

cover the nonfederal portion of the allocable expense. 11 CFR 106.5(g)(1)(i) and (ii). The regulations establish a time period, or "window," during which these nonfederal transfers may be made. "[S]uch funds may not be transferred more than 10 days before or more than 60 days after the payments for which they are designated are made." 11 CFR 106.5(g)(2)(ii)(B). Any transfer made more than 60 days after payment of the related allocable expense "shall be presumed to be a loan or contribution from the non-federal account to a federal account, in violation of the Act." 11 CFR 106.5(g)(2)(iii).

In many instances, party committees plan and execute allocable activities based, in part, on the expectation that they will subsequently receive nonfederal funds that can be transferred to their federal or allocation accounts before the expiration of the 60 day time limit in section 106.5(g)(2)(ii)(B). In most instances, committees' expectations are realized.

However, some party committees voluntarily suspended their fundraising activities in the immediate aftermath of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. See e.g., FEC Advisory Opinion Request 2001-16; Rachel Van Dongen, *Shoptalk*, Roll Call, October 11, 2001 <http://www.rollcall.com/pages/politics/shoptalk/>. As a result, some party committees may not have sufficient funds in their nonfederal accounts to make transfers to their federal accounts or allocation accounts in a timely manner, i.e., within 60 days of when the committee pays the allocable expense for which those funds would be transferred.<sup>1</sup>

The Commission recognizes that this situation is the result of the unprecedented events of September 11, 2001, which have had a significant impact on many aspects of American life, and could not have been anticipated.

In light of these circumstances, the Commission is considering exercising its discretion by not pursuing *prima facie* violations of the 60 day time limit in certain limited situations. Under the policy being considered, the Commission would not pursue an

untimely party committee transfer made to cover the nonfederal share of an allocable expense paid between August 27, 2001 and November 1, 2001, if the transfer is made no later than December 31, 2001, and is fully disclosed on the party committee's year end report. Alternatively, the Commission would not pursue an untimely party committee transfer made to cover the nonfederal share of an allocable expense paid between August 27, 2001 and December 31, 2001, if the transfer is made no later than March 1, 2002, and is fully disclosed on the party committee's applicable report.

The Commission invites comments on the policy that is under consideration. Comments may be submitted on any aspect of the policy being considered, including its scope and duration, or on any other circumstance arising out of the attacks of September 11 that should be addressed. After reviewing the comments received, the Commission will issue a final Statement of Policy.

The Commission is taking this action in response to the unique circumstances described above. Consequently, this action should not be viewed as a precedent for any similar action in the future.

Dated: November 2, 2001.

**Danny L. McDonald,**

*Chairman, Federal Election Commission.*

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**BILLING CODE 6715-01-U**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Aviation Administration

#### 14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. 2000-CE-47-AD]

RIN 2120-AA64

#### **Airworthiness Directives; Pilatus Britten-Norman Ltd. BN-2, BN-2A, BN-2B, BN-2T, BN-2T-4, and BN2A MK. III Series Airplanes**

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

**ACTION:** Notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM).

**SUMMARY:** This document proposes to adopt a new airworthiness directive (AD) that would apply to all Pilatus Britten-Norman Ltd. (Pilatus Britten-Norman) BN-2, BN-2A, BN-2B, BN-2T, BN-2T-4, and BN2A MK. III series airplanes. This proposed AD would require you to repetitively inspect the throttle friction-shaft; and replace the shaft if damaged. This proposed AD is

the result of mandatory continuing airworthiness information (MCAI) issued by the airworthiness authority for the United Kingdom. The actions specified by this proposed AD are intended to detect and correct loosening of the throttle friction adjustment beyond its normal limits. Such a condition could lead to damage to the throttle friction-adjuster or the retaining washer and split pin. This could allow the throttle quadrant shaft to laterally shift and impede the operation of the engine controls.

**DATES:** The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) must receive any comments on this proposed rule on or before December 10, 2001.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit comments to FAA, Central Region, Office of the Regional Counsel, Attention: Rules Docket No. 2000-CE-47-AD, 901 Locust, Room 506, Kansas City, Missouri 64106. You may view any comments at this location between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

You may get service information that applies to this proposed AD from Pilatus Britten-Norman Limited, Bembridge, Isle of Wight, United Kingdom PO35 5PR; telephone: +44 (0) 1983 872511; facsimile: +44 (0) 1983 873246. You may also view this information at the Rules Docket at the address above.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Doug Rudolph, Aerospace Engineer, FAA, Small Airplane Directorate, 901 Locust, Room 301, Kansas City, Missouri 64106; telephone: (816) 329-4059; facsimile: (816) 329-4090.

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

##### **Comments Invited**

*How Do I Comment on This Proposed AD?*

The FAA invites comments on this proposed rule. You may submit whatever written data, views, or arguments you choose. You need to include the rule's docket number and submit your comments to the address specified under the caption **ADDRESSES**. We will consider all comments received on or before the closing date. We may amend this proposed rule in light of comments received. Factual information that supports your ideas and suggestions is extremely helpful in evaluating the effectiveness of this proposed AD action and determining whether we need to take additional rulemaking action.

*Are There Any Specific Portions of This Proposed AD I Should Pay Attention to?*

The FAA specifically invites comments on the overall regulatory, economic, environmental, and energy

<sup>1</sup> The Commission notes that the rules permit but do not require party committees to transfer nonfederal funds to cover the nonfederal portion of an allocable expense, since the effect of not making such a transfer would be that federal funds are used to defray the full amount of the allocable expense, a result that is permissible under the Act and regulations. See *Methods of Allocation Between Federal and Non-Federal Accounts; Payments; Reporting*, 55 FR 26058, 26063 (June 26, 1990) (explaining that "allocating a portion of certain costs to a committee's non-federal account is a permissive rather than a mandated procedure").

aspects of this proposed rule that might suggest a need to modify the rule. You may view all comments we receive before and after the closing date of the rule in the Rules Docket. We will file a report in the Rules Docket that summarizes each contact we have with the public that concerns the substantive parts of this proposed AD.

#### *How Can I Be Sure FAA Receives My Comment?*

If you want FAA to acknowledge the receipt of your comments, you must include a self-addressed, stamped postcard. On the postcard, write "Comments to Docket No. 2000-CE-47-AD." We will date stamp and mail the postcard back to you.

#### **Discussion**

##### *What Events Have Caused This Proposed AD?*

The Civil Airworthiness Authority (CAA), which is the airworthiness authority for the United Kingdom, recently notified FAA that an unsafe condition may exist on all Pilatus Britten-Norman BN-2, BN-2A, BN-2B, BN-2T, BN-2T-4, and BN2A MK. III series airplanes. The CAA reports an incident where the throttle friction adjuster loosened too far, causing the split pin and the washer on the shaft to break.

##### *What Are the Consequences if the Condition is Not Corrected?*

The loosening of the throttle friction adjustment beyond its normal limits could lead to damage to the throttle friction-adjuster or the retaining washer and split pin. This could allow the throttle quadrant shaft to laterally shift and impede the operation of the engine controls.

##### *Is There Service Information That Applies to This Subject?*

Pilatus Britten-Norman has issued Service Bulletin No. BN2/SB.272, Issue 1, dated July 1, 2000.

##### *What Are the Provisions of This Service Bulletin?*

The service bulletin includes procedures for:  
—repetitively inspecting the throttle friction-shaft; and  
—replacing the shaft if damaged.

##### *What Action Did the CAA Take?*

The CAA classified this service bulletin as mandatory and issued British AD Number 003-07-2000, dated August 22, 2000, in order to ensure the continued airworthiness of these airplanes in the United Kingdom.

#### *Was This in Accordance With the Bilateral Airworthiness Agreement?*

These airplane models are manufactured in the United Kingdom and are 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 CAA has kept FAA informed of the situation described above.

#### **The FAA's Determination and an Explanation of the Provisions of This Proposed AD**

##### *What Has FAA Decided?*

The FAA has examined the findings of the CAA; reviewed all available information, including the service information referenced above; and determined that:

- the unsafe condition referenced in this document exists or could develop on other Pilatus Britten-Norman BN-2, BN-2A, BN-2B, BN-2T, BN-2T-4, and BN2A MK. III series airplanes of the same type design;
- the actions specified in the previously-referenced service information should be accomplished on the affected airplanes; and
- AD action should be taken in order to correct this unsafe condition.

##### *What Would This Proposed AD Require?*

This proposed AD would require you to incorporate the actions in the previously referenced service bulletin.

#### **Cost Impact**

##### *How Many Airplanes Would This Proposed AD Impact?*

We estimate that this proposed AD affects 118 airplanes in the U.S. registry.

##### *What Would Be the Cost Impact of This Proposed AD on Owners/Operators of the Affected Airplanes?*

We estimate the following costs to accomplish the proposed inspection:

Labor cost	Parts cost	Total cost per air-plane	Total cost on U.S. operators
1 work hour × \$60 per hour = \$60.	\$1	\$61	\$61 × 118 = \$7,198.

We estimate the following costs to accomplish any necessary replacements that would be required based on the results of the proposed inspection. We

have no way of determining the number of airplanes that may need such replacement:

Labor cost	Parts cost	Total cost per air-plane
16 work hour × \$60 per hour = \$960 ....	\$230	\$1,190

#### *Is There a Modification I Can Incorporate Instead of Repetitively Inspecting the Throttle Friction-Shaft?*

The FAA has determined that long-term continued operational safety would be better assured by design changes that remove the source of the problem rather than by repetitive inspections or other special procedures. With this in mind, we will continue to work with Pilatus Britten-Norman in collecting information and in performing fatigue analysis to determine whether a future design change may be necessary.

#### **Regulatory Impact**

##### *Would This Proposed AD Impact Various Entities?*

The regulations proposed herein 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. Therefore, it is determined that this proposed rule would not have federalism implications under Executive Order 13132.

##### *Would This Proposed AD Involve a Significant Rule or Regulatory Action?*

For the reasons discussed above, I certify that this proposed 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, under 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. FAA amends § 39.13 by adding a new airworthiness directive (AD) to read as follows:

**PILATUS BRITTEN-NORMAN LTD.:** Docket No. 2000-CE-47-AD

(a) *What airplanes are affected by this AD?* This AD affects the following Model BN-2, BN-2A, BN-2A-2, BN-2A-3, BN-2A-6, BN-2A-8, BN-2A-9, BN-2A-20, BN-2A-21, BN-2A-26, BN-2A-27, BN-2B-20, BN-2B-21, BN-2B-26, BN-2B-27, BN-2T, BN-2T-4R, BN2A MK. III, BN2A MK. III-2, and BN2A MK. III-3 airplanes, all serial numbers, that are certificated in any category.

(b) *Who must comply with this AD?* Anyone who wishes to operate any of the above airplanes must comply with this AD.

(c) *What problem does this AD address?* The actions specified by this AD are intended to detect and correct loosening of the throttle friction adjustment beyond its normal limits. Such a condition could lead to damage to the throttle friction-adjuster or the retaining washer and split pin. This could allow the throttle quadrant shaft to laterally shift and impede the operation of the engine controls.

(d) *What actions must I accomplish to address this problem?* To address this problem, you must accomplish the following:

Actions	Compliance	Procedures
(1) Inspect the throttle friction-shaft for damage. Replace the split pin and washer.	Inspect within 100 hours time-in-service (TIS) after the effective date of this AD, and thereafter at intervals not to exceed 100 hours TIS. Accomplish the replacements prior to further flight after each inspection.	In accordance with the PROCEDURES section of BN Service Bulletin BN2/SB.272, dated July 2000.
(2) If damage is found on the throttle friction-shaft, replace the shaft.	Before further flight after each inspection where damage is found.	In accordance with the PROCEDURES section of BN Service Bulletin BN2/SB.272, dated July 2000.

(e) *Can I comply with this AD in any other way?* You may use an alternative method of compliance or adjust the compliance time if:

(1) Your alternative method of compliance provides an equivalent level of safety; and

(2) The Manager, Small Airplane Directorate, approves your alternative. Submit your request through an FAA Principal Maintenance Inspector, who may add comments and then send it to the Manager, Small Airplane Directorate.

**Note 1:** This AD applies to each airplane identified in paragraph (a) of this AD, 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 (e) 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 you have not eliminated the unsafe condition, specific actions you propose to address it.

(f) *Where can I get information about any already-approved alternative methods of compliance?* Contact Doug Rudolph, Aerospace Engineer, FAA, Small Airplane Directorate, 901 Locust, Room 301, Kansas City, Missouri 64106; telephone: (816) 329-4059; facsimile: (816) 329-4090.

(g) *What if I need to fly the airplane to another location to comply with this AD?* The FAA can issue a special flight permit under sections 21.197 and 21.199 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR 21.197 and 21.199) to operate your airplane to a location where you can accomplish the requirements of this AD.

(h) *How do I get copies of the documents referenced in this AD?* You may obtain copies of the documents referenced in this AD from Pilatus Britten-Norman Limited, Bembridge,

Isle of Wight, United Kingdom PO35 5PR. You may examine these documents at FAA, Central Region, Office of the Regional Counsel, 901 Locust, Room 506, Kansas City, Missouri 64106.

**Note 2:** The subject of this AD is addressed in British AD 003-07-2000, dated August 22, 2000.

Issued in Kansas City, Missouri, on October 26, 2001.

**James E. Jackson,**

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

[FR Doc. 01-27653 Filed 11-6-01; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-13-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Aviation Administration

#### 14 CFR Part 71

[Docket No. FAA 2001-10666; Airspace Docket No. ASD 01-ASW-12]

#### Proposed Revision of Jet Route

**AGENCY:** Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice of proposed rulemaking.

**SUMMARY:** This notice proposes to revise that segment of Jet Route 180 (J-180) between the Daisetta, TX, Very High Frequency Omnidirectional Range/Tactical Air Navigation (VORTAC) and the Little Rock, AR, VORTAC by moving the route to the east over the new Sawmill, LA, VORTAC. The FAA is proposing this action to enhance aviation safety and the management of the aircraft operations in the Texas area.

**DATES:** Comments must be received on or before December 24, 2001.

**ADDRESSES:** Send comments on this proposal to the Docket Management System, U.S. Department of Transportation, Room Plaza 401, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590-0001. You must identify the docket numbers FAA-2001-10666/Airspace Docket No. ASD 01-ASW-12 at the beginning of your comments.

You may also submit comments through the Internet to <http://dms.dot.gov>. You may review the public docket containing the proposal, any comments received, and any final disposition in person in the Dockets Office between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The Dockets Office (telephone 1-800-647-5527) is on the plaza level of the NASSIF Building at the Department of Transportation at the above address.

An informal docket may also be examined during normal business hours at the office of the Regional Air Traffic Division, Federal Aviation Administration, 2601 Meacham Blvd, Fort Worth, TX 76193-0500.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Steve Rohring, Airspace and Rules Division, ATA-400, Office of Air Traffic Airspace Management, Federal Aviation Administration, 800 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20591; telephone: (202) 267-8783.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**