

Proposed Rules

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This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains notices to the public of the proposed issuance of rules and regulations. The purpose of these notices is to give interested persons an opportunity to participate in the rule making prior to the adoption of the final rules.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. 2002-CE-55-AD]

RIN 2120-AA64

Airworthiness Directives; Dornier-Werke G.m.b.H. Model Do 27 Q-6 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 Dornier-Werke G.m.b.H. (Dornier) Model Do 27 Q-6 airplanes. This proposed AD would require you to inspect the aileron and flap control cables for proper clearance from the fuel lines in the fuselage and make necessary adjustments; and inspect the fuel lines for damage and correct routing. This proposed AD would also require you to replace all damaged fuel lines and reroute incorrectly routed fuel lines. After all other corrective action is taken, this proposed AD would also require you to install protective sleeves on the fuel lines. This proposed AD is the result of mandatory continuing airworthiness information (MCAI) issued by the airworthiness authority for Germany. The actions specified by this proposed AD are intended to detect and correct damaged fuel lines and prevent the potential for further damage occurring to the fuel lines in the fuselage. Damage to the fuel lines could result in fuel leaking into the fuselage which could cause a fire or explosion.

DATES: The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) must receive any comments on this proposed rule on or before February 14, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments to FAA, Central Region, Office of the Regional Counsel, Attention: Rules Docket No. 2002-CE-55-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 also send comments electronically to the following address: 9-ACE-7-Docket@faa.gov. Comments sent electronically must contain "Docket No. 2002-CE-55-AD" in the subject line. If you send comments electronically as attached electronic files, the files must be formatted in Microsoft Word 97 for Windows or ASCII text.

You may get service information that applies to this proposed AD from Fairchild Dornier GmbH, P.O. Box 1103, D-82230 Wessling, Federal Republic of Germany; telephone: (011) 49 81 53-30 1; facsimile: (011) 49 81 53-30 29 01. You may also view this information at the Rules Docket at the address above.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Karl Schletzbaum, Aerospace Engineer, FAA, Small Airplane Directorate, 901 Locust, Room 301, Kansas City, Missouri 64106; telephone: (816) 329-4143; 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 aspects of this proposed rule that might suggest a need to modify the proposed rule. You may view all comments we receive before and after the closing date of the proposed 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 mailed comments, you must include a self-addressed, stamped postcard. On the postcard, write "Comments to Docket No. 2002-CE-55-AD." We will date stamp and mail the postcard back to you.

Discussion

What Events Have Caused This Proposed AD?

The Luftfahrt-Bundesamt (LBA), which is the airworthiness authority for Germany, recently notified FAA that an unsafe condition may exist on all Dornier Model Do 27 Q-6 airplanes. The LBA reports that, during an annual maintenance inspection, a damaged fuel line was found in the area between the firewall and the instrument panel in the fuselage.

Further inspection revealed that the damaged fuel line was incorrectly routed and not properly secured. Incorrect installation of the fuel line allowed the aileron control cable to chafe the fuel line, which caused the fuel line to leak.

What Are the Consequences if the Condition Is Not Corrected?

This condition, if not detected, corrected, and prevented, could result in fuel leaking into the fuselage. This could cause a fire or explosion.

Is There Service Information That Applies to This Subject?

Fairchild Dornier has issued Dornier Do 27 Service Bulletin No. SB-1141-0000, dated June 12, 2002.

What Are the Provisions of This Service Information?

The service bulletin specifies the following:

- Inspecting the aileron and flap control cables for proper clearance from the fuel lines and making necessary adjustments;
- Inspecting the fuel lines for damage and correct routing;
- Replacing all damaged fuel lines and rerouting all incorrectly routed fuel lines; and
- Installing protective sleeves on the fuel lines.