

- i. Access controls over information systems, including controls to authenticate and permit access only to authorized individuals and controls to prevent employees from providing information to unauthorized individuals who may seek to obtain this information through fraudulent means;
 - ii. Access restrictions at physical locations containing information, such as buildings, computer facilities, and records storage facilities to permit access only to authorized individuals;
 - iii. Encryption of electronic information, including while in transit or in storage on networks or systems to which unauthorized individuals may have access;
 - iv. Procedures designed to ensure that information system modifications are consistent with the Enterprise's information security program;
 - v. Dual control procedures, segregation of duties, and employee background checks for employees with responsibilities for or access to information;
 - vi. Monitoring systems and procedures to detect actual and attempted attacks on or intrusion into information systems;
 - vii. Response programs that specify actions to be taken when the Enterprise suspects or detects that unauthorized individuals have gained access to information systems, including appropriate reports to regulatory and law enforcement agencies; and
 - viii. Measures to protect against destruction, loss or damage of information due to potential environmental hazards, such as fire and water damage or technological failures.
- b. Train staff to implement the Enterprise's information security program; and
 - c. Regularly test the key controls, systems and procedures of the information security program. The frequency and nature of such tests should be determined by the Enterprise's risk assessment. Tests should be conducted or reviewed by independent third parties or staff that are independent of those that develop or maintain the security programs.
4. *Oversee Service Provider Arrangements.* Each Enterprise shall:
 - a. Exercise appropriate due diligence in selecting its service providers;
 - b. Require its service providers by contract to implement appropriate measures designed to meet the objectives of the Guidance; and
 - c. Where indicated by the Enterprise's risk assessment, monitor its service providers to confirm that they have satisfied their obligations as required by section 9(b). As part of this monitoring, an Enterprise should review audits, summaries of test results, or other equivalent evaluations of its service providers.
 5. *Adjust the Program.* Each Enterprise shall monitor, evaluate, and adjust, as appropriate, the information security program in light of any relevant changes in technology, the sensitivity of its information, internal or external threats to information, and the Enterprise's own changing business arrangements, such as acquisitions, alliances and joint ventures, outsourcing arrangements, and changes to information systems.

6. *Report to the Board.* Each Enterprise shall report to its board or an appropriate committee of the board at least annually. This report should describe the overall status of the information security program and the Enterprise's compliance with the Guidance. The reports should discuss material matters related to its program, addressing issues such as: risk assessment; risk management and control decisions; service provider arrangements; results of testing; security breaches or violations and management's responses; and recommendations for changes in the information security program.

7. *Implementation.* a. Each Enterprise should implement an information security program pursuant to the Guidance.

b. Until January 1, 2004, a contract that an Enterprise has entered into with a service provider to perform services for it or functions on its behalf satisfies the provisions of section 9, even if the contract does not include a requirement that the servicer maintain the security and confidentiality of information, as long as the Enterprise entered into the contract on or before the effective date.

Dated: August 20, 2002.

Armando Falcon, Jr.,

Director, Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight.

[FR Doc. 02-21780 Filed 8-29-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4220-01-U

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 23

[Docket No. CE187, Special Condition 23-127-SC]

Special Conditions; Chelton Flight Systems, Inc.; Various Airplane Models; Protection of Systems for High Intensity Radiated Fields (HIRF)

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Final special conditions; request for comments.

SUMMARY: These special conditions are issued to Chelton Flight Systems, Inc., 1109 Main Street, Suite 560, Boise, ID 83702, for a Supplemental Type Certificate for the models listed under the heading "Type Certification Basis." This special condition includes various airplane models to streamline the certification process as recommended from completed Safer Sky Programs. The primary objective of streamlining the certification process is to improve the safety of the airplane fleet by fostering the incorporation of both new technologies that can be certificated affordably under 14 CFR part 23.

The airplanes will have novel and unusual design features when compared

to the state of technology envisaged in the applicable airworthiness standards. These novel and unusual design features include the installation of electronic flight instrument system (EFIS) display Model EFIS II manufactured by Chelton Flight Systems, Inc., for which the applicable regulations do not contain adequate or appropriate airworthiness standards for the protection of these systems from the effects of high intensity radiated fields (HIRF). These special conditions contain the additional safety standards that the Administrator considers necessary to establish a level of safety equivalent to the airworthiness standards applicable to these airplanes.

DATES: The effective date of these special conditions is August 21, 2002. Comments must be received on or before September 30, 2002.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be mailed in duplicate to: Federal Aviation Administration, Regional Counsel, ACE-7, Attention: Rules Docket Clerk, Docket No. CE187, Room 506, 901 Locust, Kansas City, Missouri 64106. All comments must be marked: Docket No. CE187. Comments may be inspected in the Rules Docket weekdays, except Federal holidays, between 7:30 a.m. and 4 p.m.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Ervin Dvorak, Aerospace Engineer, Standards Office (ACE-110), Small Airplane Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service, Federal Aviation Administration, 901 Locust, Room 301, Kansas City, Missouri 64106; telephone (816) 329-4123.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The FAA has determined that notice and opportunity for prior public comment hereon are impracticable because these procedures would significantly delay issuance of the approval design and thus delivery of the affected aircraft. In addition, the substance of these special conditions has been subject to the public comment process in several prior instances with no substantive comments received. The FAA, therefore, finds that good cause exists for making these special conditions effective upon issuance.

Comments Invited

Interested persons are invited to submit such written data, views, or arguments as they may desire. Communications should identify the regulatory docket or notice number and be submitted in duplicate to the address specified above. All communications received on or before the closing date for comments will be considered by the Administrator. The special conditions

may be changed in light of the comments received. All comments received will be available in the Rules Docket for examination by interested persons, both before and after the closing date for comments. A report summarizing each substantive public contact with FAA personnel concerning this rulemaking will be filed in the docket. Commenters wishing the FAA to acknowledge receipt of their comments submitted in response to this notice must include a self-addressed, stamped postcard on which the following statement is made: "Comments to Docket No. CE187." The postcard will be date stamped and returned to the commenter.

Background

On April 25, 2002, Chelton Flight Systems, Inc., 1109 Main Street, Suite 560, Boise, ID 83702, made an application to the FAA for a new Supplemental Type Certificate for airplane models listed under the type certification basis. The models are currently approved under the type certification basis listed in the paragraph headed "Type Certification Basis." The proposed modification incorporates a novel or unusual design feature, such as digital avionics consisting of an EFIS that is vulnerable to HIRF external to the airplane.

Type Certification Basis

Under the provisions of 14 CFR part 21, § 21.101, Chelton Flight Systems, Inc., must show that affected airplane

models, as changed, continue to meet the applicable provisions, of the regulations incorporated by reference in Type Certificate Numbers listed below or the applicable regulations in effect on the date of application for the change. The regulations incorporated by reference in the type certificate are commonly referred to as the original "type certification basis" and can be found in the Type Certificate Numbers listed below. In addition, the type certification basis of airplane models that embody this modification will include § 23.1301 of Amendment 23–20; §§ 23.1309, 23.1311, and 23.1321 of Amendment 23–49; and § 23.1322 of Amendment 23–43; exemptions, if any; and the special conditions adopted by this rulemaking action.

Models	Type certificate number
Aerostar Models 360/400	A11WE, Rev. 4, 10/22/92
Aerostar Models PA–60–600/–601/–601P/–602P/–700P	A17WE, Rev. 22
American Champion Models 8GCBC/8KCAB	A21CE, Rev. 11, 8/25/97
Aviat A–1/–1A/–1B	A22NM, Rev. 12, 6/15/00
Beechcraft 60/A60/B60	A12CE, Rev. 23, 4/15/96
Beechcraft Model 2000	A38CE, Rev. 10, 8/23/01
Beechcraft Model 3000	A00009WI, Rev. 8, 11/29/01
Beechcraft Model 76	A29CE, Rev. 5, 4/15/96
Beechcraft Model F90	A31CE, Rev. 7, 4/15/96
Beechcraft Models 100/99/A/100A/C/A99/A/100B9/C9	A14CE, Rev. 35, 5/18/00
Beechcraft Models 18D/A18A/D/S18D/SA18A/D	A–684, Rev. 2, 4/15/96
Beechcraft Models 35/R/A35/B35/C35/D35/E35/F35/G35	A–777, Rev. 57, 4/15/96
Beechcraft Models 35–33/A33/B33/C33/C33A/36/A36/A36TC/B36TC/E33/A/C/ F33/A/C/G33/H35/J35/K35/M35/N35/P35/S35/V35/V35A/V35B.	3A15, Rev. 88, 1/15/00
Beechcraft Models 3N/3NM/3TM/C–45G/H/D18C/D18S/E18S/–9700/G18S/H18/ JRB–6/RC–45J/TC–45G/TC–45H/TC–45J.	A–765, Rev. 74, 4/15/96
Beechcraft Models 50/B50/C50/D50/D50A/B/C/E/E–5990/E50/F50/G50/H50/J50 ..	5A4, Rev. 60, 4/15/96
Beechcraft Models 56TC/58/58A/95/95–55/95–A55/95–B55/95–B55A/95–B55B/ 95–C55/95–C55A/A56TC/B95/B95A/D55/D55A/D95A/E55/E55A/E95.	3A16, Rev. 80, 1/15/00
Beechcraft Models 58P/PA/TC/TCA	A23CE, Rev. 14, 4/15/96
Beechcraft Models 65/–80/–88/–90/–A80/–A80–8800/–A90/–A90–1/–A90–2/– A90–3/–A90–4/–B80/70/A65/–8200/B90/C90/A/E90/H90.	3A20, Rev. 60, 9/10/01
Britten-Norman Models BN–2/A/2A–2/2A–20/2A–21/2A–26/2A–27/2A–3/2A–6/2A– 8/2A–9/2B–20/2B–21/2B–26/2B–27/2T/2T–4R.	A17EU, Rev. 15, 1/3/96
Britten-Norman Models BN2A MK. 111/–2/–3	A29EU, Rev. 3, 6/21/78
Cessna 206/H/P206/A/B/C/D/E/H/TP206A/B/C/D/E/TU206A/B/C/D/E/F/G/U206/A/ B/C/D/E/F/G.	A4CE, Rev. 40, 6/19/02
Cessna 207/A/T207/A	A16CE, Rev. 20, 10/15/94
Cessna Model 177RG	A20CE, Rev. 18, 10/15/94
Cessna Model 336	A2CE, Rev. 6, 6/15/99
Cessna Model 441	A28CE, Rev. 11, 8/15/99
Cessna Model T303	A34CE, Rev. 5, 10/15/94
Cessna Models 172/A/B/C/D/E/F/H/I/K/L/M/N/P/Q/R/S	3A12, Rev. 68, 10/11/01
Cessna Models 170/A/B	A–799, Rev. 51, 7/15/98
Cessna Models 172RG/175/A/B/C/P172D/R172E/F/G/H/J/K	3A17, Rev. 44, 11/15/97
Cessna Models 177/A/B	A13CE, Rev. 23, 10/15/94
Cessna Models 180A/B/C/D/E/F/G/H/J/K	5A6, Rev. 64, 10/11/01
Cessna Models 182/A/B/C/D/E/F/G/H/J/K/L/M/N/P/Q/R/S/T/R182/T182/T/182 ..	3A13, Rev. 59, 12/12/01
Cessna Models 185/A/B/C/D/E/A185E/F	3A24, Rev. 36, 11/15/99
Cessna Models 208/A/B	A37CE, Rev. 12, 6/15/99
Cessna Models 210/–5 (205)/–5A (205A)/A/B/C/D/E/F/G/H/J/K/L/M/N/R/P210N/R/ T210F/G/H/J/K/L/M/N/R.	3A21, Rev. 45, 8/15/96
Cessna Models 310/A/B/C/D/E/F/G/H/I/J/–1/K/L/N/P/Q/R/E310H	3A10, Rev. 61, 11/15/97
Cessna Models 320/–1/A/B/C/D/E/F/335/340/A	3A25, Rev. 25, 8/15/94
Cessna Models 337/A/B/C/D/E/F/G/H/M337B/P337H/T337B/C/D/E/F/G/H/H–SP ...	A6CE, Rev. 38, 10/11/01
Cessna Models 401/A/B/402/A/B/C/411/A/414/A/421/A/B/C/425	A7CE, Rev. 44, 5/15/99
Cessna Models 404/406	A25CE, Rev. 11, 6/15/95
Cessna Models 501/551	A27CE, Rev. 15, 2/25/02
Cessna Models 525/A	A1WI, Rev. 11, 7/9/01

Models	Type certificate number
Cirrus Models SR20/22	A00009CH, Rev. 3, 9/28/01
Commander Model 700	A12SW, Rev. 10, 1/1/90
Commander Models 112/B/TC/TCA/114/A/B/TC	A12SO, Rev. 21, 8/4/95
Commander Models 500/-A/-B/-S/-U/520/560/-A/-E	6A1, Rev. 45, 1/1/90
Commander Models 560-F/680/E/F/FL/FL(P)/F(P)/T/V/W681/685/690/A/B/C/D/695/A/B/720.	2A4, Rev. 46, 04/03/2000
de Havilland Model DHC-3	A-815, Rev. 4, 6/26/98
de Havilland Models DHC-2 Mk.I/II/III	A-806, Rev. 21, 1/21/94
de Havilland Models DHC-61/-100/-200/-300	A9EA, Rev. 11, 6/20/00
Diamond Model DA-40	A47CE, Rev. 2, 4/8/02
Extra Models EA-200/300/L/S	A67EU, Rev. 5, 06/03/99
Extra Model EA-400	A43CE, Rev. 5, 3/5/02
Grob Models G115EG/G115/A/B/C/C2/D/D2	A57EU, Rev. 10, 2/6/01
Helio Courier Models 15A/20	3A3, Rev. 7, 3/1/91
Helio Courier Models H-250/295/391/391B/395/395A/700/800/T-295	1A8, Rev. 33, 9/18/97
Lancair Model LC40-550FG	A00003SE, Rev. 8, 2/26/02
Learjet Model 23	A5CE, Rev. 10, 7/15/90
Maule Models M-4/-180C/S/T/-210C/S/T/-220C/S/T/M-4C/S/T/M-5-180C/-200/-210C/-210TC/-220C/-235C/M-6-180/6-235/M-7-235/A/B/C/-260 MT-7-235/-260/-160/-160C/-180/A/AC/B/C/-235/-420 MXT-7-160/-180/A/-420.	3A23, Rev. 28, 4/6/00
Mitsubishi Models MU-2B/-10/-15/-20/-25/-26/-30/-35/-36	A2PC, Rev. 16, 6/30/75
Mitsubishi Models MU-2B-25/-26/A/-35/-36/A/-40/-60	A10SW, Rev. 13, 4/2/98
Mooney Models M20/A/B/C/D/E/F/G/J/K/L/M/R/S	2A3, Rev. 46, 8/10/99
ParisJet Models M.S. 760 (Paris I)/M.S. 760B (Paris II)/M.S. 760.A (Paris IA)	7A3, Rev. 3, 3/17/98
Piaggio Model P-180	A59EU, Rev. 9, 10/25/00
Pilatus Model PC-7	A50EU, Rev. 2, 7/1/96
Pilatus Models PC-12/-12/45	A78EU, Rev. 9, 3/30/01
Pilatus Models PC-6/-H1/-H2/PC-6/350/-H1/-H2 PC-6/A/-H1/-H2/B/-H2/B1-H2/B2-H2/B2-H4/C-H2/C1-H2.	7A15, Rev. 11, 8/9/99
Piper Models PA-12/S	A-780, Rev. 13, 3/30/01
Piper Models PA-18/105/125/135A/A-135/A-150/AS-125/AS-135/AS-150/S/S-105/S-125/S-135/S-150.	1A2, Rev. 37, 9/4/96
Piper Models PA-24/250/260/400	1A15, Rev. 33, 10/1/97
Piper Models PA-28-140/150/151/160/161/180/181/201T/235/236/R-180 RT-201T/S-160/S-180.	2A13, Rev. 45, 12/12/01
Piper Models PA-30/-39/-40	A1EA, Rev. 15, 10/1/97
Piper Models PA-31/-300/-325/-350	A20SO, Rev. 9, 3/19/01
Piper Models PA-31P/-350/PA-31T/1/2/3	A8EA, Rev. 21, 4/8/98
Piper Models PA-32-260/-300/-301/T/PA-32R-300/-301/-301T/PA-32RT-300/-300T/PA-32S-300.	A3SO, Rev. 26, 7/23/97
Piper Models PA-34-200/-200T/-220T	A7SO, Rev. 14, 6/1/01
Piper Models PA-42/-42-1000/-42-720	A23SO, Rev. 14, 11/16/01
Piper Models PA-44-180/T	A19SO, Rev. 8, 11/14/01
Piper Models PA-46-310P/-350P/-500TP	A25SO, Rev. 10, 1/2/02
Revo Models Colonial C-1/-2, Lake LA-4/A/P/-200/250	1A13, Rev. 25, 11/8/99
Shorts Models SC-7 Series 2/SC-7 Series 3	A15EU, Rev. 9, 8/1/90
Slingsby Models T67M260/-T3A	A73EU, Rev. 4, 7/27/00
Socata Model TBM-700	A60EU, Rev. 8, 11/6/01
Socata Models TB 10/20/200/21/9	A51EU, Rev. 14, 4/6/01

Discussion

If the Administrator finds that the applicable airworthiness standards do not contain adequate or appropriate safety standards because of novel or unusual design features of an airplane, special conditions are prescribed under the provisions of § 21.16.

Special conditions, as appropriate, as defined in § 11.19, are issued in accordance with § 11.38 after public notice and become part of the type certification basis in accordance with § 21.101 (b)(2) of Amendment 21-69.

Special conditions are initially applicable to the model for which they are issued. Should the applicant apply for a supplemental type certificate to modify any other model already

included on the same type certificate to incorporate the same novel or unusual design feature, the special conditions would also apply to the other model under the provisions of § 21.101.

Novel or Unusual Design Features

Chelton Flight Systems, Inc., plans to incorporate certain novel and unusual design features into an airplane for which the airworthiness standards do not contain adequate or appropriate safety standards for protection from the effects of HIRF. These features include EFIS, which are susceptible to the HIRF environment, that were not envisaged by the existing regulations for this type of airplane.

Protection of Systems From High Intensity Radiated Fields (HIRF)

Recent advances in technology have given rise to the application in aircraft designs of advanced electrical and electronic systems that perform functions required for continued safe flight and landing. Due to the use of sensitive solid state advanced components in analog and digital electronics circuits, these advanced systems are readily responsive to the transient effects of induced electrical current and voltage caused by the HIRF. The HIRF can degrade electronic systems performance by damaging components or upsetting system functions.

Furthermore, the HIRF environment has undergone a transformation that was not foreseen when the current requirements were developed. Higher energy levels are radiated from transmitters that are used for radar, radio, and television. Also, the number of transmitters has increased significantly. There is also uncertainty concerning the effectiveness of airframe shielding for HIRF. Furthermore, coupling to cockpit-installed equipment through the cockpit window apertures is undefined.

The combined effect of the technological advances in airplane design and the changing environment has resulted in an increased level of vulnerability of electrical and electronic systems required for the continued safe flight and landing of the airplane. Effective measures against the effects of exposure to HIRF must be provided by the design and installation of these systems. The accepted maximum energy levels in which civilian airplane system installations must be capable of operating safely are based on surveys and analysis of existing radio frequency emitters. These special conditions require that the airplane be evaluated under these energy levels for the protection of the electronic system and its associated wiring harness. These external threat levels, which are lower than previous required values, are believed to represent the worst case to which an airplane would be exposed in the operating environment.

These special conditions require qualification of systems that perform critical functions, as installed in aircraft, to the defined HIRF environment in paragraph 1 or, as an option to a fixed value using laboratory tests, in paragraph 2, as follows:

(1) The applicant may demonstrate that the operation and operational capability of the installed electrical and electronic systems that perform critical functions are not adversely affected when the aircraft is exposed to the HIRF environment defined below:

Frequency	Field strength (volts per meter)	
	Peak	Average
10 kHz–100 kHz	50	50
100 kHz–500 kHz	50	50
500 kHz–2 MHz	50	50
2 MHz–30 MHz	100	100
30 MHz–70 MHz	50	50
70 MHz–100 MHz	50	50
100 MHz–200 MHz	100	100
200 MHz–400 MHz	100	100
400 MHz–700 MHz	700	50
700 MHz–1 GHz	700	100
1 GHz–2 GHz	2000	200
2 GHz–4 GHz	3000	200

Frequency	Field strength (volts per meter)	
	Peak	Average
4 GHz–6 GHz	3000	200
6 GHz–8 GHz	1000	200
8 GHz–12 GHz	3000	300
12 GHz–18 GHz	2000	200
18 GHz–40 GHz	600	200

The field strengths are expressed in terms of peak root-mean-square (rms) values.

or,

(2) The applicant may demonstrate by a system test and analysis that the electrical and electronic systems that perform critical functions can withstand a minimum threat of 100 volts per meter, electrical field strength, from 10 kHz to 18 GHz. When using this test to show compliance with the HIRF requirements, no credit is given for signal attenuation due to installation.

A preliminary hazard analysis must be performed by the applicant, for approval by the FAA, to identify either electrical or electronic systems that perform critical functions. The term “critical” means those functions whose failure would contribute to, or cause, a failure condition that would prevent the continued safe flight and landing of the airplane. The systems identified by the hazard analysis that perform critical functions are candidates for the application of HIRF requirements. A system may perform both critical and non-critical functions. Primary electronic flight display systems, and their associated components, perform critical functions such as attitude, altitude, and airspeed indication. The HIRF requirements apply only to critical functions.

Compliance with HIRF requirements may be demonstrated by tests, analysis, models, similarity with existing systems, or any combination of these. Service experience alone is not acceptable since normal flight operations may not include an exposure to the HIRF environment. Reliance on a system with similar design features for redundancy as a means of protection against the effects of external HIRF is generally insufficient since all elements of a redundant system are likely to be exposed to the fields concurrently.

Applicability

As discussed above, these special conditions are applicable to one modification to the airplane models listed under the heading “Type Certification Basis.” Should Chelton Flight Systems, Inc., apply to extend this modification to include additional airplane models, the special conditions

would extend to these models as well under the provisions of § 21.101.

Conclusion

This action affects only certain novel or unusual design features of one modification to several models of airplanes. It is not a rule of general applicability and affects only the applicant who applied to the FAA for approval of these features on the airplane.

The substance of these special conditions has been subjected to the notice and comment period in several prior instances and has been derived without substantive change from those previously issued. It is unlikely that prior public comment would result in a significant change from the substance contained herein. For this reason, and because a delay would significantly affect the certification of some airplane models, the FAA has determined that prior public notice and comment are unnecessary and impracticable, and good cause exists for adopting these special conditions upon issuance. The FAA is requesting comments to allow interested persons to submit views that may not have been submitted in response to the prior opportunities for comment described above.

List of Subjects in 14 CFR Part 23

Aircraft, Aviation safety, Signs and symbols.

Citation

The authority citation for these special conditions is as follows:

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 106(g), 40113 and 44701; 14 CFR 21.16 and 21.101; and 14 CFR 11.38 and 11.19.

The Special Conditions

Accordingly, pursuant to the authority delegated to me by the Administrator, the following special conditions are issued as part of the type certification basis for airplane models listed under the “Type Certification Basis” heading modified by Chelton Flight Systems, Inc., to add an EFIS.

1. *Protection of Electrical and Electronic Systems from High Intensity Radiated Fields (HIRF).* Each system that performs critical functions must be designed and installed to ensure that the operations, and operational capabilities of these systems to perform critical functions, are not adversely affected when the airplane is exposed to high intensity radiated electromagnetic fields external to the airplane.

2. For the purpose of these special conditions, the following definition applies: *Critical Functions:* Functions whose failure would contribute to, or

cause, a failure condition that would prevent the continued safe flight and landing of the airplane.

Issued in Kansas City, Missouri on August 21, 2002.

David R. Showers,

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

[FR Doc. 02-22117 Filed 8-29-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-U

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 25

[Docket No. NM226; Special Conditions No. 25-211-SC]

Special Conditions: Airbus Model A319, A320, and A321 Series Airplane; Seats With Inflatable Lapbelts

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Final special conditions; request for comments.

SUMMARY: These special conditions are issued for Airbus Model A319, A320, and A321 series airplanes. These airplanes, as modified by AMSAFE Aviation, will have a novel or unusual design feature associated with seats with inflatable lapbelts. The applicable airworthiness regulations do not contain adequate or appropriate safety standards for this design feature. These special conditions contain the additional safety standards that the Administrator considers necessary to establish a level of safety equivalent to that established by the existing airworthiness standards.

DATES: The effective date of these special conditions is August 16, 2002. Comments must be received on or before September 30, 2002.

ADDRESSES: Comments on this proposal may be mailed in duplicate to: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Transport Airplane Directorate, Attn: Rules Docket (ANM-113), Docket No. NM226, 1601 Lind Avenue SW., Renton, Washington, 98055-4056; or delivered in duplicate to the Transport Airplane Directorate at the above address. Comments must be marked: Docket No. NM226. Comments may be inspected in the Rules Docket weekdays, except Federal holidays, between 7:30 a.m. and 4 p.m.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Alan Sinclair, FAA, Airframe and Cabin Safety Branch, ANM-115, Transport Airplane Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service, 1601 Lind Avenue SW., Renton, Washington, 98055-4056;

telephone (425) 227-2195; facsimile (425) 227-1149.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

FAA's Determination as To Need for Public Process

The FAA has determined that notice and opportunity for prior public comment are unnecessary in accordance with 14 CFR 11.38, because the FAA has provided previous opportunities to comment on substantially identical special conditions, and has fully considered and addressed all the substantive comments received. Based on a review of the comment history and the comment resolution, the FAA is satisfied that new comments are unlikely. The FAA, therefore, finds that good cause exists for making these special conditions effective upon issuance.

Comments Invited

Although this action is in the form of final special conditions, and for the reasons stated above, is not preceded by notice and an opportunity for public comment, comments are invited on this rule. Interested persons are invited to participate in this rulemaking by submitting comments, data, or views. The most helpful comments reference a specific portion of the special conditions, explain the reason for any recommended change, and include supporting data. We ask that you send us two copies of written comments.

We will file in the docket all comments we receive, as well as a report summarizing each substantive public contact with FAA personnel concerning these special conditions. The docket is available for public inspection before and after the comment closing date. If you wish to review the docket in person, go to the address in the **ADDRESSES** section of this preamble between 7:30 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

We will consider all comments we receive on or before the closing date for comments. We will consider comments filed late if it is possible to do so without incurring expense or delay. We may change these special conditions in light of the comments we receive.

If you want the FAA to acknowledge receipt of your comments on this proposal, include with your comments a pre-addressed, stamped postcard on which the docket number appears. We will stamp the date on the postcard and mail it back to you.

Background

On January 10, 2002, AMSAFE Aviation, P.O. Box 1570, Higley, Arizona 85236, applied for a

supplemental type certificate to install AMSAFE Aviation Inflatable Restraints (AAIR) inflatable lapbelts for protection against head injury and head entrapment on certain seats in Airbus Model A319, A320, and A321 series airplanes. The certification of the Airbus Model A319, A320, and A321 series airplanes is currently scheduled for August 30, 2002. The Airbus Model A319, 320, and 321 series airplanes are swept-wing, conventional tail, twin-engine, turbofan-powered transport airplanes. The inflatable lapbelt behaves similarly to an automotive inflatable airbag, but in this case the airbag is integrated into the lapbelt, and inflates away from the seated occupant. While inflatable airbags are now standard in the automotive industry, the use of an inflatable lapbelt is novel for commercial aviation.

Title 14 Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR) 25.785 requires that occupants be protected from head injury by either the elimination of any injurious object within the striking radius of the head, or by padding. Traditionally, this has required a set back of 35 inches from any bulkhead, other rigid interior feature or, where that is not practical, specified types of padding. The relative effectiveness of these means of injury protection was not quantified. With the adoption of Amendment 25-64 to 14 CFR part 25, specifically § 25.562, a new standard that quantifies required head injury protection was created.

Section 25.562 specifies that dynamic tests must be conducted for each seat type installed in the airplane. In particular, the regulations require that persons not suffer serious head injury under the conditions specified in the tests, and that a Head Injury Criteria (HIC) measurement of not more than 1000 units be recorded, should contact with the cabin interior occur. While the test conditions described in this section of the regulations are specific, it is the intent of the requirement that an adequate level of head injury protection be provided for crash severity up to and including that specified.

It should be noted that while Amendment 25-64 is not part of the Airbus Model A319, A320, and A321 certification basis, Airbus voluntarily elected to comply with portions of 14 CFR 25.562, Amendment 25-64, for the A319 and A321 airplanes, with the exception of § 25.562(c)(5) and (c)(6) that contain the requirements for femur injury and HIC. Therefore, the seat installations with inflatable lapbelts are required to meet the requirements of § 25.562 except for § 25.562(c)(5) and (c)(6).