

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**Federal Aviation Administration****14 CFR Part 39**

[Docket No. 2001–NM–174–AD; Amendment 39–12584; AD 2001–26–18]

RIN 2120–AA64

Airworthiness Directives; Dornier Model 328–300 Series Airplanes

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This amendment adopts a new airworthiness directive (AD), applicable to certain Dornier Model 328–300 series airplanes, that requires, for certain airplanes, a one-time torque test (inspection) of the attachment bolts of the forward engine mount vibration isolators to determine if the bolts are adequately torqued, and corrective action, if necessary. For all airplanes, this amendment prohibits installation of an attachment bolt on the forward engine mount vibration isolators, unless the attachment bolt is torqued within certain limits. These actions are necessary to prevent failure of the engine mount, which could result in separation of the engine from the airplane. This action is intended to address the identified unsafe condition.

DATES: Effective February 8, 2002.

The incorporation by reference of certain publications listed in the regulations is approved by the Director of the Federal Register as of February 8, 2002.

ADDRESSES: The service information referenced in this AD may be obtained from FAIRCHILD DORNIER, DORNIER Luftfahrt GmbH, P.O. Box 1103, D–82230 Wessling, Germany. This information may be examined at the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Transport Airplane Directorate, Rules Docket, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington; or at the Office of the Federal Register, 800 North Capitol Street, NW., suite 700, Washington, DC.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Tom Groves, Aerospace Engineer, International Branch, ANM–116, FAA, Transport Airplane Directorate, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington 98055–4056; telephone (425) 227–1503; fax (425) 227–1149.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: A proposal to amend part 39 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR part 39) to include an airworthiness directive (AD) that is applicable to certain Dornier Model 328–300 series airplanes was published in the **Federal Register** on

September 14, 2001 (66 FR 47901). That action proposed to require, for certain airplanes, a one-time torque test (inspection) of the attachment bolts of the forward engine mount vibration isolators to determine if the bolts are adequately torqued, and corrective action, if necessary. For all airplanes, that action also proposed to prohibit installation of an attachment bolt on the forward engine mount vibration isolators, unless the attachment bolt is torqued within certain limits.

Comments

Interested persons have been afforded an opportunity to participate in the making of this amendment. No comments were submitted in response to the proposal or the FAA's determination of the cost to the public.

Conclusion

The FAA has determined that air safety and the public interest

One-Time Inspection

(a) For airplanes on which a forward engine mount vibration isolator has been removed or reinstalled prior to the effective date of this AD: Within 2,500 flight cycles after the first removal or reinstallation of a forward engine mount vibration isolator, or within 30 days after the effective date of this AD, whichever comes later, do a one-time torque test (inspection) of the attachment bolts of the forward engine mount vibration isolators on the left- and right-hand sides of the airplane to determine if the bolts are adequately torqued, according to Dornier Service Bulletin SB-328J-71-109, dated March 26, 2001, including Dornier 328JET Aircraft Maintenance Manual (AMM) Temporary Revision (TR) 71-130, dated March 8, 2001.

Replacement of Bolts

(b) During the inspection required by paragraph (a) of this AD, if the torque value of any attachment bolt is found to be outside the limits specified in Dornier Service Bulletin SB-328J-71-109, dated March 26, 2001, including Dornier 328JET AMM TR 71-130, dated March 8, 2001: Before further flight, do all actions associated with replacing all bolts on the vibration isolator on which the improperly torqued bolt was found (including performing a detailed visual inspection to determine the condition of components of the vibration isolator and replacement of any damaged components with new components, removing the existing bolts and washers that attach the forward engine mount vibration isolators to the engine, installing new bolts to reattach the forward engine mount vibration isolators to the engine, and torquing the new bolts to adequate torque values), according to the service bulletin.

Note 2: For the purposes of this AD, a detailed visual inspection is defined as: "An intensive visual examination of a specific structural area, system, installation, or assembly to detect damage, failure, or irregularity. Available lighting is normally supplemented with a direct source of good lighting at intensity deemed appropriate by the inspector. Inspection aids such as mirror, magnifying lenses, etc., may be used. Surface cleaning and elaborate access procedures may be required."

Torque Requirements

(c) For all airplanes: As of the effective date of this AD, no one may install an attachment bolt on the forward engine mount vibration isolators on any airplane, unless the attachment bolt is torqued within the limits specified in Dornier 328JET AMM TR 71-130, dated March 8, 2001.

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, International Branch, ANM-116, Transport Airplane Directorate, FAA. Operators shall submit their requests through an appropriate FAA Principal Maintenance Inspector, who may add comments and then send it to the Manager, International Branch, ANM-116.

Note 3: Information concerning the existence of approved alternative methods of compliance with this AD, if any, may be obtained from the International Branch, ANM-116.

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) The actions shall be done in accordance with Dornier Service Bulletin SB-328J-71-109, dated March 26, 2001, including Dornier 328JET Aircraft Maintenance Manual Temporary Revision 71-