

21.197 and 21.199) to operate the airplane to a location where the requirements of this AD can be accomplished.

#### **Incorporation by Reference**

(e) The replacement shall be done in accordance with British Aerospace Service Bulletin 32-PM6054, dated February 2000. 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 British Aerospace, Service Support, Airbus Limited, P.O. Box 77, Bristol BS99 7AR, England. 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.

#### **Effective Date**

(f) This amendment becomes effective on December 19, 2000.

Issued in Renton, Washington, on November 3, 2000.

**Donald L. Riffin,**

*Acting Manager, Transport Airplane Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service.*

[FR Doc. 00-28829 Filed 11-13-00; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-13-P**

## **DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

### **Federal Aviation Administration**

#### **14 CFR Part 39**

[Docket No. 2000-NM-26-AD; Amendment 39-11974; AD 2000-23-04]

**RIN 2120-AA64**

#### **Airworthiness Directives; Aerospatiale Model ATR42-500 Series Airplanes**

**AGENCY:** Federal Aviation Administration, DOT.

**ACTION:** Final rule.

**SUMMARY:** This amendment adopts a new airworthiness directive (AD), applicable to all Aerospatiale Model ATR42-500 series airplanes, that requires revising the Airworthiness Limitations Section of the Instructions for Continued Airworthiness to incorporate life limits for certain items and inspections to detect fatigue cracking in certain structures. This amendment is prompted by issuance of a new revision of the "Time Limits" section of the ATR42-400/500 Maintenance Planning Document, which specifies new inspections and compliance times for inspection and replacement actions. The actions specified by this AD are intended to ensure that fatigue cracking of certain structural elements is detected and corrected; such fatigue cracking could

adversely affect the structural integrity of these airplanes.

**DATES:** Effective December 19, 2000.

**ADDRESSES:** The service information referenced in this AD may be obtained from Aerospatiale, 316 Route de Bayonne, 31060 Toulouse, Cedex 03, France. This information may be examined at the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Transport Airplane Directorate, Rules Docket, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington; or at the Office of the Federal Register, 800 North Capitol Street, NW., suite 700, Washington, DC.

#### **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Norman B. Martenson, Manager, International Branch, ANM-116, FAA, Transport Airplane Directorate, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington 98055-4056; telephone (425) 227-2110; fax (425) 227-1149.

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

A proposal to amend part 39 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR part 39) to include an airworthiness directive (AD) that is applicable to all Aerospatiale Model ATR42-500 series airplanes was published in the **Federal Register** on August 29, 2000 (65 FR 52369). That action proposed to require revising the Airworthiness Limitations Section of the Instructions for Continued Airworthiness to incorporate life limits for certain items and inspections to detect fatigue cracking in certain structures.

#### **Comments**

Interested persons have been afforded an opportunity to participate in the making of this amendment. No comments were submitted in response to the proposal or the FAA's determination of the cost to the public.

#### **Conclusion**

The FAA has determined that air safety and the public interest require the adoption of the rule as proposed.

#### **Cost Impact**

The FAA estimates that 8 airplanes of U.S. registry will be affected by this AD, that it will take approximately 1 work hour per airplane to accomplish the required actions, and that the average labor rate is \$60 per work hour. Based on these figures, the cost impact of the required AD on U.S. operators is estimated to be \$480, or \$60 per airplane.

The cost impact figure discussed above is based on assumptions that no operator has yet accomplished any of the requirements of this AD action, and that no operator would accomplish those actions in the future if this AD

were not adopted. The cost impact figures discussed in AD rulemaking actions represent only the time necessary to perform the specific actions actually required by the AD. These figures typically do not include incidental costs, such as the time required to gain access and close up, planning time, or time necessitated by other administrative actions.

#### **Regulatory Impact**

The regulations adopted herein will 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. Therefore, it is determined that this final rule does not have federalism implications under Executive Order 13132.

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 final evaluation has been prepared for this action and it is contained in the Rules Docket. A copy of it 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:

**2000-23-04 Aerospatiale:** Amendment 39-11974. Docket 2000-NM-26-AD.

**Applicability:** All Model ATR42-500 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 (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 ensure continued structural integrity of these airplanes, accomplish the following:

#### Airworthiness Limitations Revision

(a) Within 30 days after the effective date of this AD, revise the Airworthiness Limitations Section of the Instructions for Continued Airworthiness by incorporating the "Time Limits" section of the ATR42-400/500 Maintenance Planning Document, Revision 3, dated February 1999, into the Airworthiness Limitations Section.

(b) Except as provided in paragraph (c) of this AD: After the actions specified in paragraph (a) of this AD have been accomplished, no alternative inspections or inspection intervals may be approved for the structural elements specified in the documents listed in paragraph (a) of this AD.

#### Alternative Methods of Compliance

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

#### Special Flight Permits

(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.

#### Effective Date

(e) This amendment becomes effective on December 19, 2000.

Issued in Renton, Washington, on November 3, 2000.

**Donald L. Riggin,**

*Acting Manager, Transport Airplane Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service.*

[FR Doc. 00-28828 Filed 11-13-00; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-13-U**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Aviation Administration

#### 14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. 98-ANE-69-AD; Amendment 39-11982; AD 2000-23-12]

RIN 2120-AA64

#### Airworthiness Directives; CFE Company Model CFE738-1-1B Turbofan Engines

**AGENCY:** Federal Aviation Administration, DOT.

**ACTION:** Final rule.

**SUMMARY:** This amendment adopts a new airworthiness directive (AD), applicable to CFE Company model CFE738-1-1B turbofan engines, that requires new life limits for certain HPC rotor components in all engines. This amendment is prompted by a reduction in the calculated service life of certain compressor rotor rotating parts to values below currently approved service lives. The actions specified by this AD are intended to prevent failure of certain HPC rotor components, which could result in an uncontained engine failure and damage to the airplane.

**DATES:** Effective January 16, 2001.

**ADDRESSES:** The rulemaking docket may be examined at the FAA, New England Region, Office of the Regional Counsel, 12 New England Executive Park, Burlington, MA; or at the Office of the Federal Register, 800 North Capitol Street, NW, suite 700, Washington, DC.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Keith Mead, Aerospace Engineer, Engine Certification Office, FAA, Engine and Propeller Directorate, 12 New England Executive Park, Burlington, MA 01803-5299; telephone: (781) 238-7744, fax: (781) 238-7199.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** A proposal to amend part 39 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR part 39) to include an airworthiness directive (AD) that is applicable to CFE Company Model CFE 738-1-1B turbofan engines was published in the **Federal Register** on December 14, 1998 (63 FR 68707). Based on additional material stress testing, the FAA published a supplemental notice of proposed rule making (SNPRM) on September 23, 1999 (64 FR 51484). That SNPRM removed the proposal that would have required a dimensional inspection of the curvic couplings for parts that contain a machining mismatch and would have required those parts to be removed from service. That SNPRM, however, also introduced a requirement to remove parts prior to a new reduced cyclic life

limit for specific high pressure compressor rotating parts. Since those changes expanded the scope of the originally proposed rule, the FAA determined that it was necessary to reopen the comment period. At the time the SNPRM was published, the manufacturer anticipated that the proposed reduced limits may be increased based upon further testing and analysis for the stage 4 and 5 blisk and impeller aft shaft.

#### Comments Received

One comment was received. The manufacturer, using the data obtained from additional testing and analysis, and life analysis prediction techniques approved by the FAA, has requested that the cyclic life limits for the stage 4 and 5 blisk proposed in the published SNPRM be increased. This analysis showed that the life predictions of two of the three stage 4 and 5 blisk configurations met initial published part cyclic life requirements. The analysis showed that the life of the remaining stage 4 and 5 blisk configuration should be reduced from the previously approved cyclic life limit.

The FAA agrees with the revised limits for the stage 4 and 5 blisk. This final rule has been revised accordingly by removing two of the stage 4 and 5 blisk configurations listed in the SNPRM and listing the recalculated cyclic life for the third stage 4 and 5 blisk configuration.

In addition, reference to inspection work hours was removed from the economic analysis section. Inspection requirements for these parts were removed in the SNPRM, and are not applicable to this AD.

#### Economic Analysis

There are approximately 245 engines of the affected design in the worldwide fleet. The FAA estimates that 156 engines would be affected by this proposed AD. Required parts, on a pro-rated basis, would cost approximately \$13,613 per engine. Based on these figures, the total cost impact of the proposed AD on US operators is estimated to be \$2,123,628.

#### Regulatory Impact

This rule does not have federalism implications, as defined in Executive Order 13132, because it 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. Accordingly, the FAA has not consulted with state