

adding paragraph (b)(4) to read as follows:

§ 122.75b Electronic manifest requirement for crew members and non-crew members onboard commercial aircraft departing from the United States.

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(b) * * *

(2) * * *

(iv) For biometric portions of the manifest pursuant to 8 CFR 231.4, within 24 hours of the departure of the aircraft from the United States.

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(4) *Biometric Information.* Biometric manifest information is governed by 8 CFR 231.4.

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Michael Chertoff,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. E8-8956 Filed 4-23-08; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. FAA-2008-0412; Directorate Identifier 2007-NM-346-AD]

RIN 2120-AA64

Airworthiness Directives; Boeing Model 737-300, -400, and -500 Series Airplanes

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Department of Transportation (DOT).

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM).

SUMMARY: The FAA proposes to supersede an existing airworthiness directive (AD) that applies to all Boeing Model 737-300, -400, and -500 series airplanes. The existing AD currently requires repetitive inspections for discrepancies of the fuselage skin under the dorsal fin assembly, and repairing if necessary. This proposed AD would require an inspection for any chafing or crack in the fuselage skin and abrasion resistant coating at the dorsal fin landing, an inspection for damage to the dorsal fin seals, attach clip, and seal retainer, and other specified and corrective actions as necessary. The new proposed requirements would end the need for the existing repetitive inspections. This proposed AD results from a report of an 18-inch crack found in the fuselage skin area under the blade seals of the nose cap of the dorsal fin due to previous wear damage, and additional reports of fuselage skin wear.

We are proposing this AD to prevent discrepancies of the fuselage skin, which could result in fatigue cracking due to cabin pressurization and consequent rapid in-flight decompression of the airplane fuselage.

DATES: We must receive comments on this proposed AD by June 9, 2008.

ADDRESSES: You may send comments by any of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* Go to <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.
- *Fax:* 202-493-2251.
- *Mail:* U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M-30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC 20590.
- *Hand Delivery:* U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M-30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

For service information identified in this AD, contact Boeing Commercial Airplanes, P.O. Box 3707, Seattle, Washington 98124-2207.

Examining the AD Docket

You may examine the AD docket on the Internet at <http://www.regulations.gov>; or in person at the Docket Management Facility between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The AD docket contains this proposed AD, the regulatory evaluation, any comments received, and other information. The street address for the Docket Office (telephone 800-647-5527) is in the **ADDRESSES** section. Comments will be available in the AD docket shortly after receipt.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Wayne Lockett, Aerospace Engineer, Airframe Branch, ANM-120S, FAA, Seattle Aircraft Certification Office, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington 98057-3356; telephone (425) 917-6447; fax (425) 917-6590.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Comments Invited

We invite you to send any written relevant data, views, or arguments about this proposed AD. Send your comments to an address listed under the **ADDRESSES** section. Include "Docket No. FAA-2008-0412; Directorate Identifier 2007-NM-346-AD" at the beginning of your comments. We specifically invite comments on the overall regulatory, economic, environmental, and energy aspects of this proposed AD. We will consider all comments received by the

closing date and may amend this proposed AD because of those comments.

We will post all comments we receive, without change, to <http://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal information you provide. We will also post a report summarizing each substantive verbal contact we receive about this proposed AD.

Discussion

On October 18, 2004, we issued AD 2004-22-05, amendment 39-13833 (69 FR 62567, October 27, 2004), for all Boeing Model 737-300, -400, and -500 series airplanes. That AD requires inspecting for discrepancies of the fuselage skin under the dorsal fin assembly, and repairing if necessary. That AD resulted from a report of an 18-inch crack found in the fuselage skin area under the blade seals of the nose cap of the dorsal fin due to previous wear damage. We issued that AD to find and fix discrepancies of the fuselage skin, which could result in fatigue cracking due to cabin pressurization, and consequent rapid in-flight decompression of the airplane fuselage.

Actions Since Existing AD Was Issued

Since we issued AD 2004-22-05, we have received additional reports of fuselage skin wear found during routine maintenance inspections and accomplishment of Boeing Service Bulletin 737-55-1057, dated December 12, 1996, and Revision 1, dated July 22, 1999. (Revision 1 of Boeing Service Bulletin 737-55-1057 was cited as an additional source of service information for inspecting for discrepancies of the fuselage skin under the dorsal fin assembly.) As a result, the manufacturer has developed a new corrective action and terminating action to adequately address the unsafe condition.

Relevant Service Information

We have reviewed Boeing Alert Service Bulletin 737-53A1266, dated August 30, 2007. The service bulletin describes procedures for doing a detailed inspection for any chafing or crack in the fuselage skin and abrasion resistant coating at the dorsal fin landing and a detailed inspection for damage to the dorsal fin seals, attach clip, and seal retainer.

The service bulletin also describes procedures for doing other specified and corrective actions as necessary. The other specified action is to install wear strips if no skin wear is found during the inspection. The corrective actions include (1) replacing the dorsal fin seals with new seals if any damaged seal is found, (2) replacing the seal retainers

and attach clip with new parts, if any damaged retainers or clips are found, or if they have not been installed in accordance with Boeing Service Bulletin 737-55-1057, and (3) repairing the fuselage skin if any crack or damage is found. For certain airplanes, the repair includes contacting Boeing for repair instructions, installing wear strips, or repairing as given in the structural repair manual, as applicable. For certain other airplanes, the repair includes removing any previously installed repair doubler and repairing as given in the applicable structural repair manual, ensuring that the previous repairs did not have countersunk fasteners that knife edged the skin, doing a high frequency eddy current inspection of the outer row fasteners for any eye-brow or hole crack and repairing as applicable, ensuring that fastener spacing and size are within the acceptable limits, and extending the new repair doubler a minimum of two fastener rows beyond the critical row of the outer fastener row of the previous repair. Accomplishing the actions specified in the service information is intended to adequately address the unsafe condition.

The service bulletin specifies that the detailed inspection and other specified action be done within 18,000 flight cycles or 72 months, whichever occurs later. For certain airplanes, the service bulletin specifies that the removal of the previously installed repair doubler and the repair be done within 18,000 flight cycles or 72 months, whichever occurs later. The service bulletin also specifies that the corrective actions be done before further flight.

FAA's Determination and Requirements of the Proposed AD

We have evaluated all pertinent information and identified an unsafe condition that is likely to develop on other airplanes of the same type design. For this reason, we are proposing this AD, which would supersede AD 2004-22-05 and would retain the requirements of the existing AD. This proposed AD would also require accomplishing the actions specified in service information described previously, except as discussed under "Difference Between the Proposed AD and Service Bulletin." The new proposed requirements would end the need for the existing repetitive inspections.

Difference Between the Proposed AD and Service Bulletin

The service bulletin specifies to contact the manufacturer for instructions on how to repair certain

conditions, but this proposed AD would require repairing those conditions in one of the following ways:

- Using a method that we approve; or
- Using data that meet the

certification basis of the airplane, and that have been approved by an Authorized Representative for the Boeing Commercial Airplanes Delegation Option Authorization Organization whom we have authorized to make those findings.

Change to Existing AD

Boeing Commercial Airplanes has received a Delegation Option Authorization (DOA). We have revised paragraph (g) of this AD to delegate the authority to approve an alternative method of compliance for any repair required by this AD to an Authorized Representative for the Boeing Commercial Airplanes DOA rather than a Designated Engineering Representative (DER).

Costs of Compliance

There are about 1,963 airplanes of the affected design in the worldwide fleet. This proposed AD would affect about 627 airplanes of U.S. registry.

The actions that are required by AD 2004-22-05 and retained in this proposed AD take about 2 work hours per airplane, at an average labor rate of \$80 per work hour. Based on these figures, the estimated cost of the currently required actions for U.S. operators is \$100,320, or \$160 per airplane, per inspection cycle.

The new proposed actions would take about 15 work hours per airplane, at an average labor rate of \$80 per work hour. Required parts would cost about \$801 per airplane. Based on these figures, the estimated cost of the new actions specified in this proposed AD for U.S. operators is \$1,254,627, or \$2,001 per airplane.

Authority for This Rulemaking

Title 49 of the United States Code specifies the FAA's authority to issue rules on aviation safety. Subtitle I, Section 106, describes the authority of the FAA Administrator. Subtitle VII, Aviation Programs, describes in more detail the scope of the Agency's authority.

We are issuing this rulemaking under the authority described in Subtitle VII, Part A, Subpart III, Section 44701, "General requirements." Under that section, Congress charges the FAA with promoting safe flight of civil aircraft in air commerce by prescribing regulations for practices, methods, and procedures the Administrator finds necessary for safety in air commerce. This regulation

is within the scope of that authority because it addresses an unsafe condition that is likely to exist or develop on products identified in this rulemaking action.

Regulatory Findings

We have determined that this proposed AD would not have federalism implications under Executive Order 13132. This proposed AD would not have a substantial direct effect on the States, on the relationship between the national Government and the States, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government.

For the reasons discussed above, I certify that the proposed regulation:

1. Is not a "significant regulatory action" under Executive Order 12866;
2. Is not a "significant rule" under the DOT Regulatory Policies and Procedures (44 FR 11034, February 26, 1979); and
3. Will not have a significant economic impact, positive or negative, on a substantial number of small entities under the criteria of the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

We prepared a regulatory evaluation of the estimated costs to comply with this proposed AD and placed it in the AD docket. See the **ADDRESSES** section for a location to examine the regulatory evaluation.

List of Subjects in 14 CFR Part 39

Air transportation, Aircraft, Aviation safety, Safety.

The Proposed Amendment

Accordingly, under the authority delegated to me by the Administrator, the FAA proposes to amend 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. The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) amends § 39.13 by removing amendment 39-13833 (69 FR 62567, October 27, 2004) and adding the following new airworthiness directive (AD):

Boeing: Docket No. FAA-2008-0412; Directorate Identifier 2007-NM-346-AD.

Comments Due Date

- (a) The FAA must receive comments on this AD action by June 9, 2008.

Affected ADs

- (b) This AD supersedes AD 2004-22-05.

Applicability

(c) This AD applies to all Boeing Model 737–300, –400, and –500 series airplanes, certificated in any category.

Unsafe Condition

(d) This AD results from a report of an 18-inch crack found in the fuselage skin area under the blade seals of the nose cap of the dorsal fin due to previous wear damage, and additional reports of fuselage skin wear. We are issuing this AD to prevent discrepancies of the fuselage skin, which could result in fatigue cracking due to cabin pressurization and consequent rapid in-flight decompression of the airplane fuselage.

Compliance

(e) You are responsible for having the actions required by this AD performed within the compliance times specified, unless the actions have already been done.

Restatement of Requirements of AD 2004–22–05

Repetitive Detailed Inspections

(f) For airplanes specified in either paragraph (f)(1), (f)(2), (f)(3), or (f)(4) of this AD: Accomplish a detailed inspection for discrepancies (wear or cracking) of the fuselage skin under the dorsal fin assembly by doing all the actions specified in Boeing Message Number 1–QXO35, dated October 13, 2004. Repeat the inspection thereafter at intervals not to exceed 9,000 flight cycles. Accomplishing all of the applicable actions specified in paragraph (i) of this AD terminates the repetitive inspections required by this paragraph.

Note 1: For the purposes of this AD, a detailed inspection is: “An intensive examination of a specific item, installation, or assembly to detect damage, failure, or irregularity. Available lighting is normally supplemented with a direct source of good lighting at an intensity deemed appropriate. Inspection aids such as mirror, magnifying lenses, etc., may be necessary. Surface cleaning and elaborate procedures may be required.”

(1) For airplanes with line numbers 1001 through 2828 inclusive that have not been inspected as of November 12, 2004 (the effective date of AD 2004–22–05), in accordance with Boeing Service Bulletin 737–55–1057, dated December 12, 1996; or Revision 1, dated July 22, 1999: Inspect before the accumulation of 18,000 total flight cycles, or within 90 days after November 12, 2004, whichever is later.

(2) For airplanes with line numbers 2829 through 3132 inclusive that are not included in the effectivity of Boeing Service Bulletin 737–55–1057, dated December 12, 1996; or Revision 1, dated July 22, 1999: Inspect before the accumulation of 18,000 total flight cycles, or within 90 days after November 12, 2004, whichever is later.

(3) For airplanes with line numbers 1001 through 2828 inclusive that have been inspected, but not repaired or modified as of the effective date of this AD, in accordance with Boeing Service Bulletin 737–55–1057, dated December 12, 1996; or Revision 1, dated July 22, 1999: Inspect within 9,000

flight cycles after accomplishing the inspection, or within 90 days after November 12, 2004, whichever is later.

(4) For airplanes with line numbers 1001 through 2828 inclusive that have been inspected and repaired or modified as of the effective date of this AD, in accordance with Boeing Service Bulletin 737–55–1057, dated December 12, 1996; or Revision 1, dated July 22, 1999: Inspect within 18,000 flight cycles after accomplishing the repair or modification, or within 90 days after November 12, 2004, whichever is later; and if a repair doubler is installed, before further flight, inspect the repair doubler for discrepancies (wear or cracking).

Note 2: Boeing Message Number 1–QXO35, dated October 13, 2004, references Part I of Boeing Service Bulletin 737–55–1057, Revision 1, dated July 22, 1999, as an additional source of service information for accomplishing the actions required by paragraph (f) of this AD.

Repair

(g) If any discrepancy (wear or cracking) is found during any inspection required by paragraph (f) of this AD, before further flight, repair in accordance with a method approved by the Manager, Seattle Aircraft Certification Office (ACO), FAA; or using a method approved in accordance with the procedures specified in paragraph (1) of this AD.

Reporting Not Required

(h) Although Boeing Message Number 1–QXO35, dated October 13, 2004, specifies to report any fuselage skin cracking found during the detailed inspections, this AD does not include that requirement.

New Requirements of This AD

New Inspections and Other Specified and Corrective Actions

(i) At the applicable compliance times specified in paragraph 1.E. of Boeing Alert Service Bulletin 737–53A1266, dated August 30, 2007, except as provided by paragraph (j) of this AD: Do a detailed inspection for any chafing or crack in the fuselage skin of the dorsal fin landing and abrasion resistant coating, do a detailed inspection for damage to dorsal fin seals, attach clip, and seal retainer, and do all the applicable other specified and corrective actions, by accomplishing all of the applicable actions specified in the Accomplishment Instructions of the service bulletin, except as provided by paragraph (k) of this AD. Accomplishing all of the applicable actions specified in this paragraph terminates the repetitive inspections required by paragraph (f) of this AD.

Exception to Compliance Times

(j) Where Boeing Alert Service Bulletin 737–53A1266, dated August 30, 2007, specifies counting the compliance time from “* * * the date on the service bulletin,” this AD requires counting the compliance time from the effective date of this AD.

Exception to Corrective Actions

(k) If any damage is found aft of body station 908 during any inspection required by this AD, and Boeing Alert Service Bulletin

737–53A1266, dated August 30, 2007, specifies to contact Boeing for appropriate action: Before further flight, repair the fuselage skin using a method approved in accordance with the procedures specified in paragraph (l) of this AD.

Alternative Methods of Compliance (AMOCs)

(l)(1) The Manager, Seattle Aircraft Certification Office, Transport Airplane Directorate, FAA, has the authority to approve AMOCs for this AD, if requested in accordance with the procedures found in 14 CFR 39.19.

(2) To request a different method of compliance or a different compliance time for this AD, follow the procedures in 14 CFR 39.19. Before using any approved AMOC on any airplane to which the AMOC applies, notify your appropriate principal inspector (PI) in the FAA Flight Standards District Office (FSDO), or lacking a PI, your local FSDO.

(3) An AMOC that provides an acceptable level of safety may be used for any repair required by this AD, if it is approved by an Authorized Representative for the Boeing Commercial Airplanes Delegation Option Authorization Organization who has been authorized by the Manager, Seattle ACO, to make those findings. For a repair method to be approved, the repair must meet the certification basis of the airplane, and the approval must specifically refer to this AD.

(4) AMOCs approved previously in accordance with AD 2004–22–05 are approved as AMOCs for the corresponding provisions of paragraphs (f) and (g) of this AD.

Issued in Renton, Washington, on April 15, 2008.

Ali Bahrami,

Manager, Transport Airplane Directorate,
Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. E8–8913 Filed 4–23–08; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. FAA–2008–0413; Directorate Identifier 2008–NM–003–AD]

RIN 2120–AA64

Airworthiness Directives; Boeing Model 737–600, –700, –700C, –800, –900, and 900ER Series Airplanes

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM).

SUMMARY: We propose to adopt a new airworthiness directive (AD) for certain Boeing Model 737–600, –700, –700C, –800, –900, and 900ER series airplanes. This proposed AD would require