

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. 2001–NM–279–AD]

RIN 2120–AA64

Airworthiness Directives; Boeing Model 747 Series Airplanes

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM).

SUMMARY: This document proposes the adoption of a new airworthiness directive (AD) that is applicable to all Boeing Model 747 series airplanes. This proposal would require repetitive inspections of the nacelle strut-to-wing attachment structure, and repetitive overhaul of the diagonal brace and spring beam load paths, to maintain damage tolerance requirements and ensure long-term structural integrity; and follow-on and corrective actions if necessary. This action is necessary to ensure the structural integrity of the strut-to-wing load path and prevent separation of the strut and engine from the airplane. This action is intended to address the identified unsafe condition.

DATES: Comments must be received by November 3, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments in triplicate to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Transport Airplane Directorate, ANM–114, Attention: Rules Docket No. 2001–NM–279–AD, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington 98055–4056. Comments may be inspected at this location between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. Comments may be submitted via fax to (425) 227–1232. Comments may also be sent via the Internet using the following address: 9-anm-nprmcomment@faa.gov. Comments sent via fax or the Internet must contain “Docket No. 2001–NM–279–AD” in the subject line and need not be submitted

in triplicate. Comments sent via the Internet as attached electronic files must be formatted in Microsoft Word 97 or 2000 or ASCII text.

The service information referenced in the proposed rule may be obtained from Boeing Commercial Airplane Group, P.O. Box 3707, Seattle, Washington 98124–2207. This information may be examined at the FAA, Transport Airplane Directorate, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Tamara Anderson, Aerospace Engineer, Airframe Branch, ANM–120S, FAA, Seattle Aircraft Certification Office, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington 98055–4056; telephone (425) 917–6421; fax (425) 917–6590.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Comments Invited

Interested persons are invited to participate in the making of the proposed rule by submitting such written data, views, or arguments as they may desire. Communications shall identify the Rules Docket number and be submitted in triplicate to the address specified above. All communications received on or before the closing date for comments, specified above, will be considered before taking action on the proposed rule. The proposals contained in this action may be changed in light of the comments received.

Submit comments using the following format:

- Organize comments issue-by-issue. For example, discuss a request to change the compliance time and a request to change the service bulletin reference as two separate issues.
- For each issue, state what specific change to the proposed AD is being requested.
- Include justification (*e.g.*, reasons or data) for each request.

Comments are specifically invited on the overall regulatory, economic, environmental, and energy aspects of the proposed rule. All comments submitted will be available, both before and after the closing date for comments, in the Rules Docket for examination by interested persons. A report summarizing each FAA-public contact concerned with the substance of this proposal will be filed in the Rules Docket.

Commenters wishing the FAA to acknowledge receipt of their comments

submitted in response to this action must submit a self-addressed, stamped postcard on which the following statement is made: “Comments to Docket Number 2001–NM–279–AD.” The postcard will be date stamped and returned to the commenter.

Availability of NPRMs

Any person may obtain a copy of this NPRM by submitting a request to the FAA, Transport Airplane Directorate, ANM–114, Attention: Rules Docket No. 2001–NM–279–AD, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington 98055–4056.

Related Rulemaking

This proposed AD is related to the following rulemaking actions, which require accomplishment of the actions in the concurrent service bulletins recommended in Boeing Alert Service Bulletin 747–54A2182, dated July 12, 2001:

AD 95–13–06, amendment 39–9286 (60 FR 33338, June 28, 1995); correction to AD 95–13–06 (60 FR 37500, July 20, 1995). That AD references Boeing Alert Service Bulletin 747–54A2156, dated December 2, 1994, for accomplishment of the specified actions. That AD is applicable to certain Boeing Model 747 series airplanes equipped with General Electric Model CF6–80C2 series engines or Pratt & Whitney Model PW4000 series engines, and requires modification of the nacelle strut and wing structure, inspections and checks to detect discrepancies, and correction of discrepancies.

AD 95–13–05, amendment 39–9285 (60 FR 33333, June 28, 1995); correction to AD 95–13–05 (60 FR 35452, July 7, 1995). That AD references Boeing Alert Service Bulletin 747–54A2157, dated January 12, 1995, for accomplishment of the specified actions. That AD is applicable to Boeing Model 747 series airplanes equipped with Rolls Royce Model RB211 series engines, and requires modification of the nacelle strut and wing structure, inspections and checks to detect discrepancies, and correction of discrepancies.

AD 95–13–07, amendment 39–9287 (60 FR 33336, June 28, 1995). That AD references Boeing Alert Service Bulletin 747–54A2158, dated November 23, 1994, for accomplishment of the specified actions. That AD is applicable to certain Boeing Model 747 series airplanes equipped with General Electric Model CF6–45/50 or Pratt &