

(m) If any damage to the trunnion is found during any inspection required by paragraph (g) or (h) of this AD, before further flight, do the corrective actions specified in Airbus Service Bulletin A320-57-1133, Revision 03, dated July 3, 2007.

#### Grace Period Assessment

(n) Where Airbus Service Bulletin A320-57-1133, Revision 03, dated July 3, 2007, specifies contacting the manufacturer for a grace period assessment after replacing the trunnion or flap, contact the Manager, International Branch, ANM-116; or the Direction Générale de l'Aviation Civile (or its delegated agent) for the grace period assessment.

#### No Reporting Requirement

(o) Although Airbus Service Bulletin A320-57-1133, Revision 03, dated July 3, 2007, specifies to submit certain information to the manufacturer, this AD does not include that requirement.

#### Alternate Inspections

(p) For Model A321-211 and -231 airplanes that have not been modified in

accordance with Airbus Modification 26495, or on which the actions specified in Airbus Service Bulletin A320-27-1117, Revision 04, dated November 6, 2001, have not been done as of the effective date of this AD: Do the inspections specified in Airbus Service Bulletin A320-27-1108, Revision 04, dated November 22, 1999; at the applicable time specified in paragraph 1.E., "Compliance" of the service bulletin; except, where the service bulletin specifies a compliance time after the date of French airworthiness directive 96-271-092(B), this AD requires compliance within the specified compliance time after the effective date of this AD. Do all applicable corrective actions before further flight. Do the actions in accordance with the Accomplishment Instructions of the service bulletin.

#### Alternative Methods of Compliance (AMOCs)

(q)(1) The Manager, International Branch, ANM-116, has the authority to approve AMOCs for this AD, if requested in accordance with the procedures found in 14 CFR 39.19.

(2) AMOCs approved previously in accordance with AD 2006-04-06, amendment 39-14487, are approved as AMOCs for the corresponding provisions of this AD.

(3) To request a different method of compliance or a different compliance time for this AD, follow the procedures in 14 CFR 39.19. Before using any approved AMOC on any airplane to which the AMOC applies, notify your appropriate principal inspector (PI) in the FAA Flight Standards District Office (FSDO), or lacking a PI, your local FSDO.

#### Related Information

(r) French airworthiness directive F-2005-139, dated August 3, 2005, also addresses the subject of this AD.

#### Material Incorporated by Reference

(s) You must use the service information contained in Table 1 of this AD to do the actions required by this AD, unless the AD specifies otherwise.

TABLE 1.—ALL MATERIAL INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

Airbus Service Bulletin No.	Revision	Date
A320-27-1117 .....	02 .....	January 18, 2000.
A320-27-1117 .....	04 .....	November 6, 2001.
A320-57-1133, excluding Appendix 01 .....	Original .....	July 28, 2005.
A320-57-1133 .....	01 .....	August 7, 2006.
A320-57-1133, excluding Appendix 01 .....	03 .....	July 3, 2007.

(1) The Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference of the service information contained in Table 2

of this AD in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 1 CFR part 51.

TABLE 2.—NEW MATERIAL INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

Airbus Service Bulletin No.	Revision	Date
A320-27-1117 .....	04 .....	November 6, 2001.
A320-57-1133 .....	01 .....	August 7, 2006.
A320-57-1133, excluding Appendix 01 .....	03 .....	July 3, 2007.

(2) On March 24, 2006 (71 FR 8439, February 17, 2006), the Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference of Airbus Service Bulletin A320-57-1133, excluding Appendix 01, dated July 28, 2005.

(3) On January 8, 2001 (65 FR 75603, December 4, 2000), the Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference of Airbus Service Bulletin A320-27-1117, Revision 02, dated January 18, 2000.

(4) Contact Airbus, 1 Rond Point Maurice Bellonte, 31707 Blagnac Cedex, France, for a copy of this service information. You may review copies at the FAA, Transport Airplane Directorate, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington 98057-3356; or at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). For information on the availability of this material at NARA, call 202-741-6030,

or go to: <http://www.archives.gov/federal-register/cfr/ibr-locations.html>.

Issued in Renton, Washington, on February 25, 2008.

**Ali Bahrami,**

*Manager, Transport Airplane Directorate,  
Airframe Certification Service.*

[FR Doc. E8-3989 Filed 3-11-08; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-13-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Aviation Administration

#### 14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. FAA-2007-27611; Directorate Identifier 2007-CE-024-AD; Amendment 39-15408; AD 2008-05-14]

**RIN 2120-AA64**

**Airworthiness Directives; Sierra Hotel Aero, Inc. Models Navion (L-17A), Navion A (L-17B), (L-17C), Navion B, Navion D, Navion E, Navion F, Navion G, and Navion H Airplanes**

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

**ACTION:** Final rule.

**SUMMARY:** The FAA adopts a new airworthiness directive (AD) for all Sierra Hotel Aero, Inc. (formerly Navion Aircraft LLC) Models Navion (L-17A), Navion A (L-17B), (L-17C), Navion B, Navion D, Navion E, Navion F, Navion G, and Navion H airplanes. This AD requires you to do a one-time inspection of the entire fuel system and repetitive functional tests of certain fuel selector valves. This AD results from reports of airplane accidents associated with leaking or improperly operating fuel selector valves. We are issuing this AD to detect and correct fuel system leaks or improperly operating fuel selector valves, which could result in the disruption of fuel flow to the engine. This failure could lead to engine power loss.

**DATES:** This AD becomes effective on April 16, 2008.

On April 16, 2008, the Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference of certain publications listed in this AD.

**ADDRESSES:** To get the service information identified in this AD, contact the following:

—For Sierra Hotel Aero, Inc. service information contact: Sierra Hotel Aero, 1690 Aeronca Lane, South St. Paul, MN 55075; *phone:* (651) 306-1456; *fax:* (612) 677-3171; *Internet:* <http://www.navion.com/servicebulletins.html>; e-mail: [servicebulletinsupport@navion.com](mailto:servicebulletinsupport@navion.com).

—For American Navion Society (ANS) service information contact: American Navion Society, Ltd., PMB 335, 16420 SE McGillivray #103, Vancouver, WA 98683-3461; *telephone:* (360) 833-9921; *fax:* (360) 833-1074; e-mail: [flynavion@yahoo.com](mailto:flynavion@yahoo.com).

To view the AD docket, go to U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M-30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC 20590, or on the Internet at <http://www.regulations.gov>. The docket number is FAA-2007-27611; Directorate Identifier 2007-CE-024-AD.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Tim Smyth, Aerospace Engineer, Chicago Aircraft Certification Office (ACO), 2300 East Devon Avenue, Room 107, Des Plaines, Illinois 60018; *telephone:* (847) 294-7132; *fax:* (847) 294-7834.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### Discussion

On April 6, 2007, we issued a proposal to amend part 39 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR part 39) to include an AD that would apply to all Sierra Hotel Aero, Inc. Models Navion

(L-17A), Navion A (L-17B), (L-17C), Navion B, Navion D, Navion E, Navion F, Navion G, and Navion H airplanes. This proposal was published in the **Federal Register** as a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) on April 12, 2007 (72 FR 18413). The NPRM proposed to detect and correct fuel system leaks or improperly operating fuel selector valves, which could result in the disruption of fuel flow to the engine.

#### Comments

We provided the public the opportunity to participate in developing this AD. The FAA has reviewed 111 public comments submitted to the docket pertaining to the proposed rulemaking activity which would impose a mandatory airworthiness inspection on all Navion airplane fuel systems. This proposed action includes testing of the fuel system selector valve for proper operation and replacement with a serviceable unit if necessary. The public responded to this published notice with significant personal and technical information. The FAA appreciates the detailed technical information submitted for consideration in addressing this important airworthiness issue. Many commenters spent a considerable amount of time researching and organizing extensive data to support their positions and to help the FAA address this unsafe condition. In addition, several commenters provided their Navion airplane system knowledge and expertise by proposing alternative corrective actions that will benefit all Navion owners and operators. This is one of the benefits of the rulemaking process.

It became clear that the majority of commenters were presenting similar points or positions. Because of this, we have grouped and categorized similar statements or positions. A total of 19 categories have been developed with a statement that summarizes the viewpoints, information, or position(s) submitted by the commenters. The FAA has addressed each summarized statement below.

The following presents the comments received on the proposal and FAA's response to each comment:

#### *Comment Issue No. 1: Data Does Not Support Issuance of an AD*

Richard W. Crapse and 38 other commenters believe the accident database information and other service difficulty reporting data does not support the issuance of an AD and requests the NPRM be withdrawn.

The FAA does not agree. There have been a number of Navion accident

investigations where it has been determined that the fuel selector valve condition contributed to the cause of the accident. The overall number of accidents is small (nine accidents generally related to the fuel system with three of those reported accidents directly citing the fuel valve in the preliminary NTSB reports as a potential cause in the accidents). However, these reports have highlighted the fact that some selector valves may be reaching the limit of their serviceable life (many over 50 years old) and require additional inspections, checks, maintenance, or replacement to help address continued airworthiness.

We are not changing the final rule AD action based on this comment.

#### *Comment Issue No. 2: The Corrective Action Could Create Safety Problems*

John B. Conklin and 18 other commenters state the proposed service information corrective action could create more safety problems than it would solve. We infer that they think the corrective actions should be modified to eliminate potential problems the current proposed corrective actions would cause.

The FAA partially agrees. The FAA is always cognizant that inspections, checks, or modifications can potentially create maintenance induced errors that can affect continued airworthiness. However, the FAA believes the procedures in the service information minimize this potential concern. We believe this action addresses the unsafe condition for these airplanes while minimizing the risk of introducing new safety hazards.

We are not changing the final rule AD action based on this comment.

#### *Comment Issue No. 3: There Are Other Fuel System Related Safety Issues*

Ripley Quinby and 12 other commenters cite that there are potentially more fuel system related safety issues than just the selector valve (e.g., engine primer system, gascolator, flexible fuel lines, etc.). We infer the commenters believe we should take additional AD action.

Based on the submitted comments and data, it has been shown that a comprehensive fuel system inspection or check would enhance the continued airworthiness of the Navion airplane. The FAA appreciates the commenter's input regarding other potential safety issues and will monitor the continued airworthiness of the Navion airplanes. The FAA may take additional rulemaking action on these airplanes.

We are not changing the final rule AD action based on this comment.

*Comment Issue No. 4: The Vacuum Test Is Too Severe*

William Wade and 17 other commenters state the proposed 24 inches of mercury vacuum test is too severe and will potentially fail good fuel selector valves. The type certificate (TC) holder's published procedure does not have a calibration standard to ensure accurate testing results and at high altitude locations 24 inches of mercury vacuum may be impossible to obtain. The commenters request we decrease the mercury vacuum test to less than the 24 inches required in the TC holder's service bulletin.

The FAA partially agrees. The FAA accepted the TC holder's 24 inches of mercury vacuum test as the proper value to ensure fuel selector integrity. Because of the rigorous standard cited by the TC holder, it is not necessary to have a calibration standard procedure to compare against. The published service bulletin procedure is conservative enough to account for some deviation in the testing procedure and still address the continued airworthiness of the fuel selector valve.

In regards to high altitude vacuum testing, we have changed the AD to allow for a 1 inch of mercury reduction from the 24 inches of mercury standard for every 1,000 feet of pressure altitude over sea level testing conditions. We have also added the ANS Field Service Bulletin No. 1001, dated April 30, 2007, as an option to comply with this AD. The public stated and FAA recognizes that the Navion fuel system actually creates a fuel system vacuum of less than 10 inches of mercury. The FAA will consider an alternative method of compliance (AMOC) to this requirement. The public is encouraged to submit substantiating data to support an alternative approach.

*Comment Issue No. 5: Add AMOCs*

Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) and ANS along with 49 other commenters request that the FAA consider AMOCs to the published service documentation cited in the NPRM.

The FAA agrees. The FAA has reviewed the ANS Field Service Bulletin No. 1001, dated April 30, 2007, and has added this option to the AD. In addition, several commenters submitted documentation showing that certain manufactured fuel selector valves can be serviced in the field by airframe and powerplant (A&P) mechanics or other appropriately rated facilities. Finally, several commenters cite other airplane manufacturer (TC holder) service information that describes simplified

testing methods to ascertain the continued airworthiness of the entire fuel system. If the commenters formalize and tailor these methods for the Navion airplane, the FAA will review and consider all AMOC requests we receive provided they follow the procedures in 14 CFR 39.19 and this AD.

We are changing the final rule AD action by adding ANS Field Service Bulletin No. 1001, dated April 30, 2007, as an option to comply with this AD.

*Comment Issue No. 6: The Replacement Fuel Selector Valve Orifice Is Undersized*

Richard E. Holmes and 11 other commenters question the replacement fuel selector valve orifice size to provide adequate fuel flow for larger engine installations. They question whether the required fuel selector outlet orifice size needs to be larger than what is currently specified in the TC holder's service documentation.

The FAA researched this issue and found that the replacement fuel selector valve that is specified in the AD provides adequate flow requirements for the larger engine installations and satisfies 14 CFR part 23 fuel flow compliance requirements. Several commenters also submitted extensive service experience showing acceptable fuel flow rates for the valves installed in Navion airplanes.

We are not changing the final rule AD action based on this comment.

*Comment Issue No. 7: Delron Parts*

Richard B. Olwin and four other commenters question the TC holder's position that Delron ("Plastic") parts in certain fuel selector valve designs cause a safety issue. They request that the FAA allow the use of fuel selector valves that have plastic parts.

The FAA agrees with this comment. We have looked into this issue and found that FAA-approved parts manufacturer approval (PMA) fuel selector valves with plastic parts in their design exist. No service difficulty reports directly related to this issue were found. We will continue to monitor these parts, but at this time we find no unsafe condition.

The fuel selector valves required in the service information for this AD do not contain plastic parts. If someone wants to use a fuel selector valve with plastic parts, the FAA will review and consider all AMOC requests we receive provided they follow the procedures in 14 CFR 39.19 and this AD.

We are not changing the final rule AD action based on this comment.

*Comment Issue No. 8: Navion Fuel System Is An Unsafe Condition*

Richard E. Holmes cites a Navion Fuel system accumulator tank issue, and he thinks we infer that this tank needs replacing. He requests that we clarify whether this issue is part of our AD actions.

We agree that the accumulator tank is part of the fuel system, and we require a one-time inspection of the entire fuel system. However, this AD action is not focused on the accumulator tank but on the fuel selector valve. Although the fuel system accumulator tank is outside the scope of this rulemaking effort, we researched this issue and found no service difficulty data to show this to be an unsafe condition.

We are not changing the final rule AD action based on this comment.

*Comment Issue No. 9: Reference Documents*

Richard E. Holmes requests we provide the referenced documentation cited in the NPRM.

This information is available in the AD docket file and can be accessed by the public. The street address for the Docket Office (telephone (800) 647-5527) is in the **ADDRESSES** section. In addition, the TC holder has this information available at their Web site <http://www.sierrahotelaero.com>.

*Comment Issue No. 10: Lack of Proper Maintenance*

Andrew B. Woodside and eight other commenters believe the fuel system problems can be traced back to lack of proper maintenance. They request the AD action be withdrawn.

The FAA agrees that maintenance has contributed to the unsafe condition. If proper maintenance is being performed, the likelihood of having air introduced into the engine, which may cause loss of power, is minimized. In one instance, the owner had maintenance performed on his fuel selector valve to fix a leaking problem, but it appears this repair caused a power loss on takeoff. However, because of the actual reported accidents and their associated cause, the FAA has determined that the existing continued airworthiness instructions are inadequate and additional fuel system inspections and corrective actions are needed to help maintain the continued airworthiness of the Navion airplanes.

We are not changing the final rule AD action based on this comment.

*Comment Issue No. 11: Unclear AD*

Matt Hunsaker and six other commenters state the AD is not well thought out. They request we withdraw the proposed AD action.

The FAA disagrees. Service history and the NPRM published on April 12, 2007, substantiate why we should take corrective action to address this unsafe condition. The TC holder has developed and published what they believe is the proper corrective action to address the unsafe condition.

We have changed the final rule AD action to include another compliance action as an option based on the response to the NPRM. Moreover, the public may always propose AMOCs to show compliance to the corrective action requirements cited in the AD. The FAA will review and consider all AMOC requests we receive provided they follow the procedures in 14 CFR 39.19 and this AD.

*Comment Issue No. 12: AD Will Make Money for TC Holder*

Leo Burke and 15 other commenters state the TC holder is using the AD process to make money for the TC holder. They request the AD be revised to allow other methods of compliance.

The FAA disagrees that the AD process is being used for monetary gain. We issue ADs when an unsafe condition has been identified and the condition is likely to exist or develop in other products of the same type design (14 CFR 39.5). Service history and the NPRM published on April 12, 2007, substantiate why we should take corrective action to address this unsafe condition. Our regulatory responsibility does not address whether the TC holder's service bulletins are profitable, only whether they fully address the identified unsafe condition.

We have reviewed and added another option for addressing the unsafe condition in this final rule AD action. We will also review other AMOC requests we receive provided they follow the procedures in 14 CFR 39.19 and this AD.

*Comment Issue No. 13: Add Sierra Hotel Aero, Inc. Service Bulletin 101A*

Sierra Hotel Aero, Inc. and one other commenter suggest we add Sierra Hotel Aero, Inc. Navion Service Bulletin No. 106A, dated May 1, 2007, to the final rule AD.

FAA agrees to add this service bulletin, which provides instructions to replace the fuel selector valve.

*Comment Issue No. 14: Difference in Fuel Selector Valve Operation*

Ron Natalie and four other commenters cite that the replacement fuel selector valves may operate differently causing pilot confusion and fuel mismanagement accidents. They

request that the AD address potential changes in the fuel selector operation.

The FAA agrees there are several valve options to replace a defective valve and not all these valve options operate exactly the same way. One valve design has a mechanical lockout stop that prevents the pilot from selecting the fuel shutoff position without a separate and distinct action. The valve placard labeling may be somewhat different. There can be 3-position or as many as a 5-position valve design installed. There may be more than one fuel selector in the fuel system. Because of field-approved and supplemental type certificate (STC) fuel system modifications, there are variations in the field. It is the responsibility of the pilot to understand the fuel system he or she is operating and be well versed in the fuel management procedures for that particular airplane.

We are not changing the final rule AD action based on this comment.

*Comment Issue No. 15: Continued Airworthiness Information*

Andrew B. Woodside suggests that Navion owners have access to the continued airworthiness information, acquire it, and use it.

The FAA agrees. We provide the contact information for obtaining additional information from both Sierra Hotel Aero (TC Holder) and the American Navion Society in paragraph (h)(2) of this final rule AD action.

*Comment Issue No. 16: Modified Fuel Systems*

Tony B. Russell and six other commenters state the NPRM does not address modified Navion fuel systems accomplished by field approval, STC, or other appropriate methods.

The FAA partially agrees. The FAA recognizes that many Navion airplanes have modified fuel systems that can include auxiliary fuel and wing tip fuel tanks. However, we have no way of determining which airplanes have modified fuel systems that could include auxiliary fuel and wing tip fuel tanks, and therefore, we cannot exempt these airplanes from the AD.

We are not changing the final rule AD action based on this comment. The FAA will consider AMOC requests to satisfy the AD compliance requirements. This can be accomplished on a case-by-case basis, or in the case of an STC holder they can submit an AMOC proposal for their STC design approval provided they follow the procedures in 14 CFR 39.19 and this AD.

*Comment Issue No. 17: Different Testing Acceptance Criteria*

Maynard Keith Franklin and three other commenters cite that other Navion service documentation defines different (higher) leak rates for other fuel system components (e.g., gascolator) than what is defined in the fuel selector valve testing requirements. They request that we standardize the leakage rates for the fuel system inspection.

The FAA partially agrees. The FAA determined that there are other acceptable leak rates that might be lower than the rate cited in the TC holder's service bulletin. Those previous Navion maintenance publications for fuel system components include the fuel system gascolator. For this final rule action, we are using the TC holder's requirements cited in the current service bulletin to address the test and acceptance criteria for the fuel selector. However, if someone submits substantiating data, the FAA will review and consider all AMOC requests we receive provided they follow the procedures in 14 CFR 39.19 and this AD to show compliance with the TC holder's published service documentation.

We are not changing the final rule AD action based on this comment.

*Comment Issue No. 18: Unsafe Installation of Replacement Fuel Selector Valve*

Ron Judy and six other commenters state that the proposed replacement valve may cause installation safety issues. They request that we or the TC holder provide instructions that address installation fit problems for all aircraft.

The FAA disagrees. After discussing with the TC holder, we have confirmed the proposed replacement valve can be properly installed. We have also confirmed with a representative of ANS that a replacement valve can be properly installed. Any discrepancy that is found during installation must be handled on a case-by-case basis and documented using FAA Form 337.

We are not changing the final rule AD action based on this comment.

*Comment Issue No. 19: Repair of Fuel Selector Valve*

Mike Pettaway and three other commenters state that an A&P mechanic can repair a fuel selector valve since that type of repair is cited in the (A&P) practical testing standards.

The FAA partially agrees. It is true that an A&P mechanic is trained to disassemble, repair, and re-assemble various components and assemblies; however, even when this type of work

is performed in the field, the work must be accomplished with some form of FAA accepted or approved data (e.g. manufacturer service instruction(s), manufacturer's service bulletins, maintenance manuals, etc.). The mechanic does not have the authority to perform repairs on the fuel selector valve itself without the manufacturer's supporting continued airworthiness data or an FAA-approved or accepted procedure.

We are not changing this final rule AD action based on this comment.

#### Conclusion

We have carefully reviewed the available data and determined that air safety and the public interest require adopting the AD as proposed except for the changes previously discussed and minor editorial corrections. We have determined that these minor corrections:

- Are consistent with the intent that was proposed in the NPRM for correcting the unsafe condition; and
- Do not add any additional burden upon the public than was already proposed in the NPRM.

#### Costs of Compliance

We estimate that this AD affects 1,500 airplanes in the U.S. registry.

We estimate the following costs to do the inspection:

Labor cost	Parts cost	Total cost per airplane	Total cost on U.S. operators
7 work-hours × \$80 per hour = \$560 .....	N/A	\$560	\$840,000

We estimate the following costs to do any necessary replacements that would

be required based on the results of the inspection. We have no way of

determining the number of airplanes that may need this repair/replacement:

Labor cost	Parts cost	Total cost per airplane
3 work-hours × \$80 per hour = \$240 .....	\$1,000	\$1,240

#### Authority for This Rulemaking

Title 49 of the United States Code specifies the FAA's authority to issue rules on aviation safety. Subtitle I, Section 106 describes the authority of the FAA Administrator. Subtitle VII, Aviation Programs, describes in more detail the scope of the agency's authority.

We are issuing this rulemaking under the authority described in Subtitle VII, Part A, Subpart III, Section 44701, "General requirements." Under that section, Congress charges the FAA with promoting safe flight of civil aircraft in air commerce by prescribing regulations for practices, methods, and procedures the Administrator finds necessary for safety in air commerce. This regulation is within the scope of that authority because it addresses an unsafe condition that is likely to exist or develop on products identified in this AD.

#### Regulatory Findings

We have determined that this AD will not have federalism implications under Executive Order 13132. This AD 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.

For the reasons discussed above, I certify that this AD:

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. 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.

We prepared a summary of the costs to comply with this AD (and other information as included in the Regulatory Evaluation) and placed it in the AD Docket. You may get a copy of this summary by sending a request to us at the address listed under **ADDRESSES**. Include "Docket No. FAA-2007-27611; Directorate Identifier 2007-CE-024-AD" in your request.

#### List of Subjects in 14 CFR Part 39

Air transportation, Aircraft, Aviation safety, Incorporation by reference, Safety.

#### Adoption of the Amendment

■ Accordingly, under 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. FAA amends § 39.13 by adding a new AD to read as follows:

**2008-05-14 Sierra Hotel Aero, Inc.:**  
Amendment 39-15408; Docket No. FAA-2007-27611; Directorate Identifier 2007-CE-024-AD.

#### Effective Date

(a) This AD becomes effective on April 16, 2008.

#### Affected ADs

(b) None.

#### Applicability

(c) This AD applies to Models Navion (L-17A), Navion A (L-17B), (L-17C), Navion B, Navion D, Navion E, Navion F, Navion G, and Navion H airplanes, all serial numbers, that are certificated in any category.

#### Unsafe Condition

(d) This AD results from reported airplane accidents associated with leaking or improperly operating fuel system selector valves. We are issuing this AD to detect and correct fuel system leaks or improperly operating fuel selector valves, which could result in the disruption of fuel flow to the engine. This failure could lead to engine power loss.

#### Compliance

(e) To address this problem, you must do the following actions, unless already done:

TABLE 1.—ACTIONS, COMPLIANCE, AND PROCEDURES

Actions	Compliance	Procedures
(1) Do a one-time inspection of the entire fuel system.	Within the next 100 hours time-in-service (TIS) after April 16, 2008 (the effective date of this AD) or within the next 12 months after April 16, 2008 (the effective date of this AD), whichever occurs first.	Follow Sierra Hotel Aero, Inc. Navion Service Bulletin No. 106A, dated May 1, 2007; or American Navion Society, Ltd. Field Service Bulletin No. 1001, dated April 30, 2007.
(2) Unless within the last 5 years you have replaced the fuel selector valve with one of the valves specified in paragraphs (e)(3)(i) or (e)(3)(ii) of this AD, do the functional tests of the fuel selector valves. If using Sierra Hotel Aero, Inc. service information, you may allow for a 1 inch of mercury reduction from the 24 inches of mercury standard for every 1000 feet of altitude over sea level testing conditions.	Initially within the next 100 hours time-in-service (TIS) after April 16, 2008 (the effective date of this AD) or within the next 12 months after April 16, 2008 (the effective date of this AD), whichever occurs first. Repetitively thereafter inspect and do functional tests of the fuel selector valve at intervals not to exceed 12 months until the replacement required by paragraph (e)(3) of this AD is done.	Follow Sierra Hotel Aero, Inc. Navion Service Bulletin No. 106A, dated May 1, 2007; or American Navion Society, Ltd. Field Service Bulletin No. 1001, dated April 30, 2007.
(3) If during any of the inspections or tests required in paragraphs (e)(1) or (e)(2) of this AD you find any defects, perform any corrective actions required, including replacing the fuel selector valve with one of the part numbers (P/N) specified in paragraphs (e)(3)(i) or (e)(3)(ii) of this AD.	Before further flight after any inspection required by this AD where corrective actions are necessary. You may at any time after April 16, 2008 (the effective date of this AD) replace the fuel selector valve with the applicable P/N as specified in the service information as terminating action for the repetitive inspections and functional tests required in paragraph (e)(2) of this AD.	(i) For replacement with Navion P/Ns 147–30013–201, 147–30013–202, or 147–30013–203 use the following service information: (A) Sierra Hotel Aero, Inc. Navion Service Bulletin No. 106A, dated May 1, 2007. (B) Sierra Hotel Aero, Inc. Navion Service Bulletin No. 101A, dated August 23, 2005. (C) Navion Aircraft Corporation Navion Service letter #87, dated February 20, 1965. (ii) For replacement with Navion P/Ns 145–48000–ANSI, 145–48000–ANS2, 145–48000–ANS3, or Osborne Tank Co. P/N 4090, submit proposed installation procedures following the alternative method of compliance (AMOC) procedures specified in paragraph (g) of this AD.

(f) If within the last 5 years or at any time after April 16, 2008 (the effective date of this AD) you have replaced the fuel selector valve with any of the valves specified in paragraphs (e)(3)(i) and (e)(3)(ii) of this AD you may terminate the repetitive inspections and functional tests of the fuel selector valve required in paragraph (e)(2) of this AD.

#### Alternative Methods of Compliance (AMOCs)

(g) The Manager, Chicago Aircraft Certification Office, FAA, ATTN: Tim Smyth, Aerospace Engineer, 2300 East Devon Avenue, Room 107, Des Plaines, Illinois 60018; telephone: (847) 294–7132; fax: (847) 294–7834, has the authority to approve AMOCs for this AD, if requested using the procedures found in 14 CFR 39.19. Before using any approved AMOC on any airplane

to which the AMOC applies, notify your appropriate principal inspector (PI) in the FAA Flight Standards District Office (FSDO), or lacking a PI, your local FSDO.

#### Material Incorporated by Reference

(h) You must use the service information specified in Table 2 of this AD to do the actions required by this AD, unless the AD specifies otherwise.

(1) The Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference of this service information under 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 1 CFR part 51.

(2) For service information identified in this AD, contact the following:

(i) For Sierra Hotel Aero, Inc. service information contact: Sierra Hotel Aero, 1690 Aeronca Lane, South St. Paul, MN 55075; phone: (651) 306–1456; fax: (612) 677–3171;

Internet: <http://www.navion.com/servicebulletins.html>; e-mail: [servicebulletinsupport@navion.com](mailto:servicebulletinsupport@navion.com).

(ii) For American Navion Society service information contact: American Navion Society, Ltd., PMB 335, 16420 SE McGillivray #103, Vancouver, WA 98683–3461; telephone: (360) 833–9921; fax: (360) 833–1074; e-mail: [flynavion@yahoo.com](mailto:flynavion@yahoo.com).

(3) You may review copies at the FAA, Central Region, Office of the Regional Counsel, 901 Locust, Kansas City, Missouri 64106; or at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). For information on the availability of this material at NARA, call 202–741–6030, or go to: [http://www.archives.gov/federal\\_register/code\\_of\\_federal\\_regulations/ibr\\_locations.html](http://www.archives.gov/federal_register/code_of_federal_regulations/ibr_locations.html).

TABLE 2.—MATERIAL INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

Service Bulletin No.	Revision	Date
Sierra Hotel Aero, Inc., Navion Service Bulletin No. 106 A .....	1	May 1, 2007.
Sierra Hotel Aero, Inc., Navion Service Bulletin No. 101A .....	1	August 23, 2005.
Navion Aircraft Corporation Navion Service Letter No. 87 .....		February 20, 1965.
American Navion Society, Ltd. Field Service Bulletin No. 1001 .....		April 30, 2007.

Issued in Kansas City, Missouri, on February 28, 2008.

**David R. Showers,**

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

[FR Doc. E8-4267 Filed 3-11-08; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Aviation Administration

#### 14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. FAA-2007-0229; Directorate Identifier 2007-NM-042-AD; Amendment 39-15417; AD 2008-06-05]

RIN 2120-AA64

#### **Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Model A330-200, A330-300, A340-200, and A340-300 Series Airplanes**

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

**ACTION:** Final rule.

**SUMMARY:** The FAA is superseding an existing airworthiness directive (AD), which applies to all Airbus Model A330-200, A330-300, A340-200, and A340-300 series airplanes. That AD currently requires a revision of the airplane flight manual to include procedures for a pre-flight elevator check before each flight, repetitive inspections for cracks of the attachment lugs of the mode selector valve position transducers on the elevator servo controls, and corrective actions if necessary. This new AD retains the existing requirements, reduces the applicability of the existing AD, and adds terminating actions. For certain airplanes, this AD requires upgrading the flight control primary computers. This AD results from a report of cracks of the transducer body at its attachment lugs. We are issuing this AD to ensure proper functioning of the elevator surfaces, and to prevent cracking of the attachment lugs, which could result in partial loss of elevator function and consequent reduced controllability of the airplane.

**DATES:** This AD becomes effective April 16, 2008.

The Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference of certain publications listed in the AD as of April 16, 2008.

**ADDRESSES:** For service information identified in this AD, contact Airbus, 1 Rond Point Maurice Bellonte, 31707 Blagnac Cedex, France.

#### **Examining the AD Docket**

You may examine the AD docket on the Internet at <http://www.regulations.gov>; or in person at the Docket Management Facility between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The AD docket contains this AD, the regulatory evaluation, any comments received, and other information. The address for the Docket Office (telephone 800-647-5527) is the Document Management Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M-30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC 20590.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Tim Backman, Aerospace Engineer, International Branch, ANM-116, FAA, Transport Airplane Directorate, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington 98057-3356; telephone (425) 227-2797; fax (425) 227-1149.

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

##### **Discussion**

The FAA issued a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) to amend 14 CFR part 39 to include an AD that supersedes AD 2004-03-24, amendment 39-13468 (69 FR 6549, February 11, 2004). The existing AD applies to all Airbus Model A330-200, A330-300, A340-200, and A340-300 series airplanes. That NPRM was published in the **Federal Register** on November 26, 2007 (72 FR 65897). That NPRM proposed to retain the existing requirements, reduce the applicability of the existing AD, and add terminating actions.

##### **New Service Information**

Airbus has issued Revision 03 of Airbus Service Bulletins A330-27-3115 and A340-27-4119, both dated April 22, 2005. In the NPRM, we referred to Revision 02 dated December 30, 2003, of those service bulletins as the appropriate sources of service information for accomplishing certain required actions. Revision 03 of the service bulletins updates the operator and aircraft effectivity to show the latest information. No additional work is required by this revision of the service bulletins. We have changed paragraph (h) of this AD to refer to Airbus Service Bulletins A330-27-3115 and A340-27-4119, both Revision 03, both dated April 22, 2005. We have also added paragraph (h)(3) to the AD to give credit to operators that have done the actions

previously in accordance with Revision 02 of those service bulletins.

#### **Comments**

We provided the public the opportunity to participate in the development of this AD. We have considered the comment that has been received on the NPRM.

#### **Request To Extend Compliance Time for the Modification**

Air Transport Association (ATA) and one of its members, Northwest Airlines (NWA), state that the terminating action specified in the proposed AD should be mandated at a maximum of 24 months after the effective date for coordination with the aircraft C-check intervals. NWA adds that the repetitive tests of the elevator servo-loops will ensure continued safe operation until terminating action is accomplished.

We do not agree with the request from ATA and NWA to extend the compliance time. In developing an appropriate compliance time for this action, we considered the urgency associated with the subject unsafe condition, the availability of required parts, and the practical aspect of accomplishing the required modification within a period of time that corresponds to the normal scheduled maintenance for most affected operators. In light of these items, we have determined that a 17-month compliance time is appropriate. However, according to the provisions of paragraph (p) of the AD, we might approve requests to adjust the compliance time if the request includes data that justify that the new compliance time would provide an acceptable level of safety.

#### **Conclusion**

We have carefully reviewed the available data, including the comment that has been received, and determined that air safety and the public interest require adopting the AD with the changes described previously. We have determined that these changes will neither increase the economic burden on any operator nor increase the scope of the AD.

#### **Costs of Compliance**

The following table provides the estimated costs for U.S. operators of the affected Model A330-200 and A330-300 series airplanes to comply with this AD.