

visual inspection specified by paragraph (b)(1) of this AD at intervals not to exceed 6 months.

(ii) If the seal backup plates are not installed, before further flight, install the seal backup plates and apply heat-resistant sealant, BMS 5-63, per Part 2 of the Accomplishment Instructions of the service bulletin. Accomplishment of this action terminates the repetitive inspections required by this AD.

(iii) If the seal backup plates are installed, but the sealant application is damaged or missing, before further flight, remove any existing sealant and apply heat-resistant sealant, BMS 5-63, per Part 3 of the Accomplishment Instructions of the service bulletin. Accomplishment of this action terminates the repetitive inspections required by this AD.

Note 2: Because it is difficult to distinguish between BMS 5-95 and BMS 5-63 sealants, removal and replacement of the existing sealant is required to ensure that the correct heat-resistant sealant, BMS 5-63, is used.

New Requirements of This AD

Terminating Action and Corrective Action

(c) Within 18 months after the effective date of this AD: Do the action specified by paragraph (c)(1), (c)(2), or (c)(3) of this AD, as applicable. Accomplishment of the applicable action constitutes terminating action for the repetitive inspections required by this AD.

(1) Following the inspections required by paragraphs (b)(1) and (b)(2) of this AD, if no cracking or heat damage is found during those inspections, and the seal backup plates are installed, before further flight, remove any existing sealant and apply heat-resistant sealant BMS 5-63, per Part 3 of the Accomplishment Instructions of Boeing Alert Service Bulletin 747-54A2208, dated March 29, 2001.

(2) If any sign of heat damage or cracking is found during the inspections required by paragraph (b) of this AD, before further flight, do the actions specified by either paragraph (c)(2)(i) or (c)(2)(ii) of this AD.

(i) Replace the diagonal brace per Part 4 of the Accomplishment Instructions of Boeing Alert Service Bulletin 747-54A2208, dated March 29, 2001.

(ii) Repair per a method approved by the Manager, Seattle Aircraft Certification Office (ACO), FAA; or per data meeting the type certification basis of the airplane approved by a Boeing Company Designated Engineering Representative who has been authorized by the Manager, Seattle ACO, to make such findings. For a repair method to be approved by the Manager, Seattle ACO, as required by this paragraph, the Manager's approval letter must specifically reference this AD.

(3) If the seal back-up plates are not installed, before further flight, install the seal backup plates and apply heat-resistant sealant BMS 5-63, per Part 2 of the Accomplishment Instructions of the service bulletin.

Alternative Methods of Compliance

(d)(1) An alternative method of compliance or adjustment of the compliance time that

provides an acceptable level of safety may be used if approved by the Manager, Seattle ACO. Operators shall submit their requests through an appropriate FAA Principal Maintenance Inspector, who may add comments and then send it to the Manager, Seattle ACO.

(2) Alternative methods of compliance, approved previously in accordance with AD 2001-12-05, amendment 39-12260, are approved as alternative methods of compliance with this AD.

Note 3: Information concerning the existence of approved alternative methods of compliance with this AD, if any, may be obtained from the Seattle ACO.

Special Flight Permits

(e) Special flight permits may be issued in accordance with sections 21.197 and 21.199 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR 21.197 and 21.199) to operate the airplane to a location where the requirements of this AD can be accomplished.

Incorporation by Reference

(f) Except as provided by paragraphs (a) and (c)(2)(ii) of this AD, the actions shall be done in accordance with Boeing Alert Service Bulletin 747-54A2208, dated March 29, 2001. The incorporation by reference of Boeing Alert Service Bulletin 747-54A2208, dated March 29, 2001, was approved previously by the Director of the Federal Register as of June 27, 2001 (66 FR 31527, June 12, 2001). Copies may be obtained from Boeing Commercial Airplane Group, P.O. Box 3707, Seattle, Washington 98124-2207. Copies may be inspected at the FAA, Transport Airplane Directorate, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington; or at the Office of the Federal Register, 800 North Capitol Street, NW., suite 700, Washington, DC.

Effective Date

(g) This amendment becomes effective on February 11, 2002.

Issued in Renton, Washington, on December 20, 2001.

Ali Bahrami,

Acting Manager, Transport Airplane Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. 02-87 Filed 1-4-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-U

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. 2001-NE-41-AD; Amendment 39-12593; AD 2002-01-02]

RIN 2120-AA64

Airworthiness Directives; Turbomeca S.A. Arrius 1A Turboshaft Engines

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Final rule; request for comments.

SUMMARY: This amendment adopts a new airworthiness directive (AD) that is applicable to Turbomeca S.A. Arrius 1A turboshaft engines. This action requires replacement of the 10 main fuel injectors in Arrius 1A engines with new or overhauled injectors. This amendment is prompted by routine inspections conducted in the repair workshop demonstrating that some main fuel injectors were partially or totally blocked. The actions specified in this AD are intended to prevent blocked main fuel injectors that could lead to engine flameout during engine deceleration or that could prevent the engine from obtaining the 2½ minute one engine inoperative (OEI) power.

DATES: Effective January 22, 2002.

Comments for inclusion in the Rules Docket must be received on or before March 8, 2002.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments in triplicate to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), New England Region, Office of the Regional Counsel, Attention: Rules Docket No. 2001-NE-41-AD, 12 New England Executive Park, Burlington, MA 01803-5299. Comments may be inspected at this location, by appointment, between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. Comments may also be sent via the Internet using the following address: "9-ane-adcomment@faa.gov". Comments sent via the Internet must contain the docket number in the subject line.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Robert P. McCabe, Aerospace Engineer, Boston Engine Certification Office, FAA, Engine & Propeller Directorate, 12 New England Executive Park, Burlington, MA, 01803; telephone (781) 238-7138; fax (781) 238-7199.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Direction Generale De L'Aviation Civile (DGAC), which is the airworthiness authority for France, recently notified the FAA that an unsafe condition may exist on Turbomeca S.A. Arrius 1A turboshaft engines. The DGAC advises that during routine inspections in the repair workshop some main fuel injectors were discovered to be totally or partially blocked, and that this condition could cause flameouts during engine decelerations and OEI power shortfall occurrences.

Manufacturer's Service Information

Turbomeca S.A. (Group Snecma) has issued Alert Service Bulletin (ASB) No. A319 73 0071, dated January 1, 2001, that requires replacement of the 10 main fuel injectors in Arrius 1A engines with new or overhauled injectors. The DGAC classified this service bulletin as

mandatory and issued AD 2000-532(A) in order to assure the airworthiness of these Turbomeca S.A. Arrius 1A turboshaft engines in France.

Bilateral Airworthiness Agreement

This engine model is manufactured in France and is 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. Pursuant to this bilateral airworthiness agreement, the DGAC has kept the FAA informed of the situation described above. The FAA has examined the findings of the DGAC, 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.

FAA's Determination of an Unsafe Condition and Required Actions

Since an unsafe condition has been identified that is likely to exist or develop on other Turbomeca S.A. Arrius 1A engines of the same type design, this AD is being issued to prevent blocked main fuel injectors that could lead to engine flameout during engine deceleration or that could prevent the engine from obtaining the 2½ minute OEI (maximum emergency) power. This AD requires replacement of the 10 main fuel injectors in Arrius 1A engines with new or overhauled injectors. Fuel injectors that have accumulated more than 1,350 hours of operation since new or last overhaul must be replaced before further flight. The actions are required to be done in accordance with the service bulletin described previously.

Immediate Adoption of This AD

Since a situation exists that requires the immediate adoption of this regulation, it is found that notice and opportunity for prior public comment hereon are impracticable, and that good cause exists for making this amendment effective in less than 30 days.

Comments Invited

Although this action is in the form of a final rule that involves requirements affecting flight safety and, thus, was not preceded by notice and an opportunity for public comment, comments are invited on this rule. Interested persons are invited to comment on this rule by submitting such written data, views, or arguments as they may desire. Communications should identify the Rules Docket number and be submitted in triplicate to the address specified under the caption **ADDRESSES**. All communications received on or before

the closing date for comments will be considered, and this rule may be amended in light of the comments received. Factual information that supports the commenter's ideas and suggestions is extremely helpful in evaluating the effectiveness of the AD action and determining whether additional rulemaking action would be needed.

Comments are specifically invited on the overall regulatory, economic, environmental, and energy aspects of the rule that might suggest a need to modify the 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 that summarizes each FAA-public contact concerned with the substance of this AD 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-NE-41-AD." The postcard will be date stamped and returned to the commenter.

Regulatory Analysis

This final rule does not have federalism implications, as defined in Executive Order 13132, because it 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. Accordingly, the FAA has not consulted with state authorities prior to publication of this final rule.

The FAA has determined that this regulation is an emergency regulation that must be issued immediately to correct an unsafe condition in aircraft, and is not a "significant regulatory action" under Executive Order 12866. It has been determined further that this action involves an emergency regulation under DOT Regulatory Policies and Procedures (44 FR 11034, February 26, 1979). If it is determined that this emergency regulation otherwise would be significant under DOT Regulatory Policies and Procedures, a final regulatory evaluation will be prepared and placed in the Rules Docket. A copy of it, if filed, may be obtained from 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.

Adoption of the Amendment

Accordingly, pursuant to the authority delegated to me by the Administrator, the Federal Aviation Administration amends 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:

2002-01-02 Turbomeca S.A.: Amendment 39-12593. Docket 2001-NE-41-AD.

Applicability

This airworthiness directive (AD) is applicable to Turbomeca S.A. Arrius 1A turboshaft engines installed on, but not limited to Eurocopter helicopters: Model AS355N, called the Ecureuil/Twinstar; and Model AS555UN, called the Fennic.

Note 1: This AD applies to each engine identified in the preceding applicability provision, regardless of whether it has been modified, altered, or repaired in the area subject to the requirements of this AD. For engines that have been modified, altered, or repaired so that the performance of the requirements of this AD is affected, the owner/operator must request approval for an alternative method of compliance in accordance with paragraph (d) of this AD. The request should include an assessment of the effect of the modification, alteration, or repair on the unsafe condition addressed by this AD; and, if the unsafe condition has not been eliminated, the request should include specific proposed actions to address it.

Compliance

Compliance with this AD is required as indicated, unless already done.

To prevent blocked main fuel injectors that could lead to engine flameout during engine deceleration or that could prevent the engine from obtaining the 2½ minute one engine inoperative (OEI) power, replace the 10 main fuel injectors in Arrius 1A engines with new or overhauled injectors using the following schedule:

Replacement Schedule

(a) Before further flight, replace any fuel injector that has accumulated more than 1,350 hours of operation since new or last overhaul.

(b) Fuel injectors that have accumulated less than 1,350 hours of operation since new or last overhaul must be replaced prior to achieving 1,350 hours of operation.

Service Documents for Reference

(c) Turbomeca S.A. (Group Snecma) Alert Service Bulletin (ASB) No. A319 73 0071, dated January 1, 2001, contains additional information concerning the replacement of these injectors.

Alternative Methods of Compliance

(d) An alternative method of compliance or adjustment of the compliance time that provides an acceptable level of safety may be used if approved by the Manager, Boston Engine Certification Office (ECO). Operators must submit their requests through an appropriate FAA Principal Maintenance Inspector, who may add comments and then send it to the Manager, Boston ECO.

Note 2: Information concerning the existence of approved alternative methods of compliance with this airworthiness directive, if any, may be obtained from the Boston ECO.

Special Flight Permits Prohibited

(e) Special flight permits are prohibited because fuel injector operation in excess of 1,350 hours is prohibited. However, operators can easily replace the fuel injectors at any location using standard maintenance tools.

Note 3: The subject of this AD is addressed in Direction Generale De L'Aviation Civile (DGAC) airworthiness directive AD Number 2000-532(A), dated December 27, 2000.

Effective Date

(f) This amendment becomes effective on January 22, 2002.

Issued in Burlington, Massachusetts, on December 28, 2001.

Robert J. Ganley,

Acting Manager, Engine and Propeller Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. 02-199 Filed 1-4-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Parts 107 and 108

[Docket No. FAA-2001-10999; Amdt. Nos. 107-14 and 108-19]

RIN 2120-AH53

Criminal History Records Checks

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Final rule with request for comments; extension of comment period.

SUMMARY: On December 6, 2001, the FAA published a final rule with request for comments regarding criminal history records checks and invited comments. The comment period was originally scheduled to close on January 7, 2002; however, the FAA is extending the comment period an additional 10 days in response to a request from the Air Transport Association (ATA) and the Regional Airline Association (RAA).

DATES: Comments must be received on or before January 17, 2002.

ADDRESSES: Address your comments to the Docket Management System, U.S. Department of Transportation, Room Plaza 401, 400 Seventh Street, SW, Washington, DC 20590. You must identify the docket number FAA-2001-10999 at the beginning of your comments, and you should submit two copies of your comments. If you wish to receive confirmation that the FAA received your comments, include a self-addressed, stamped postcard. You may also submit comments through the Internet to <http://dms.dot.gov>.

You may review the public docket containing comments to these proposed regulations in person in the Dockets Office between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The Dockets Office is on the plaza level of the NASSIF Building at the Department of Transportation at the above address. Also, you may review public dockets on the Internet at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Linda Valencia, Office of Civil Aviation Security Policy and Planning, Civil Aviation Security Division (ACP-100), Federal Aviation Administration, 800 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20591; telephone 202-267-3413.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Comments Invited

The final rule was adopted without prior notice and prior public comment. The Regulatory Policies and Procedures of the Department of Transportation (DOT) (44 FR 1134; Feb. 26, 1979), however provides that, to the maximum extent possible, operating administrations for the DOT should provide an opportunity for public comment on regulations issued without prior notice. Accordingly, interested persons were, and are, invited to participate in this rulemaking by submitting written data, views, or arguments. Comments relating to environmental, energy, federalism, or international trade impacts that might result from this amendment also are invited. Comments must include the regulatory docket or amendment number and must be submitted in duplicate to the address above. All comments received, as well as a report summarizing each substantive public contact with FAA personnel on this rulemaking, will be filed in the public docket. The docket is available for public inspection before and after the comment closing date.

The FAA will consider all comments received on or before the closing date for comments. Late-filed comments will be considered to the extent practicable.

This final rule may be amended in light of the comments received.

See **ADDRESSES** above for information on how to submit comments.

Availability of Final Rule

You can get an electronic copy using the Internet by taking the following steps:

(1) Go to search function of the Department of Transportation's electronic Docket Management System (DMS) Web page (<http://dms.dot.gov/search>).

(2) On the search page type in the last five digits of the Docket number shown at the beginning of this notice. Click on "search."

(3) On the next page, which contains the Docket summary information for the Docket you selected, click on the final rule.

You can also get an electronic copy using the Internet through FAA's web page at <http://www.faa.gov/avr/armhome.htm> or the Office of the Federal Register's web page at http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/aces/aces140.html.

You can also get a copy by submitting a request to the Federal Aviation Administration, Office of Rulemaking, ARM-1, 800 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20591, or by calling (202) 267-9680. Be sure to identify the amendment number or docket number of this final rule.

Extension of Comment Period

On December 6, 2001, the FAA published a final rule with request for comments entitled "Criminal History Records Checks" (66 FR 63474). The FAA requested that comments be submitted by January 7, 2002. By letter dated December 21, 2001, the Air Transport Association (ATA) and the Regional Airline Association (RAA) requested that the FAA extend the comment period for 10 days. The ATA and RAA stated that the rule raised practical and legal issues requiring resolution. They also stated that more time is needed for them to develop their recommendations and circulate them among their members before submitting them to the FAA.

The FAA determines that extending the comment period is in the public interest. Accordingly, the comment period for the final rule "Criminal History Records Checks" is extended until January 17, 2002.

Issued in Washington, DC, on January 2, 2002.

Anthony F. Fazio,

Director, Office of Rulemaking.

[FR Doc. 02-358 Filed 1-2-02; 4:38 pm]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-P