

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**Federal Aviation Administration****14 CFR Part 39**

[Docket No. 97-CE-93-AD; Amendment 39-10314; AD 98-04-01]

RIN 2120-AA64

Airworthiness Directives; EXTRA Flugzeugbau GmbH Model EA-300/S Airplanes

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This amendment adopts a new airworthiness directive (AD) that applies to certain EXTRA Flugzeugbau GmbH Model EA-300/S airplanes. This AD requires modifying the canopy latches or replacing the canopy latches with parts of improved design. This AD is the result of mandatory continuing airworthiness information (MCAI) issued by the airworthiness authority for Germany. The actions specified by this AD are intended to prevent failure of the canopy while the airplane is in flight because of cracked canopy latches, which could result in loss of the canopy and possible loss of control of the airplane.

DATES: Effective March 24, 1998.

The incorporation by reference of certain publications listed in the regulations is approved by the Director of the Federal Register as of March 24, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Service information that applies to this AD may be obtained from EXTRA Flugzeugbau GmbH, Flugplatz Dinslaken, 46569 Hünxe, Germany. This information may also be examined at the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Central Region, Office of the Regional Counsel, Attention: Rules Docket No. 97-CE-93-AD, Room 1558, 601 E. 12th Street, Kansas City, Missouri 64106; or at the Office of the Federal Register, 800 North Capitol Street, NW, suite 700, Washington, DC.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Karl Schletzbaum, Aerospace Engineer, FAA, Small Airplane Directorate, 1201 Walnut Street, suite 900, Kansas City, Missouri 64106; telephone: (816) 426-6934; facsimile: (816) 426-2169.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Events Leading to the Issuance of This AD

A proposal to amend part 39 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR part 39) to include an AD that would apply to certain EXTRA Flugzeugbau GmbH Model EA-300/S airplanes was

published in the **Federal Register** as a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) on November 5, 1997 (62 FR 59827). The NPRM proposed to require modifying the canopy latches or replacing the canopy latches with parts of improved design, part number (P/N) PC-23303.8P1 for both front latches and the rear right; and P/N PC-23303.8P2 for the rear left. Accomplishment of the proposed actions would be in accordance with EXTRA Service Bulletin No. 300-3-94, dated August 3, 1994.

The NPRM was the result of mandatory continuing airworthiness information (MCAI) issued by the airworthiness authority for Germany. Interested persons have been afforded an opportunity to participate in the making of this amendment. No comments were received on the proposed rule or the FAA's determination of the cost to the public.

The FAA's Determination

After careful review of all available information related to the subject presented above, the FAA has determined that air safety and the public interest require the adoption of the rule as proposed except for minor editorial corrections. The FAA has determined that these minor corrections will not change the meaning of the AD and will not add any additional burden upon the public than was already proposed.

Cost Impact

The FAA estimates that 25 airplanes in the U.S. registry will be affected by this AD, that it will take approximately 3 workhours per airplane to accomplish the modifications or replacements, and that the average labor rate is approximately \$60 an hour. Parts cost approximately \$100 per airplane. Based on these figures, the total cost impact of this AD on U.S. operators is estimated to be \$7,000, or \$280 per airplane.

Differences Between the German AD, the Service Bulletin, and This AD

German AD 94-258, dated August 25, 1994, and EXTRA Service Bulletin No. 300-3-94, dated August 3, 1994, both give the owners/operators of certain Model EA-300/S airplanes the option of (1) repetitively inspecting the canopy latches until cracks are found, and then modifying or replacing (with parts of improved design) any cracked latches; or (2) immediately modifying the existing latches or replacing the latches with parts of improved design.

The FAA's policy is to provide corrective action that will eliminate the need for repetitive inspections. The

FAA has determined that long-term operational safety will be better assured by design changes that remove the source of the problem, rather than by repetitive inspections or other special procedures.

Because the modification or replacement (with parts of improved design) of the canopy latches eliminates the need for repetitive inspections, this AD differs from the service bulletin and the German AD in that it will mandate either modification or replacement of the canopy latches regardless of condition.

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.

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) 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 final 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, Incorporation by reference, 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 a new airworthiness directive (AD) to read as follows:

98-04-01 Extra Flugzeugbau GMBH:

Amendment 39-10314; Docket No. 97-CE-93-AD.

Applicability: Models EA-300/S airplanes, serial numbers 01 through 24, 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 (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 within the next 100 hours time-in-service (TIS) after the effective date of this AD, unless already accomplished.

To prevent failure of the canopy while the airplane is in flight because of cracked canopy latches, which could result in loss of the canopy and possible loss of control of the airplane, accomplish the following:

(a) Modify all canopy latches or replace all canopy latches with parts of improved design, part number (P/N) PC-23303.8P1 for both front latches and the rear right; and P/N PC-23303.8P2 for the rear left. Accomplish the modifications or replacements in accordance with the *Instructions* section of EXTRA Service Bulletin No. 300-3-94, dated August 3, 1994.

(b) 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.

(c) An alternative method of compliance or adjustment of the compliance time that provides an equivalent level of safety may be approved by the Manager, Small Airplane Directorate, FAA, 1201 Walnut, suite 900, Kansas City, Missouri 64106. The request shall be forwarded through an appropriate FAA Maintenance Inspector, who may add comments and then send it to the Manager, Small Airplane Directorate.

Note 2: Information concerning the existence of approved alternative methods of compliance with this AD, if any, may be obtained from the Small Airplane Directorate.

(d) Questions or technical information related to EXTRA Service Bulletin No. 300-3-94, dated August 3, 1994, should be directed to EXTRA Flugzeugbau GmbH, Flugplatz Dinslaken, 46569 Hünxe, Germany. This service information may be examined at the FAA, Central Region, Office of the Regional Counsel, Room 1558, 601 E. 12th Street, Kansas City, Missouri.

(e) The modifications or replacements required by this AD shall be done in accordance with EXTRA Service Bulletin No. 300-3-94, dated August 3, 1994. 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 EXTRA Flugzeugbau GmbH, Flugplatz Dinslaken, 46569 Hünxe, Germany. Copies may be inspected at the FAA, Central Region, Office of the Regional Counsel, Room 1558, 601 E. 12th Street, Kansas City, Missouri, or at the Office of the Federal Register, 800 North Capitol Street, NW, suite 700, Washington, DC.

Note 3: The subject of this AD is addressed in German AD 94-258, dated August 25, 1994.

(f) This amendment (39-10314) becomes effective on March 24, 1998.

Issued in Kansas City, Missouri, on February 2, 1998.

Carolanne L. Cabrini,

Acting Manager, Small Airplane Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. 98-3226 Filed 2-9-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-U

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**Federal Aviation Administration****14 CFR Part 39**

[Docket No. 97-CE-43-AD; Amendment 39-10317; AD 98-04-04]

RIN 2120-AA64

Airworthiness Directives; SOCATA-Groupe AEROSPATIALE Model TBM 700 Airplanes

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This amendment adopts a new airworthiness directive (AD) that applies to certain SOCATA-Groupe AEROSPATIALE (Socata) Model TBM 700 airplanes. This AD requires replacing the starter generator mounting adapter with a part of improved design. This AD is the result of mandatory continuing airworthiness information (MCAI) issued by the airworthiness authority for France. The actions specified by this AD are intended to prevent loss of the starter generator caused by failure of the starter generator mounting adapter, which could result in loss of electrical power.

DATES: Effective March 24, 1998.

The incorporation by reference of certain publications listed in the regulations is approved by the Director of the Federal Register as of March 24, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Service information that applies to this AD may be obtained from

SOCATA-Groupe AEROSPATIALE, Socata Product Support, Aeroport Tarbes-Ossun-Lourdes, B P 930, 65009 Tarbes Cedex, France; telephone: 62.41.74.26; facsimile: 62.41.74.32; or the Product Support Manager, SOCATA-Groupe AEROSPATIALE, North Perry Airport, 7501 Pembroke Road, Pembroke Pines, Florida 33023; telephone: (954) 964-6877; facsimile: (954) 964-1668. This information may also be examined at the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Central Region, Office of the Regional Counsel, Attention: Rules Docket No. 97-CE-43-AD, Room 1558, 601 E. 12th Street, Kansas City, Missouri 64106; or at the Office of the Federal Register, 800 North Capitol Street, NW, suite 700, Washington, DC.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Karl Schletzbaum, Aerospace Engineer, FAA, Small Airplane Directorate, 1201 Walnut Street, suite 900, Kansas City, Missouri 64106; telephone: (816) 426-6934; facsimile: (816) 426-2169.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**Events Leading to the Issuance of This AD**

A proposal to amend part 39 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR part 39) to include an AD that would apply to certain Socata Model TBM 700 airplanes was published in the **Federal Register** as a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) on November 7, 1997 (62 FR 60184). The NPRM proposed to require replacing the starter generator mounting adapter with a part of improved design by incorporating Socata Kit No. OPT70K0058-24. Accomplishment of the proposed action as specified in the NPRM would be required in accordance with Socata Service Bulletin No. SB 70-072, dated January 1996.

The NPRM was the result of mandatory continuing airworthiness information (MCAI) issued by the airworthiness authority for France.

Interested persons have been afforded an opportunity to participate in the making of this amendment. No comments were received on the proposed rule or the FAA's determination of the cost to the public.

The FAA's Determination

After careful review of all available information related to the subject presented above, the FAA has determined that air safety and the public interest require the adoption of the rule as proposed except for minor editorial corrections. The FAA has determined that these minor corrections will not change the meaning of the AD