operating handles of the overwing emergency exits with improved handles that have self-illumination. This proposal is prompted by issuance of mandatory continuing airworthiness information by a foreign civil airworthiness authority. The actions specified by the proposed AD are intended to ensure that the operating handles of the overwing emergency exits are clearly visible during an emergency evacuation.

DATES: Comments must be received by November 28, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments in triplicate to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Transport Airplane Directorate, ANM-103, Attention: Rules Docket No. 97-NM-245-AD, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington 98055-4056. Comments may be inspected at this location between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

The service information referenced in the proposed rule may be obtained from Fokker Service B.V., Technical Support Department, P.O. Box 75047, 1117 ZN Schiphol Airport, The Netherlands. This information may be examined at the FAA, Transport Airplane Directorate, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Tim Dulin, Aerospace Engineer, Standardization Branch, ANM-113, FAA, Transport Airplane Directorate, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington 98055-4056; telephone (425) 227-2141; fax (425) 227-1149.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Comments Invited

Interested persons are invited to participate in the making of the proposed 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 above. All communications received on or before the closing date for comments, specified above, will be considered before taking action on the proposed rule. The proposals contained in this notice may be changed in light of the comments received.

Comments are specifically invited on the overall regulatory, economic, environmental, and energy aspects of the proposed 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 summarizing each FAA-public contact concerned with the substance of this

proposal will be filed in the Rules Docket.

Commenters wishing the FAA to acknowledge receipt of their comments submitted in response to this notice must submit a self-addressed, stamped postcard on which the following statement is made: "Comments to Docket Number 97-NM-245-AD." The postcard will be date stamped and returned to the commenter.

Availability of NPRMs

Any person may obtain a copy of this NPRM by submitting a request to the FAA, Transport Airplane Directorate, ANM-103, Attention: Rules Docket No. 97-NM-245-AD, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington 98055-4056.

Discussion

The Rijksluchtvaartdienst (RLD), which is the airworthiness authority for the Netherlands, notified the FAA that an unsafe condition may exist on certain Fokker Model F28 Mark 0070 and Mark 0100 series airplanes. The RLD advises that the operating handles of the overwing emergency exits installed on Fokker Model F28 Mark 0070 and Mark 0100 series airplanes equipped with the new "Jetline" interior do not meet the illumination requirements of section 25.811(e) of the Federal Aviation Regulations [14 CFR 25.811(e)]. Section 25.811(e) requires the handles to be either conspicuously located and well illuminated, or self-illuminated with an initial brightness of at least 160 microlamberts. The operating handles of the overwing emergency exits installed on these airplanes do not have adequate illumination, and, therefore, the handles may not be clearly visible in emergency conditions. This condition, if not corrected, could result in reduced ability to evacuate the airplane during an emergency.

Explanation of Relevant Service Information

Fokker has issued Service Bulletin SBF100-52-060, dated October 10, 1995, which describes procedures for replacement of the operating handles of the overwing emergency exits with improved operating handles that have self-illumination. Accomplishment of the actions specified in the service bulletin is intended to adequately address the identified unsafe condition. The RLD classified this service bulletin as mandatory and issued Netherlands airworthiness directive BLA 1995-104(A), dated October 31, 1995, in order to assure the continued airworthiness of these airplanes in the Netherlands.