

### Revising Wire Connection Stack Up, Inspecting, Replacing Terminal Strips, Removing the Nameplate, and Relocating Terminal Strips; as Applicable

(a) For Groups 1 through 6 airplanes as listed in Boeing Alert Service Bulletin MD11-24A097, Revision 02, dated December 4, 2002: Within 12 months after the effective date of this AD, do the actions specified in paragraphs (a)(1) and (a)(2) of this AD per the service bulletin. Although the service bulletin references a reporting requirement, such reporting is not required by this AD.

(1) Revise the wire connection stack up of the cable terminals at the electrical power center bays 1, 2, and 3 in the CAC, as applicable, and do a one-time general visual inspection of the surrounding structure and electrical cables for chafing or damage.

**Note:** For the purposes of this AD, a general visual inspection is defined as "A visual examination of an interior or exterior area, installation, or assembly to detect obvious damage, failure, or irregularity. This level of inspection is made under normally available lighting conditions such as daylight, hangar lighting, flashlight, or drop-light, and may require removal or opening of access panels or doors. Stands, ladders, or platforms may be required to gain proximity to the area being checked."

(2) Replace the terminal strips and remove the applicable nameplate at the electrical power center bays 1, 2, and 3 in the CAC, and do a general visual inspection of the surrounding structure and electrical cables for arcing damage.

(b) For Group 7 airplanes as listed in Boeing Alert Service Bulletin MD11-24A097, Revision 02, dated December 4, 2002: Within 12 months after the effective date of this AD, relocate the terminal strip, and do a general visual inspection of the surrounding structure and electrical cables for arcing damage, per the service bulletin. Although the service bulletin references a reporting requirement, such reporting is not required by this AD.

### Corrective Action

(c) If any chafing or damage is detected during any general visual inspection required by this AD, before further flight, repair or replace the damaged or chafed component with new or serviceable components, per Boeing Alert Service Bulletin MD11-24A097, Revision 02, dated December 4, 2002; except if the type of structural material that has been affected is not covered in the Structural Repair Manual (SRM), repair per a method approved by the Manager, Los Angeles Aircraft Certification Office (ACO), FAA. In addition, although the service bulletin references a reporting requirement, such reporting is not required by this AD.

### Credit for Earlier Service Bulletins

(d) Applicable actions specified in this AD accomplished before the effective date of this AD per McDonnell Douglas Alert Service Bulletin MD11-24A097, dated April 3, 2000; or Revision 01, dated July 12, 2001, are acceptable for compliance with the applicable requirements of this AD.

### Alternative Methods of Compliance

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

Issued in Renton, Washington, on July 17, 2003.

**Ali Bahrami,**

*Acting Manager, Transport Airplane Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service.*

[FR Doc. 03-18795 Filed 7-23-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-13-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Aviation Administration

#### 14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. 2001-NM-165-AD]

RIN 2120-AA64

### Airworthiness Directives; McDonnell Douglas Model MD-11 and -11F 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 McDonnell Douglas Model MD-11 and -11F airplanes. This proposal would require revising the vent fan wiring in the right forward cabin drop ceiling, right mid cabin drop ceiling, and right forward cargo compartment, as applicable. This action is necessary to prevent fire and/or smoke in the right forward cabin drop ceiling, right mid cabin drop ceiling, or right forward cargo compartment. This action is intended to address the identified unsafe condition.

**DATES:** Comments must be received by September 8, 2003.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit comments in triplicate to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Transport Airplane Directorate, ANM-114, Attention: Rules Docket No. 2001-NM-165-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. 2001-NM-165-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 for Windows or ASCII text.

The service information referenced in the proposed rule may be obtained from Boeing Commercial Aircraft Group, Long Beach Division, 3855 Lakewood Boulevard, Long Beach, California 90846, Attention: Data and Service Management, Dept. C1-L5A (D800-0024). This information may be examined at the FAA, Transport Airplane Directorate, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington; or at the FAA, Los Angeles Aircraft Certification Office, 3960 Paramount Boulevard, Lakewood, California.

### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Brett Portwood, Aerospace Engineer, Systems and Equipment Branch, ANM-130-L, FAA, Los Angeles Aircraft Certification Office, 3960 Paramount Boulevard, Lakewood, California 90712-4137; telephone (562) 627-5350; fax (562) 627-5210.

### 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-165-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-165-AD, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington 98055-4056.

#### Discussion

As part of its practice of re-examining all aspects of the service experience of a particular aircraft whenever an accident occurs, the FAA has become aware of several instances of burned/overheated mod blocks in the terminal strips located above the right forward cabin drop ceiling and right mid cabin drop ceiling on McDonnell Douglas Model MD-11 and -11F airplanes. Investigation revealed that the mod blocks developed high heat due to the high current transmitted through the vent fan wiring of the forward cargo compartment. This condition, if not corrected, could result in fire and/or smoke in the right forward cabin drop ceiling, right mid cabin drop ceiling, or right forward cargo compartment.

#### Other Related Rulemaking

The FAA, in conjunction with Boeing and operators of Model MD-11 and -11F airplanes, has reviewed all aspects of the service history of those airplanes to identify potential unsafe conditions and to take appropriate corrective actions. This proposed airworthiness directive (AD) is one of a series of corrective actions identified during that process. We have previously issued several other ADs and may consider further rulemaking actions to address the remaining identified unsafe conditions.

#### Explanation of Relevant Service Information

We have reviewed and approved Boeing Alert Service Bulletin MD11-24A196, including Evaluation Form, Revision 01, dated November 20, 2002, which describes procedures for revising the vent fan wiring in the right forward cabin drop ceiling, right mid cabin drop ceiling, and right forward cargo compartment, as applicable. Accomplishment of the actions specified in the service bulletin is intended to adequately address the identified unsafe condition.

#### Explanation of Requirements of Proposed Rule

Since an unsafe condition has been identified that is likely to exist or develop on other products of this same type design, the proposed AD would require accomplishment of the actions specified in the service bulletin described previously, except as described below.

#### Clarification of Quality of Service Information

Operators should note that, although the referenced service bulletin describes procedures for the completion and submission of an Evaluation Form that provides input on the quality of the service bulletin to the airplane manufacturer, this AD does not include such a requirement.

#### Changes to 14 CFR Part 39/Effect on the Proposed AD

On July 10, 2002, the FAA issued a new version of 14 CFR part 39 (67 FR 47997, July 22, 2002), which governs the FAA's airworthiness directives system. The regulation now includes material that relates to altered products, special flight permits, and alternative methods of compliance (AMOCs). Because we have now included this material in part 39, only the office authorized to approve AMOCs is identified in each individual AD.

#### Cost Impact

There are approximately 195 Model MD-11 and -11F airplanes of the affected design in the worldwide fleet. We estimate that 67 airplanes of U.S. registry would be affected by this proposed AD, that it would take approximately 1 work hour per airplane to accomplish the proposed actions, and that the average labor rate is \$65 per work hour. Required parts would cost between \$14 and \$113 (depending on the airplane configuration). Based on these figures, the cost impact of the proposed AD on U.S. operators is estimated to be between \$79 and \$180 per airplane (depending on the airplane configuration).

The cost impact figure discussed above is based on assumptions that no operator has yet accomplished any of the proposed requirements of this AD action, and that no operator would accomplish those actions in the future if this proposed AD were not adopted. The cost impact figures discussed in AD rulemaking actions represent only the time necessary to perform the specific actions actually required by the AD. These figures typically do not include incidental costs, such as the time required to gain access and close up,

planning time, or time necessitated by other administrative actions. Manufacturer warranty remedies may be available for labor costs associated with this proposed AD. Manufacturer warranty remedies may also be available for labor costs associated with this proposed AD. As a result, the costs attributable to the proposed AD may be less than stated above.

#### Regulatory Impact

The regulations proposed herein 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. Therefore, it is determined that this proposal would not have federalism implications under Executive Order 13132.

For the reasons discussed above, I certify that this 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) if promulgated, 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. A copy of the draft regulatory evaluation prepared for this action is contained in the Rules Docket. A copy of it may be obtained by contacting the Rules Docket at the location provided under the caption ADDRESSES.

#### List of Subjects in 14 CFR Part 39

Air transportation, Aircraft, Aviation safety, Safety.

#### The Proposed Amendment

Accordingly, pursuant to the authority delegated to me by the Administrator, the Federal Aviation Administration proposes to amend part 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 2001-NM-165-AD.

*Applicability:* Model MD-11 and -11F airplanes, as listed in Boeing Alert Service Bulletin MD11-24A196, Revision 01, dated

November 20, 2002; certificated in any category.

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

To prevent fire and/or smoke in the right forward cabin drop ceiling, right mid cabin drop ceiling, or right forward cargo compartment, accomplish the following:

#### Revise Vent Fan Wiring

(a) Within 6 months after the effective date of this AD, revise the vent fan wiring in the right forward cabin drop ceiling, right mid cabin drop ceiling, and right forward cargo compartment, as applicable, per Boeing Alert Service Bulletin MD11-24A196, excluding Evaluation Form, Revision 01, dated November 20, 2002.

(b) Revisions of the vent fan wiring accomplished before the effective date of this AD per Boeing Alert Service Bulletin MD11-24A196, dated December 17, 2001, are acceptable for compliance with the requirements of paragraph (a) of this AD.

#### Alternative Methods of Compliance

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

Issued in Renton, Washington, on July 17, 2003.

Ali Bahrami,

Acting Manager, Transport Airplane Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. 03-18794 Filed 7-23-03; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

### Coast Guard

#### 33 CFR Part 165

[COTP Los Angeles-Long Beach 03-006]

RIN 1625-AA00

#### Safety Zone; Offshore Gran Prix, Ventura, CA

**AGENCY:** Coast Guard, DHS.

**ACTION:** Notice of proposed rulemaking.

**SUMMARY:** The Coast Guard proposes to establish a temporary safety zone in the navigable waters of Pierpont Bay near Ventura, California, for the Ventura Offshore Gran Prix powerboat race on September 28, 2003. This proposed temporary safety zone is necessary to provide for public safety in order to protect life and prevent property damage near the racecourse. Persons and vessels will be prohibited from entering into or transiting through this proposed safety zone unless authorized by the Captain of the Port or his designated representative.

**DATES:** Comments and related material must reach the Coast Guard on or before August 27, 2003.

**ADDRESSES:** You may mail comments and related material to U.S. Coast Guard Marine Safety Office/Group Los Angeles-Long Beach, Waterways Management Division, 1001 South Seaside Avenue, Building 20, San Pedro, California. The Waterways Management maintains the public docket for this rulemaking. Comments and material received from the public, as well as documents indicated in this preamble as being available in the docket, will become part of this docket and will be available for inspection or copying at U.S. Coast Guard Marine Safety Office/Group Los Angeles-Long Beach, 1001 South Seaside Avenue, Building 20, San Pedro, California, 90731 between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Lieutenant Junior Grade Rob Griffiths, Assistant Chief of Waterways Management Division, at (310) 732-2020.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Request for Comments

We encourage you to participate in this rulemaking by submitting comments and related material. If you do so, please include your name and address, identify the docket number for this rulemaking (COTP Los Angeles-Long Beach 03-006), indicate the specific section of this document to which each comment applies, and give the reason for each comment. Please submit all comments and related material in an unbound format, no larger than 8½ by 11 inches, suitable for copying. If you would like to know they reached us, please enclose a stamped, self-addressed postcard or envelope. We will consider all comments and material received during the comment period. We may change this proposed rule in view of them. If as we anticipate, we make the final rule effective less than 30 days after publication in the **Federal Register**, we will explain our good cause for doing so, as required by 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3).

##### Public Meeting

We do not now plan to hold a public meeting. But you may submit a request for a meeting by writing to Waterways Management Division at the address under **ADDRESSES** explaining why one would be beneficial. If we determine that one would aid this rulemaking, we will hold one at a time and place

announced by a later notice in the **Federal Register**.

#### Background and Purpose

Pacific Offshore Powerboat Racing Association is sponsoring its annual Ventura Offshore Gran Prix in the navigable waters of Pierpont Bay near Ventura, California, from 12 a.m. (noon) to 3 p.m. (PDT) on September 28, 2003. Course description and coordinates are provided in the regulatory text section below.

This proposed safety zone is needed to provide for the safety of both the 25 participants and the estimated 125 spectators expected to attend this event. During this event, offshore powerboats designed for open ocean rough water racing may reach speeds of 125 miles per hour. Due to the high-speed nature of this event as well as the potential for loss of life and damage to property, the Coast Guard is proposing to close the waterway to all vessels and persons 30 minutes prior to the start of the race and will reopen the waterway approximately 30 minutes after the conclusion of the race if the Patrol Commander determines that it is safe to do so. A broadcast notice to mariners will be issued for this event.

#### Discussion of Proposed Rule

The description and coordinates for the racecourse are provided in the regulatory text section below.

Persons and vessels will be prohibited from entering into or transiting through this proposed safety zone unless authorized by the Captain of the Port. By prohibiting persons and vessels from entering this temporary safety zone the risk of loss of life and damage to property will be significantly reduced. Without this safety zone the Offshore Gran Prix would be cancelled.

U.S. Coast Guard personnel will enforce this proposed safety zone. The Coast Guard may be assisted by other Federal, State, or local agencies, which during this event may include the Coast Guard Auxiliary, Ventura Harbor Patrol, and Ventura Police Department.

Section 165.3 of Title 33, Code of Federal Regulations, prohibits any unauthorized person or vessel from entering or remaining in a Safety Zone. Vessels or persons violating this section will be subject to the penalties set forth in 33 U.S.C. 1232. Pursuant to 33 U.S.C. 1232, any violation of the proposed safety zone described herein, will be punishable by civil penalties (not to exceed \$27,500 per violation, where each day of a continuing violation is a separate violation), criminal penalties (imprisonment up to 6 years and a maximum fine of \$250,000), and *in rem*