

points of the ACT(s), by doing all of the actions specified in the Accomplishment Instructions of Airbus Service Bulletin A300-28-6060, dated December 7, 1999 (for Model A300-600 airplanes); or Airbus Service Bulletin A310-28-2137, Revision 02, dated April 7, 2003 (for Model A310 series airplanes); as applicable.

#### Credit for Previous Service Bulletins

(g) Actions done before the effective date of this AD in accordance with Airbus Service Bulletin A310-28-2137, dated December 7, 1999; or Revision 01, dated January 12, 2002; are acceptable for compliance with the requirements of paragraph (f) of this AD.

#### Alternative Methods of Compliance (AMOCs)

(h) The Manager, International Branch, ANM-116, 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.

#### Related Information

(i) French airworthiness directive 2003-161(B), dated April 30, 2003, also addresses the subject of this AD.

Issued in Renton, Washington, on March 8, 2005.

Ali Bahrami,

Manager, Transport Airplane Directorate,  
Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. 05-5138 Filed 3-15-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-P

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Aviation Administration

#### 14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. FAA-2005-20439; Directorate Identifier 2005-CE-04-AD]

RIN 2120-AA64

#### Airworthiness Directives; AeroSpace Technologies of Australia Pty Ltd. Models N22B, N22S, and N24A Airplanes

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

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

**SUMMARY:** The FAA proposes to supersede Airworthiness Directive (AD) 2003-14-20, which applies to all AeroSpace Technologies of Australia Pty Ltd. (ASTA) Models N22B and N24A airplanes. AD 2003-14-20 requires you to repetitively inspect, using either dye penetrant or magnetic particle methods, the rudder control lever shafts for cracks; inspect (one-time) all lever shaft side plates by measuring the thickness; and if cracks or discrepancies in thickness are found, replace unserviceable parts with new or

serviceable parts. Since AD 2003-14-20 was issued, we determined that the AD should also affect Model N22S airplanes. The manufacturer has also revised the service information to include a rudder control lever shaft part number (P/N) that was not part of AD 2003-14-20. Consequently, this proposed AD would require the actions of AD 2003-14-20, add Model N22S airplanes to the applicability, and add rudder control lever shaft P/N 1/N-45-1102 to the inspection requirements. We are issuing this proposed AD to detect and correct cracks in the rudder control lever torque shafts and discrepancies in the thickness of the lever shaft side plates, which could result in failure of the rudder control lever torque shaft. Such failure could lead to reduced controllability of the airplane.

**DATES:** We must receive any comments on this proposed AD by April 15, 2005.

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

- *DOT Docket Web site:* Go to <http://dms.dot.gov> and follow the instructions for sending your comments electronically.

- *Government-wide rulemaking Web site:* Go to <http://www.regulations.gov> and follow the instructions for sending your comments electronically.

- *Mail:* Docket Management Facility; U.S. Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Nassif Building, Room PL-401, Washington, DC 20590-001.

- *Fax:* 1-202-493-2251.

- *Hand Delivery:* Room PL-401 on the plaza level of the Nassif Building, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

To get the service information identified in this proposed AD, contact Nomad Operations, Aerospace Support Division, Boeing Australia, PO Box 767, Brisbane, QLD 4001 Australia; telephone 61 7 3306 3366; facsimile 61 7 3306 3111.

To view the comments to this proposed AD, go to <http://dms.dot.gov>. The docket number is FAA-2005-20439; Directorate Identifier 2005-CE-04-AD.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Doug Rudolph, Aerospace Engineer, Small Airplane Directorate, ACE-112, 901 Locust, Room 301, Kansas City, Missouri 64106; telephone: (816) 329-4059; facsimile: (816) 329-4090.

#### 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 the docket number, "FAA-2005-20439; Directorate Identifier 2005-CE-04-AD" at the beginning of your comments. We will post all comments we receive, without change, to <http://dms.dot.gov>, including any personal information you provide. We will also post a report summarizing each substantive verbal contact with FAA personnel concerning this proposed rulemaking. Using the search function of our docket Web site, anyone can find and read the comments received into any of our dockets, including the name of the individual who sent the comment (or signed the comment on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). This is docket number FAA-2005-20439; Directorate Identifier 2005-CE-04-AD. You may review the DOT's complete Privacy Act Statement in the **Federal Register** published on April 11, 2000 (65 FR 19477-78) or you may visit <http://dms.dot.gov>.

*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.

#### Docket Information

*Where can I go to view the docket information?* You may view the AD docket that contains the proposal, any comments received, and any final disposition in person at the DMS Docket Offices between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. (eastern standard time), Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The Docket Office (telephone 1-800-647-5227) is located on the plaza level of the Department of Transportation Nassif Building at the street address stated in **ADDRESSES**. You may also view the AD docket on the Internet at <http://dms.dot.gov>. The comments will be available in the AD docket shortly after the DMS receives them.

#### Discussion

*Has FAA taken any action to this point?* Reports of cracking and other discrepancies on rudder control lever shaft assemblies on certain ASTA Models N22B and N24A airplanes caused us to issue AD 82-12-06,

Amendment 39-4399. AD 82-12-06 required the following:

- Repetitively inspecting visually all rudder control lever shafts for cracking;
- If cracks are found, replacing with new or serviceable rudder control shafts;
- Checking for clearance of the fit of all rod end bearings in lever shafts; and
- Discontinuing the repetitive visual inspections when lever shafts are inspected either by magnetic particle inspection or dye penetrant methods.

The Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA), which is the airworthiness authority for Australia notified FAA of the need to change AD 82-12-06. The CASA reported failures of the rudder control lever shaft. All the failures occurred during ground operations. Nosewheel steering/rudder loads are considered the primary cause of the failures.

Some of the failures occurred on airplanes where the terminating action of AD 82-12-06 had been incorporated. This caused us to issue AD 2003-14-20, Amendment 39-13239 (68 FR 42954, July 21, 2003).

AD 2003-14-20 currently requires the following on all ASTA Model N22B and N24A airplanes:

- Repetitively inspecting, using either dye penetrant or magnetic particle methods and measurements, certain rudder control lever shafts, part numbers (P/N) 2/N-45-1102, 1/N-45-1103, and 1/N-45-1104 (or FAA-approved equivalent part numbers), for cracks;
- Inspecting (one-time) all lever shaft side plates by measuring the thickness; and
- If cracks or discrepancies in thickness are found, replacing unserviceable parts with new or serviceable parts.

*What has happened since AD 2003-14-20 to initiate this proposed action?* Since AD 2003-14-20 was issued, we determined that AD 2003-14-20 should also affect Model N22S airplanes.

The manufacturer has also revised the service information to include a rudder control lever shaft part number (P/N) that was not part of AD 2003-14-20.

*What is the potential impact if FAA took no action?* This condition, if not detected and corrected, could result in

failure of the rudder control lever torque shaft. Such failure could lead to reduced controllability of the airplane.

*Is there service information that applies to this subject?* Aerospace Technologies of Australia Limited has issued Nomad Alert Service Bulletin ANMD-27-51, Rev. 2, dated April 29, 2004; and Nomad—Series N22 & N24 Inspection Requirements Manual, Temporary Revision 26, Fatigue Critical Areas, dated May 27, 2004.

*What are the provisions of this service information?* Nomad Alert Service Bulletin ANMD-27-51, Rev. 2, dated April 29, 2004, includes procedures for:

- Inspecting, using dye penetrant or magnetic particle methods, rudder control lever shafts, P/Ns 1/N-45-1102, 2/N-45-1102, 1/N-45-1103, and 1/N-45-1104, for cracks;
- Inspecting all lever shaft side plates by measuring the thickness; and
- If cracks or discrepancies in thickness are found, replacing unserviceable parts with new or serviceable parts.

Nomad—Series N22 & N24 Inspection Requirements Manual, Temporary Revision 26, Fatigue Critical Areas, dated May 27, 2004, includes procedures for:

- Inspecting, using dye penetrant method, rudder control lever shafts, P/Ns 1/N-45-1103 and 1/N-45-1104 for cracks;
- Inspecting, using magnified (10x) visual methods, rudder control lever shafts, P/Ns 1/N-45-1102 and 2/N-45-1102 for cracks; and
- If any cracks are found, replacing unserviceable parts with new or serviceable parts.

*What action did the CASA take?* The CASA classified this service information as mandatory and issued Australian AD GAF-N22/44, Amendment 2, dated November 2004, to ensure the continued airworthiness of these airplanes in Australia.

*Did the CASA inform the United States under the bilateral airworthiness agreement?* These Model N22B, N22S, and N24A airplanes are manufactured in Australia and are type-certificated for operation in the United States under the provisions of section 21.29 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR 21.29) and the applicable bilateral airworthiness agreement.

Under this bilateral airworthiness agreement, the CASA has kept us informed of the situation described above.

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

*What has FAA decided?* We have examined the CASA's findings, reviewed all available information, and determined that AD action is necessary for products of this type design that are certificated for operation in the United States.

Since the unsafe condition described previously is likely to exist or develop on other Model N22B, N22S, and N24A airplanes of the same type design that are registered in the United States, we are proposing AD action to detect and correct cracks in the rudder control lever torque shafts and discrepancies in the thickness of the lever shaft side plates, which could result in failure of the rudder control lever torque shaft. Such failure could lead to reduced controllability of the airplane.

*What would this proposed AD require?* This proposed AD would supersede AD 2003-14-20 with a new AD that would require the actions of AD 2003-14-20, add Model N22S airplanes to the applicability, and add rudder control lever shaft P/N 1/N-45-1102 to the inspection requirements.

*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.

#### Costs of Compliance

*How many airplanes would this proposed AD impact?* We estimate that this proposed AD affects 15 airplanes in the U.S. registry.

*What would be the cost impact of this proposed AD on owners/operators of the affected airplanes?* We estimate the following costs to do the proposed initial inspection:

| Labor cost                                 | Parts cost        | Total cost per airplane | Total cost on U.S. operators |
|--------------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| 12 workhours × \$65 per hour = \$780 ..... | Not Applicable .. | \$780                   | 15 × \$780 = \$11,700        |

We estimate the following costs to accomplish the necessary repetitive inspections:

| Labor cost                                | Parts cost        | Total cost per airplane |
|-------------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|
| 2 workhours × \$65 per hour = \$130 ..... | Not Applicable .. | \$130                   |

We estimate the following costs to accomplish any rudder control lever shaft replacement that would be

required based on the results of the proposed inspections. We have no way

of determining the number of airplanes that may need such replacement:

| Labor cost                                 | Parts cost | Total cost per airplane |
|--------------------------------------------|------------|-------------------------|
| 12 workhours × \$65 per hour = \$780 ..... | \$930      | \$780 + \$930 = \$1710  |

We estimate the following costs to accomplish any lever shaft side plate replacements that would be required

based on the results of the proposed inspection. We have no way of

determining the number of airplanes that may need such replacement:

| Labor cost                                 | Parts cost | Total cost per airplane |
|--------------------------------------------|------------|-------------------------|
| 12 workhours × \$65 per hour = \$780 ..... | \$930      | \$780 + \$930 = \$1710  |

*What is the difference between the cost impact of this proposed AD and the cost impact of AD 2003-14-20?* The only difference between AD 2003-14-20 and this proposed AD is the addition of Model N22S airplanes to the applicability section. There are no additional actions required in this proposed AD.

#### Authority for This Rulemaking

*What authority does FAA have for issuing this rulemaking action?* 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 AD.

#### Regulatory Findings

*Would this proposed AD impact various entities?* 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.

*Would this proposed AD involve a significant rule or regulatory action?* For the reasons discussed above, I certify that this proposed AD:

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 summary of the costs to comply with this proposed AD and placed it in the AD Docket. You may get a copy of this summary by sending a request to us at the address listed under **ADDRESSES**. Include "AD Docket FAA-2005-20439; Directorate Identifier 2005-CE-04-AD" in your request.

#### 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 Federal Aviation Administration 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 FAA amends § 39.13 by removing Airworthiness Directive (AD) 2003-14-20, Amendment 39-13239 (68 FR 42954, July 21, 2003), and by adding a new AD to read as follows:

**Aerospace Technologies of Australia PTY Ltd.:** Docket No. FAA-2005-20439; Directorate Identifier 2005-CE-04-AD; Supersedes AD 2003-14-20, Amendment 39-13239.

#### When Is the Last Date I Can Submit Comments on This Proposed AD?

(a) We must receive comments on this proposed airworthiness directive (AD) by April 15, 2005.

#### What Other ADs Are Affected by This Action?

(b) This AD supersedes AD 2003-14-20, Amendment 39-13239.

#### What Airplanes Are Affected by This AD?

(c) This AD affects Models N22B, N22S, and N24A airplanes, all serial numbers, that are certificated in any category.

#### What Is the Unsafe Condition Presented in This AD?

(d) This AD is the result of continuing airworthiness information (MCAI) issued by the airworthiness authority for Australia. The actions specified in this AD are intended to detect and correct cracks in the rudder control lever torque shafts and discrepancies

in the thickness of the lever shaft side plates, which could result in failure of the rudder control lever torque shaft. Such failure could

lead to reduced controllability of the airplane.

#### What Must I Do To Address This Problem?

(e) To address this problem, you must do the following:

| Actions                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Compliance                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Procedures                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>(1) Inspect the following:</p> <p>(i) The rudder control lever shafts, part numbers (P/N) 1/N-45-1102, 2/N-45-1102, 1/N-45-1103, and 1/N-45-1104 (or FAA-approved equivalent part numbers) for cracks. Use dye penetrant inspection while the shaft is installed. Use either dye penetrant or magnetic particle inspection if the shaft is removed; and</p> <p>(ii) All lever shaft side plates on P/Ns 1/N-45-1102, 2/N-45-1102, 1/N-45-1103, and 1/N-45-1104 (or FAA-approved equivalent part numbers) by measuring the thickness for discrepancies.</p> <p>(2) If no cracks are found in the rudder control lever shafts during the inspection required in paragraph (e)(1)(i) of this AD, repetitively inspect rudder control lever shafts P/Ns 1/N-45-1102, 2/N-45-1102, 1/N-45-1103, and 1/N-45-1104 (or FAA-approved equivalent part numbers) for cracks.</p> <p>(3) If cracks or discrepancies are found during any inspection required by this AD, do the following:</p> <p>(i) For rudder control lever shafts found with crack damage, replace with new or serviceable parts. Continue with the repetitive inspections required paragraph (e)(2) of this AD.</p> <p>(ii) If the thickness of the lever shaft side plates is less than 0.050 inches, replace the lever shaft side plate with a new plate that measures at least 0.050 inches in thickness.</p> <p>(4) If at any time certain operating conditions occur that caused abnormal rudder pedal loads, inspect the rudder control lever shafts as specified in paragraph (e)(2) of this AD. Examples of such conditions are: heavy use of nosewheel steering over rough ground; excessive steering angle under tow; towing with rudder gust lock fitted; engine failure on take-off; and aircraft left parked outside with rudder gust lock not fitted.</p> <p>(5) Do not install a new lever shaft side plate that is less than 0.050 inches in thickness.</p> | <p>Initially inspect within the next 50 hours time-in-service (TIS) or 30 days after the effective date of this AD, whichever occurs first, unless already done.</p> <p>Repetitively inspect thereafter at intervals not to exceed 300 hours TIS after the initial inspection required in paragraph (e)(1) of this AD.</p> <p>Before further flight after any inspection required by this AD in which cracks or discrepancies in are found.</p> <p>Before further flight .....</p> <p>As of the effective date of this AD .....</p> | <p>Following Nomad Alert Service Bulletin ANMD-27-51, Rev. 2, dated April 29, 2004, and the applicable maintenance manual.</p> <p>Following Nomad—Series N22 &amp; N24 Inspection Requirements Manual, Temporary Revision 26, Fatigue Critical Areas, dated May 27, 2004.</p> <p>Following Nomad Alert Service Bulletin ANMD-27-51, Rev. 2, dated April 29, 2004, and the applicable maintenance manual.</p> <p>Following Nomad—Series N22 &amp; N24 Inspection Requirements Manual, Temporary Revision 26, Fatigue Critical Areas, dated May 27, 2004.</p> <p>As specified in Nomad Alert Service Bulletin ANMD-27-51, Rev. 2, dated April 29, 2004; and Nomad—Series N22 &amp; N24 Inspection Requirements Manual, Temporary Revision 26, Fatigue Critical Areas, dated May 27, 2004.</p> |

#### May I Request an Alternative Method of Compliance?

(f) You may request a different method of compliance or a different compliance time for this AD by following the procedures in 14 CFR 39.19.

(1) Unless FAA authorizes otherwise, send your request to your principal inspector. The principal inspector may add comments and will send your request to the Manager, Standards Office, Small Airplane Directorate, FAA. For information on any already approved alternative methods of compliance, contact Doug Rudolph, Aerospace Engineer, Small Airplane Directorate, ACE-112, 901

Locust, Rm 301, Kansas City, Missouri, 64106; telephone: (816) 329-4059; facsimile: (816) 329-4090.

(2) Alternative methods of compliance approved for AD 2003-14-20 are not considered approved as alternative methods of compliance for this AD.

#### Is There Other Information That Relates to This Subject?

(g) Australian AD GAF-N22/44, Amendment 2, dated November 2004, also addresses the subject of this AD.

#### May I Get Copies of the Documents Referenced in This AD?

(h) To get copies of the documents referenced in this AD, contact Nomad Operations, Aerospace Support Division, Boeing Australia, PO Box 767, Brisbane, QLD 4001 Australia; telephone 61 7 3306 3366; facsimile 61 7 3306 3111. To view the AD docket, go to the Docket Management Facility; U.S. Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Nassif Building, Room PL-401, Washington, DC, or on the Internet at <http://dms.dot.gov>. This is docket number FAA-2005-20439; Directorate ID 2005-CE-04-AD.

Issued in Kansas City, Missouri, on March 10, 2005.

**David R. Showers,**

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

[FR Doc. 05-5153 Filed 3-15-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-P

## FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

### 16 CFR Part 320

RIN 3084-AA99

#### Disclosures for Non-Federally Insured Depository Institutions Under the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation Improvement Act (FDICIA)

**AGENCY:** Federal Trade Commission (FTC or Commission).

**ACTION:** Notice of proposed rulemaking; request for public comment.

**SUMMARY:** The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation Improvement Act of 1991 (FDICIA) directs the Commission to prescribe the manner and content of certain disclosures that must be used by depository institutions that do not have federal deposit insurance. The Commission seeks comment on these proposed disclosure rules for non-federally insured depository institutions.

**DATES:** Written comments must be received on or before June 15, 2005.

**ADDRESSES:** Interested parties are invited to submit written comments. Comments should refer to "Proposed Rule for FDICIA Disclosures, Matter No. R411014" to facilitate the organization of comments. A comment filed in paper form should include this reference both in the text and on the envelope, and should be mailed or delivered to the following address: Federal Trade Commission/Office of the Secretary, Room H-159 (Annex A), 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20580. Comments containing confidential material must be filed in paper form and the first page of the document must be clearly labeled "Confidential." The FTC is requesting that any comment filed in paper form be sent by courier or overnight service, if possible, because postal mail in the Washington area and at the Commission is subject to delay due to heightened security precautions. Comments filed in electronic form should be submitted by clicking on the following: <https://secure.commentworks.com/ftc-fdicia> and following the instructions on the web-based form.

To ensure that the Commission considers an electronic comment, you

must file it on the web-based form at <https://secure.commentworks.com/ftc-fdicia>. You also may visit <http://www.regulations.gov> to read this proposed Rule, and may file an electronic comment through that website. The Commission will consider all comments that [regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) forwards to it.

The FTC Act and other laws the Commission administers permit the collection of public comments to consider and use in this proceeding as appropriate. The Commission will consider all timely and responsive public comments that it receives, whether filed in paper or electronic form. Comments received will be available to the public on the FTC website, to the extent practicable, at <http://www.ftc.gov>. As a matter of discretion, the FTC makes every effort to remove home contact information for individuals from the public comments it receives before placing those comments on the FTC website. More information, including routine uses permitted by the Privacy Act, may be found in the FTC's privacy policy, at <http://www.ftc.gov/ftc/privacy.htm>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Hampton Newsome, (202) 326-2889, Attorney, Division of Enforcement, Bureau of Consumer Protection, Federal Trade Commission, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20580.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. Background

In 1991, Congress enacted the FDICIA which, among other things, added a new section 43 (12 U.S.C. 1831t) to the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (FDIA). This section, passed in response to incidents affecting the safety of deposits in certain financial institutions, imposes several requirements on non-federally insured institutions and private deposit insurers.<sup>1</sup> Among other things, section 43(b) mandates that depository institutions lacking federal deposit insurance provide certain disclosures to consumers, in periodic statements and advertising, that the institution does not have federal deposit insurance and that, if the institution fails, the federal government does not guarantee that depositors will get their money back.

Under existing law, all federally chartered and most state chartered depository institutions have federal deposit insurance. Federal deposit insurance funds provide a government

guarantee of up to \$100,000 per depositor in most cases. Pursuant to Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) and National Credit Union Administration (NCUA) requirements, federally insured banks and credit unions must display signs that depositors are federally "insured to \$100,000."<sup>2</sup>

Although most depository institutions have federal deposit insurance, there are some exceptions. For instance, several hundred state-chartered credit unions in eight States and Puerto Rico do not have federal deposit insurance.<sup>3</sup> These credit unions generally use a private deposit insurer to protect members' accounts in lieu of federal insurance. The Puerto Rican government provides deposit insurance for credit unions located there. In addition, the Commission understands that there are a small number of state banks and savings associations that do not have federal deposit insurance.

##### A. Requirements of FDIA Section 43

Section 43 requires that depository institutions lacking federal deposit insurance affirmatively disclose that fact to their depositors or members. 12 U.S.C. 1831t(b). Specifically, section 43(b) of the FDIA requires non-federally insured depository institutions to: (1) Include conspicuously in all periodic statements of account, on each signature card, and on each passbook, certificate of deposit, or similar instrument evidencing a deposit a notice that the institution is not federally insured, and that if the institution fails, the federal government does not guarantee that depositors will get their money back (section 43(b)(1)), and (2) include conspicuously in all advertising and at each place where deposits are normally received a notice that the institution is not federally insured (section 43(b)(2)).

Section 43(b) further provides that non-federally insured institutions may receive deposits only from persons who have signed acknowledgments that the institution is not federally insured and that if the institution fails, the federal government does not guarantee that they will get their money back (see section 43(b)(3)). Section 43 specifically directs the FTC to prescribe "the manner and content" of the required disclosures by

<sup>2</sup> See 12 CFR part 328 and 12 CFR part 740.

<sup>3</sup> According to the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO)(formerly, and then, the General Accounting Office), eight States have credit unions that purchase private deposit insurance in lieu of federal insurance. Other States either require federal insurance or allow private insurance but do not have any privately insured credit unions. "Federal Deposit Insurance Act: FTC Best Among Candidates to Enforce Consumer Protection Provisions," GAO-03-971 (Aug. 2003), p. 7.

<sup>1</sup> See Pub. L. 102-242, 105 Stat. 2236, Section 151 of FDICIA, subtitle F of title 1, S. 543. Section 43 was initially designated as section 40 of the FDIA. See also S. Rep. No. 167, 102 Cong., 1st Sess., at 61.