

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–NM–139–AD]

RIN 2120–AA64

Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier Model CL–215–1A10 and CL–215–6B11 Series Airplanes

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM).

SUMMARY: This document proposes the superseding of an existing airworthiness directive (AD), applicable to certain Bombardier Model CL–215–1A10 and CL–215–6B11 series airplanes, that currently requires repetitive inspections to detect cracking of main landing gear (MLG) axles that have been reworked by chromium plating, and replacement of cracked axles with serviceable axles. This action would add a dimensional check and follow-on corrective actions, mandate terminating action for certain airplanes, and add three airplanes to the applicability in the existing AD. The actions specified by the proposed AD are intended to prevent cracking of the inner bearing surface of the MLG axles, which could result in failure of an axle, subsequent separation of the wheel from the airplane, and consequent reduced controllability of the airplane during takeoff or landing. This action is intended to address the identified unsafe condition.

DATES: Comments must be received by January 5, 2004.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments in triplicate to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Transport Airplane Directorate, ANM–114, Attention: Rules Docket No. 2003–NM–139–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. 2003–NM–139–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 Bombardier, Inc., Canadair, Aerospace Group, P.O. Box 6087, Station Centre-ville, Montreal, Quebec H3C 3G9, Canada. This information may be examined at the FAA, Transport Airplane Directorate, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington; or at the FAA, New York Aircraft Certification Office, 10 Fifth Street, Third Floor, Valley Stream, New York.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David Lawson, Aerospace Engineer, Airframe and Propulsion Branch, ANE–171, FAA, New York Aircraft Certification Office, 10 Fifth Street, Third Floor, Valley Stream, New York 11581; telephone (516) 256–4227; fax (516) 568–2716.

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 2003–NM–139–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. 2003–NM–139–AD, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington 98055–4056.

Discussion

On October 16, 1995, the FAA issued AD 95–22–04, amendment 39–9411 (60 FR 54421, October 24, 1995), applicable to certain Canadair Model CL–215–1A10 and CL–215–6B11 series airplanes, to require inspections to detect cracking of main landing gear (MLG) axles that have been reworked by chromium plating, and replacement of cracked axles with serviceable axles. That action was prompted by reports of fatigue cracking found on several MLG wheel axles that had been chromium-plated during rework. The requirements of that AD are intended to prevent such cracking, which can result in failure of the axle, separation of the wheel from the aircraft, and consequent reduced controllability of the airplane during takeoff or landing.

Actions Since Issuance of Previous AD

Since the issuance of AD 95–22–04, Transport Canada Civil Aviation (TCCA), which is the airworthiness authority for Canada, issued Canadian airworthiness directive CF–1993–08R3, dated March 30, 2000; applicable to certain Bombardier Model CL–215–1A10 and CL–215–6B11 series airplanes. The Canadian airworthiness directive was issued to require eventual