

\$23,280 for the U.S. fleet. The FAA has no way of determining how many owners/operators of these affected airplanes have accomplished this action.

Regulatory Impact

The regulations proposed herein would 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 proposal would not have sufficient federalism implications to warrant the preparation of a Federalism Assessment.

For the reasons discussed above, I certify that this action (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) if promulgated, 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. A copy of the draft regulatory evaluation prepared for this action has been placed in the Rules Docket. A copy of it may be obtained by contacting 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.

The Proposed Amendment

Accordingly, pursuant to the authority delegated to me by the Administrator, the Federal Aviation Administration proposes to amend 14 CFR part 39 of the Federal Aviation Regulations as follows:

PART 39—AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVES

1. The authority citation for part 39 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 49 USC 106(g), 40113, 44701.

§ 39.13 [Amended]

2. Section 39.13 is amended by removing Airworthiness Directive (AD) 95-20-06, Amendment 39-9384, and by adding a new AD to read as follows:

Air Tractor Incorporated: Docket No. 96-CE-47-AD; Supersedes AD 95-20-06, Amendment 39-9384.

Applicability: The following airplane models and serial numbers that have not accomplished the modification in Snow Engineering Company Report No. 138,

dated July 29, 1995, which is referenced in superseded AD 95-20-06, certificated in any category:

Note 1: The modification in Snow Engineering Company Report No. 138, dated July 29, 1995 and AD 95-20-06 required the airplanes to replace 3/16-inch thick fin front spar attach fittings with 1/4-inch thick fin front spar attach fittings.

Models	Serial Nos.
AT-301 and AT-401.	301-0261 through 301-0736, and 401-0662 through 401-0736 that have been converted to turbine powerplants and equipped with the all metal rudder, part number (P/N) 30456-1.
AT-302	All aircraft equipped with the all metal rudder, P/N 30456-1.
AT-400 and AT-400A.	All aircraft equipped with the all metal rudder, P/N 30456-1.
AT-402	402-0694 and 402-0695 through 402-0736.
AT-501	501-0002 through 501-0030 that have been converted to turbine powerplants and equipped with the all metal rudder, P/N 30456-1.
AT-502	502-0002 through 502-0030.

Note 2: 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 (f) 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 initially within the next 25 hours time-in-service (TIS) after the effective date of this AD, unless already accomplished, and thereafter as indicated in the body of this AD.

To prevent in-flight vertical fin structural failure of the front spar attachments and eventually the rear spar attachment, which, if not detected and corrected, could result in loss of directional control and loss of control of the airplane, accomplish the following:

(a) Inspect the fin front spar attachment fittings for fatigue cracks in accordance with the INSTRUCTIONS section of the Snow Engineering Report (SER) number (No.) 138, Revised August 7, 1996.

(b) If no cracks are found during the initial inspection, repeat the inspection required by paragraph (a) of this AD at intervals not to exceed 25 hours TIS thereafter in accordance with the INSTRUCTIONS section of the SER No. 138, Revised August 7, 1996.

(c) If cracks are found during any inspections required by this AD, prior to

further flight, modify the fin front spar attachment fittings in accordance with the INSTRUCTIONS section of the SER No. 138, Revised August 7, 1996.

(d) Incorporating the modification specified in paragraph (c) of this AD is considered terminating action for the repetitive inspection requirements of this AD.

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

(f) An alternative method of compliance or adjustment of the initial or repetitive compliance times that provides an equivalent level of safety may be approved by the Manager, Fort Worth Airplane Certification Office, 2601 Meacham Boulevard, Fort Worth, Texas 76193-0150. The request shall be forwarded through an appropriate FAA Maintenance Inspector, who may add comments and then send it to the Manager, Fort Worth Airplane Certification Office. Alternative methods of compliance approved in accordance with AD 95-20-06 are considered approved as alternative methods of compliance for this AD.

Note 3: Information concerning the existence of approved alternative methods of compliance with this AD, if any, may be obtained from the Fort Worth Aircraft Certification Office.

(g) All persons affected by this directive may obtain copies of the document referred to herein upon request to Air Tractor Incorporated, P. O. Box 485, Olney, Texas 76374; or may examine this document at the FAA, Central Region, Office of the Assistant Chief Counsel, Room 1558, 601 E. 12th Street, Kansas City, Missouri 64106.

(h) This amendment supersedes AD 95-20-06, Amendment 39-9384. Issued in Kansas City, Missouri, on February 10, 1997. Henry A. Armstrong, Acting Manager, Small Airplane Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. 97-3958 Filed 2-18-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-U

14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. 96-NM-144-AD]

RIN 2120-AA64

Airworthiness Directives; Construcciones Aeronauticas, S.A. (CASA) Model CN-235 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 CASA Model CN-235 series airplanes. This proposal would require disabling the brake control valve of the

propeller. This proposal also would require that, prior to restoring propeller brake operation, the propeller brake control unit be replaced with a certain new propeller brake control unit. This proposal is prompted by reports of uncommanded activation of the propeller brake system on in-service airplanes during flight, due to the existing design of the brake control valve. The actions specified by the proposed AD are intended to prevent in-flight uncommanded activation of the propeller brake system, which could result in in-flight shutdown of the engine.

DATES: Comments must be received by March 31, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments in triplicate to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Transport Airplane Directorate, ANM-103, Attention: Rules Docket No. 96-NM-144-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 Construcciones Aeronauticas, S.A., Getafe, Madrid, Spain. This information may be examined at the FAA, Transport Airplane Directorate, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Greg Dunn, Aerospace Engineer, Standardization Branch, ANM-113, FAA, Transport Airplane Directorate, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington 98055-4056; telephone (206) 227-2799; fax (206) 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 96-NM-144-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. 96-NM-144-AD, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington 98055-4056.

Discussion

The Dirección General de Aviación (DGAC), which is the airworthiness authority for Spain, recently notified the FAA that an unsafe condition may exist on certain CASA Model CN-235, CN-235-100, and CN-235-200 series airplanes. The DGAC advises that it has received reports of uncommanded activation of the propeller brake system on CASA Model CN-235 series airplanes during flight. Investigation revealed that the existing design of the brake control valve of the propeller can cause such a malfunction, including failure of the low pressure warning system during ground operation. This condition, if not corrected, could result in the in-flight shutdown of an engine.

Explanation of Relevant Service Information

CASA has issued Communication COM 235-82, Revision 3, dated January 31, 1995, which describes procedures for disabling the brake control valve of the propeller.

CASA also has issued Service Bulletin SB-235-61-01, dated October 11, 1994, and Service Bulletin SB-235-61-01M, Revision 2, dated January 25, 1996 (for military airplanes). These service bulletins describe procedures for replacement of the propeller brake control unit, having part number (P/N) HP1410100-5 or HP1410100-7, with a new propeller brake control unit, having P/N HP1410100-9. This installation is to be performed prior to restoring propeller brake operation.

The DGAC classified these service bulletins as mandatory and issued Spanish airworthiness directive 01/94 R1, dated July 1995, in order to assure the continued airworthiness of these airplanes in Spain.

FAA's Conclusions

This airplane model is manufactured in Spain and is type certificated for operation in the United States under the provisions of section 21.29 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR 21.29) and the applicable bilateral airworthiness agreement. Pursuant to this bilateral airworthiness agreement, the DGAC has kept the FAA informed of the situation described above. The FAA has examined the findings of the DGAC, reviewed all available information, and determined that AD action is necessary for products of this type design that are certificated for operation in the United States.

Explanation of Requirements of Proposed Rule

Since an unsafe condition has been identified that is likely to exist or develop on other airplanes of the same type design registered in the United States, the proposed AD would require, first, disabling the brake control valve of the propeller. Then, prior to restoring propeller brake operation, the proposed AD would require replacement of certain propeller brake control units with certain new propeller brake control units. The actions would be required to be accomplished in accordance with the service bulletins described previously.

Cost Impact

The FAA estimates that 2 CASA Model CN-235 series airplanes of U.S. registry would be affected by this proposed AD.

It would take approximately 3 work hours per airplane to accomplish the proposed disabling of the brake control valve, at an average labor rate of \$60 per work hour. Based on these figures, the cost impact of this proposed action on U.S. operators is estimated to be \$360, or \$180 per airplane.

It would take approximately 8 work hours per airplane to accomplish the proposed replacement, at an average labor rate of \$60 per work hour.

Required parts would be supplied by the manufacturer at no cost to the operators. Based on these figures, the cost impact of this proposed action on U.S. operators is estimated to be \$960, or \$480 per airplane.

The cost impact figures discussed above are based on assumptions that no operator has yet accomplished any of the proposed requirements of this AD action, and that no operator would accomplish those actions in the future if this AD were not adopted.

Regulatory Impact

The regulations proposed herein would 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 proposal would not have sufficient federalism implications to warrant the preparation of a Federalism Assessment.

For the reasons discussed above, I certify that this proposed regulation (1) is not a "significant regulatory action" under Executive Order 12866; (2) is not a "significant rule" under the DOT Regulatory Policies and Procedures (44 FR 11034, February 26, 1979); and (3) if promulgated, 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. A copy of the draft regulatory evaluation prepared for this action is contained in the Rules Docket. A copy of it may be obtained by contacting 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.

The Proposed Amendment

Accordingly, pursuant to the authority delegated to me by the Administrator, the Federal Aviation Administration proposes to amend 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:

Construcciones Aeronauticas, S.A., CASA:
Docket 96-NM-144-AD.

Applicability: All Model CN-235, CN-235-100, and CN-235-200 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 otherwise 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 (c) 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 in-flight uncommanded activation of the propeller brake system, which could result in in-flight shutdown of the engine, accomplish the following:

(a) Within 10 days after the effective date of this AD, disable the brake control valve of the propeller in accordance with Annex 1 of CASA Communication COM 235-82, Revision 3, dated January 31, 1995.

(b) Prior to restoring propeller brake operation, replace the propeller brake control unit having part number (P/N) HP1410100-5 or HP1410100-7, with a new propeller brake control unit having P/N HP1410100-9, in accordance with CASA Service Bulletin SB-235-61-01, dated October 11, 1994; or CASA Service Bulletin SB-235-61-01M, Revision 2 (for military airplanes), dated January 25, 1996; as applicable. Accomplishment of this replacement constitutes terminating action for the requirements of paragraph (a) of this AD.

(c) 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, Standardization Branch, ANM-113, 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, Standardization Branch, ANM-113.

Note 2: Information concerning the existence of approved alternative methods of compliance with this AD, if any, may be obtained from the Standardization Branch, ANM-113.

(d) 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.

Issued in Renton, Washington, on February 11, 1997.

Darrell M. Pederson,

Acting Manager, Transport Airplane Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. 97-3966 Filed 2-18-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-U

14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. 96-NM-155-AD]

RIN 2120-AA64

Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Model A300, A310, and A300-600 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 all Airbus Model A300, A310, and A300-600 series airplanes. This proposal would require performing a ram air turbine (RAT) extension test; removing and disassembling the RAT lever assembly; performing an inspection to detect corrosion of the RAT lever assembly, and replacement with a new assembly, if necessary; and cleaning all the parts of the RAT control shaft and its bearing component parts. This proposal is prompted by reports indicating that the RAT did not extend during ground testing, due to corrosion in the uplock pin/shaft and the needle bearing of the RAT. The actions specified by the proposed AD are intended to detect and correct such corrosion of the RAT, which could result in failure of the RAT to deploy and subsequent loss of emergency hydraulic power to the flight controls in the event that power is lost in both engines.

DATES: Comments must be received by March 31, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments in triplicate to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Transport Airplane Directorate, ANM-103, Attention: Rules Docket No. 96-NM-155-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 Airbus Industrie, 1 Rond Point Maurice Bellonte, 31707 Blagnac Cedex, France. This information may be examined at the FAA, Transport Airplane Directorate, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Charles Huber, Aerospace Engineer, Standardization Branch, ANM-113, FAA, Transport Airplane Directorate, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington 98055-4056; telephone (206) 227-2589; fax (206) 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