

# 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. 2003-CE-27-AD]

RIN 2120-AA64

#### Airworthiness Directives; Raytheon Aircraft Company Model 1900C Airplanes

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

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

**SUMMARY:** The FAA proposes to adopt a new airworthiness directive (AD) for certain Raytheon Model 1900C airplanes. This proposed AD would require you to replace the 200-amp electrical power current limiter in the landing gear with a 60-amp electrical power circuit breaker. This proposed AD is the result of reports about the inability to automatically lower the landing gear and the inability to operate other related electrical systems. The actions specified by this proposed AD are intended to prevent heat damage to the electrical wiring in and around the landing gear electrical systems components, which could result in the inability to operate critical control systems. Such failure could lead to loss of control of the airplane.

**DATES:** We must receive any comments on this proposed AD by January 6, 2004.

**ADDRESSES:** Use one of the following to submit comments on this proposed AD:

- *By mail:* FAA, Central Region, Office of the Regional Counsel, Attention: Rules Docket No. 2003-CE-27-AD, 901 Locust, Room 506, Kansas City, Missouri 64106.

- *By fax:* (816) 329-3771.

- *By e-mail:* 9-ACE-Docket@faa.gov. Comments sent electronically must contain "Docket No. 2003-CE-27-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.

You may get the service information identified in this proposed AD from Raytheon Aircraft Company, 9709 E. Central, Wichita, Kansas 67201-0085; telephone: (800) 429-5372 or (316) 676-3140.

You may view the AD docket at FAA, Central Region, Office of the Regional Counsel, Attention: Rules Docket No. 2003-CE-27-AD, 901 Locust, Room 506, Kansas City, Missouri 64106. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Bryan Easterwood, Aerospace Engineer, Wichita Aircraft Certification Office, FAA, 1801 Airport Road, Wichita, Kansas 67209; telephone: (316) 946-4132; facsimile: (316) 946-4107.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Comments Invited

*How do I comment on this proposed AD?* We invite you to submit any written relevant data, views, or arguments regarding this proposal. Send your comments to an address listed under **ADDRESSES**. Include "AD Docket No. 2003-CE-27-AD" in the subject line of your comments. If you want us to acknowledge receipt of your mailed comments, send us a self-addressed, stamped postcard with the docket number written on it. We will date-stamp your postcard and mail it back to you.

*Are there any specific portions of this proposed AD I should pay attention to?* We specifically invite comments on the overall regulatory, economic, environmental, and energy aspects of this proposed AD. If you contact us through a nonwritten communication and that contact relates to a substantive part of this proposed AD, we will summarize the contact and place the summary in the docket. We will consider all comments received by the closing date and may amend this proposed AD in light of those comments and contacts.

##### Discussion

*What events have caused this proposed AD?* We have received a report where the landing gear would not extend using normal operations and another report where certain electrical system components on the left generator and the center bus became inoperable.

The 200-amp current limiter, which protects the landing gear power wiring, did not operate correctly. This caused heat damage to the wiring in the landing gear power relay and surrounding electrical systems components.

The electrical system components that this condition potentially could affect include prop deice, surface deice, flaps, and left-hand windshield anti-ice.

Installing a 60-amp circuit breaker will protect the landing gear motor and associated circuitry from welding of the landing gear power relay contacts and sticking.

*What are the consequences if the condition is not corrected?* If not corrected, this condition could result in heat damage to the electrical wiring in and around the landing gear electrical systems components. Such a condition could lead to loss of control of the airplane.

*Is there service information that applies to this subject?* Raytheon has issued Mandatory Service Bulletin SB 24-2616, Rev. 1, Revised: April, 2002.

*What are the provisions of this service information?* The service bulletin includes procedures for incorporating a modification kit that replaces the 200-amp current limiter in the landing gear motor with a 60-amp circuit breaker.

#### FAA's Determination and Requirements of This Proposed AD

*What has FAA decided?* We have evaluated all pertinent information and identified an unsafe condition that is likely to exist or develop on other products of this same type design. Therefore, we are proposing AD action.

*What would this proposed AD require?* This proposed AD would require you to incorporate the actions in the previously-referenced service bulletin.

*How does the revision to 14 CFR part 39 affect this proposed AD?* On July 10, 2002, we published a new version of 14 CFR part 39 (67 FR 47997, July 22, 2002), which governs FAA's AD system. This regulation now includes material that relates to altered products, special flight permits, and alternative methods of compliance. This material previously was included in each individual AD. Since this material is included in 14 CFR part 39, we will not include it in future AD actions.