

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:

**McDonnell Douglas:** Docket 2000–NM–168–AD.

**Applicability:** Model DC–9–81 (MD–81), DC–9–82 (MD–82), DC–9–83 (MD–83), DC–9–87 (MD–87), and MD–88 airplanes, as listed in McDonnell Douglas Alert Service Bulletin MD80–24A100, Revision 04, dated January 24, 2000; certificated in any category.

**Compliance:** Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously.

To prevent a cable from chafing against an edge of a lightening hole, which could result in electrical arcing, and consequent smoke/fire in the lower cargo compartments, accomplish the following:

#### Installation

(a) Within 1 year after the effective date of this AD, install shield assemblies for power feeder cables in the forward and aft lower cargo compartments, and install an additional shield for the power feeder cable of the auxiliary power unit in the aft lower cargo compartment, per the Accomplishment Instructions of McDonnell Douglas Alert Service Bulletin MD80–24A100, Revision 04, dated January 24, 2000.

#### Installations Accomplished per Previous Issues of Service Bulletin

(b) Installations accomplished before the effective date of this AD per McDonnell Douglas Service Bulletin MD80–24–100, original issue, dated March 30, 1988, through Revision 3, dated March 15, 1991, are considered acceptable for compliance with the actions specified in paragraph (a) of this AD.

#### Alternative Methods of Compliance

(c) In accordance with 14 CFR 39.19, the Manager, Los Angeles Aircraft Certification Office, FAA, is authorized to approve alternative methods of compliance for this AD.

Issued in Renton, Washington, on October 24, 2003.

**Vi L. Lipski,**

Manager, Transport Airplane Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. 03–27322 Filed 10–29–03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910–13–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Aviation Administration

#### 14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. 2002–NM–146–AD]

RIN 2120–AA64

### Airworthiness Directives; Saab Model SAAB SF340A and SAAB 340B 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 certain Saab Model SAAB SF340A and SAAB 340B series airplanes. This proposal would require removing the two direct current (DC) over-voltage/feeder-fault test switches from the Test 2 Panel of the generator control unit, and follow-on actions. This action is necessary to prevent the loss of the DC generators, which could result in the loss of normal electrical power to the airplane and increased pilot workload. This action is intended to address the identified unsafe condition.

**DATES:** Comments must be received by December 1, 2003.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit comments in triplicate to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Transport Airplane Directorate, ANM–114, Attention: Rules Docket No. 2002–NM–146–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](mailto:9-anm-nprmcomment@faa.gov). Comments sent via fax or the Internet must contain “Docket No. 2002–NM–146–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 Saab Aircraft AB, SAAB Aircraft Product Support, S–581.88, Linköping, Sweden. This information may be examined at the FAA, Transport Airplane Directorate, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Rosanne Ryburn, Aerospace Engineer, International Branch, ANM–116, FAA,

Transport Airplane Directorate, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington 98055–4056; telephone (425) 227–2139; fax (425) 227–1149.

#### 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 2002–NM–146–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. 2002–NM–146–AD, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington 98055–4056.

#### Discussion

The Luftfartsverket (LFV), which is the airworthiness authority for Sweden, notified the FAA that an unsafe condition may exist on certain Saab