making the presentation. If the oral ex parte presentation consisted in whole or in part of the presentation of data or arguments already reflected in the presenter’s prior written comments, memoranda or other filings in the proceeding, the presenter may provide citations to such data or arguments in his or her prior comments, memoranda, or other filings (specifying the relevant page and/or paragraph numbers where such data or arguments can be found) in lieu of summarizing them in the memorandum. CFPB staff may communicate with the presenter regarding the memorandum summarizing the presentation, including, for example, requiring the submitter to correct any inaccuracies or insert missing information, or regarding treatment of confidential information, as appropriate. CFPB staff will post such memoranda on the public rulemaking docket in accordance with this policy, including making reasonable efforts to do so within a reasonable period of time before publication of the final rule.

Written Ex Parte Presentations.—A person who makes a written ex parte presentation (including documents shown or given to decision-making personnel during oral ex parte presentations) shall, not later than ten business days after the presentation, submit to the CFPB’s Executive Secretary and the CFPB employee point of contact for the presentation, if applicable, a copy of the presentation. CFPB staff may communicate with the presenter regarding the written ex parte presentation. CFPB staff will post written ex parte presentations on the public rulemaking docket in accordance with this policy, including making reasonable efforts to do so within a reasonable period of time before publication of the final rule.

(3) Submission Requirements.—
(i) Any memorandum summarizing an oral ex parte presentation or written ex parte presentation (and cover letter, if any) shall identify the proceeding to which it relates, including the docket number, if any, and must be labeled as an ex parte submission.

(ii) All submissions under paragraphs (d)(1) and (2) shall be made electronically by emailing the required materials to the Executive Secretary (at CFPB_expartedisclosures@cfpb.gov) and the CFPB employee point of contact for the presentation, if applicable. If electronic submission would present an undue hardship, the submitter must request an exemption from the electronic submission requirement, stating the hardship, and submit by mail or by hand to the Executive Secretary an original and one copy of the written ex parte presentation or memorandum summarizing an oral ex parte presentation, with a copy by mail to the CFPB employee point of contact for the presentation, if applicable. (Mail may be sent to the Office of the Executive Secretary, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, 1700 G Street NW., Washington, DC 20552.)

(iii) In cases where a member of the public believes that one or more of the documents or portions thereof covered by this policy (whether a written ex parte presentation or summary of an oral ex parte presentation) should not be posted on the public rulemaking docket, he or she should submit electronically a request for confidential treatment under this policy. Such requests should explain why confidential treatment is requested and why such information would be properly withheld from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. 552. Unless otherwise agreed to with the CFPB, such requests should include a copy of the document(s) containing the confidential information and marked prominently as “Confidential,” and a copy of the same document(s) with confidential information redacted and marked “Public Copy.”

(iv) CFPB staff may in their discretion elect to prepare written summaries of oral ex parte presentations and post them to the rulemaking docket in lieu of requiring the person who made the ex parte presentation to prepare such summaries.

(e) Exemptions.—
(1) The requirements in section (d) do not apply to ex parte presentations (i) to the General Counsel and his or her staff that concern judicial review of a matter that has been decided by the CFPB; (ii) by other Federal government agencies, offices, or their staff (including components of the Federal Reserve System), when acting in their official capacities; (iii) by State attorneys general or their equivalents, State bank regulatory authorities, or State agencies that license, supervise, or examine the offering of consumer financial products or services, including their offices or staff, when acting in their official capacities; or (iv) by members of Congress or their staff, when acting in their official capacities, unless such presentations are of major significance, contain information or argument not already reflected in the rulemaking docket, and are plainly intended to affect the ultimate outcome of the rulemaking. For purposes of this policy, State means any State, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or any territory or possession of the United States, or any federally recognized Indian tribe. All entities are welcome to post written comments to the rulemaking docket.

(2) The CFPB may properly withhold from the rulemaking docket information exempt from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. 552.

(f) CFPB Discretion.—Where the public interest so requires in particular rulemaking proceedings, the CFPB and its staff retain the discretion to deviate from this ex parte policy set forth above, including to apply this policy during proceedings other than those described in paragraph (a), and not to apply the policy during proceedings described in paragraph (a), such as where the CFPB has determined that a rule for which general notice of proposed rulemaking was provided in accordance with section 553 of the APA will not be finalized.

Dated: April 17, 2017.
Richard Cordray, Director, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection.

[PR Doc. 2017–08096 Filed 4–20–17; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4810–AM–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39


RIN 2120–AA64

Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Department of Transportation (DOT).

ACTION: Final rule; request for comments.

SUMMARY: We are superseding Emergency Airworthiness Directive (Emergency AD) 2015–24–51 for Airbus Helicopters Model EC120B. Emergency AD 2015–24–51 required inspections of the air conditioning system. This supersedure revises the applicability, some of the terminology, and the
inspection requirements. This AD was prompted by a report of an abnormal noise during flight of a Model EC120B helicopter that resulted in a precautionary landing. We are issuing this AD to prevent an unsafe condition on these products.

DATES: This AD becomes effective May 8, 2017. We must receive comments on this AD by June 20, 2017.

ADDRESSES: You may send comments by any of the following methods:
• Federal eRulemaking Docket: Go to http://www.regulations.gov. Follow the online instructions for sending your comments electronically.
• Fax: 202–493–2251.
• Mail: Send comments to the U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M–30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12–140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590–0001.
• Hand Delivery: Deliver to the “Mail” address between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

Examining the AD Docket
You may examine the AD docket on the Internet at http://www.regulations.gov by searching for and locating Docket No. FAA–2016–4674; or in person at the Docket Operations Office between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The AD docket contains this AD, the Supplemental Type Certificate (STC), the economic evaluation, any comments received, and other information. The street address for the Docket Operations Office (telephone 800–647–5527) is in the ADDRESSES section. Comments will be available in the AD docket shortly after receipt.

For service information identified in this final rule, contact Air Comm Corporation, 1575 West 124th Avenue, Westminster, CO 80234, telephone: (303) 440–4075 (during business hours) or (720) 233–8330 (after hours), email service@aircommcorp.com, Web site http://www.aircommcorp.com/contact. You may review the referenced service information at the FAA, Office of the Regional Counsel, Southwest Region, 10101 Hillwood Pkwy., Room 6N–321, Fort Worth, TX 76177.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Richard R. Thomas, Aviation Safety Engineer, Denver Aircraft Certification Office, FAA, Technical Operations Center, 28605 East 68th Avenue, Room 214, Denver, CO 80249; telephone (303) 342–1085; fax (303) 342–1088; email richard.r.thomas@faa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Comments Invited
This AD is a final rule that involves requirements affecting flight safety, and we did not provide you with notice and an opportunity to provide your comments prior to it becoming effective. However, we invite you to participate in this rulemaking by submitting written comments, data, or views. We also invite comments relating to the economic, environmental, energy, or federalism impacts that resulted from adopting this AD. The most helpful comments reference a specific portion of the AD, explain the reason for any recommended change, and include supporting data. To ensure the docket does not contain duplicate comments, commenters should send only one copy of written comments, or if comments are filed electronically, commenters should submit them only one time. We will file in the docket all comments that we receive, as well as a report summarizing each substantive public contact with FAA personnel concerning this rulemaking during the comment period. We will consider all the comments we receive and may conduct additional rulemaking based on those comments.

Discussion
On November 27, 2015, we issued Emergency AD 2015–24–51, which was made immediately effective to all known U.S. owners and operators of Airbus Helicopters Model EC120B helicopters. Emergency AD 2015–24–51 applied to Model EC120B helicopters with an Air Comm Corporation (Air Comm) air conditioning system installed in accordance with STC No. SR00491DE. Emergency AD 2015–24–51 required, before further flight and at intervals not to exceed 25 hours time-in-service (TIS), manually inspecting the air conditioner compressor drive pulley (pulley) for movement (play) between the pulley and the tail rotor output wheel (wheel). If there was any movement, Emergency AD 2015–24–51 required replacing the pulley and the wheel before further flight. If no play existed, Emergency AD 2015–24–51 required an additional inspection for wear and, if needed, replacing the pulley and the wheel. Emergency AD 2015–24–51 also required reporting information to the FAA to enable us to obtain better insight into the cause of the unsafe condition.

Emergency AD 2015–24–51 was prompted by a report that the operator of an Airbus Helicopters Model EC120B helicopter heard an abnormal noise during flight, and the pulley became more pronounced, resulting in a precautionary landing. While applying power to land, the helicopter yawed left. Application of the right pedal did not correct the rotation, requiring the pilot to perform a hovering auto rotation. A preliminary investigation showed that the pulley and wheel mating splines had worn away, allowing the pulley to rotate freely on the wheel. Failure of the pulley and wheel during flight may result in the loss of tail rotor drive and subsequent loss of directional control.

Actions Since AD 2014–24–51 Was Issued
After Emergency AD 2015–24–51 was issued, we received a comment from an operator requesting that we clarify the applicability of the AD. The commenter notes that there are two different configurations for the Air Comm conditioning system, the earlier of which has the output flange that is terminating action in the AD already installed. However, the applicability of Emergency AD 2015–24–51 does not distinguish between the two configurations. Pictures from another operator we received with an inspection report showed this earlier configuration where the compressor is driven by a pulley mounted forward of the rotor brake.

We agree with the request to clarify the applicability. Pulleys installed forward of the rotor brake are not part of the tail rotor drive train and their failure would not result in a loss of directional control. We have revised this AD to apply only to those helicopters with an Air Comm air conditioning kit installed in accordance with STC No. SR00491DE where the compressor is driven by a pulley installed aft of the rotor brake. Helicopters that have an Air Comm air conditioning kit installed in accordance with STC No. SR00491DE where the compressor is driven by a pulley forward of the rotor brake are excluded from this AD’s requirements.

We are replacing the term “tail rotor output pinion” used in Emergency AD 2015–24–51 with “tail rotor output wheel,” because it is the more commonly known term for this part.

We also received a comment from an operator stating that if play between the pulley and the wheel is found during the inspection, and if the Air Comm pulley is replaced with an Airbus output flange, the AD should not require that the wheel be replaced if it passes the damage and wear criteria in the Airbus Helicopters maintenance manual. We agree that in the absence of wear, regardless of any play, the wheel should not have to be replaced. We are revising the required actions in this AD to remove the inspection for play and instead require an inspection of the
wheel for damage and wear, using criteria consistent with that in the Airbus Helicopters maintenance manual.

We also obtained additional information from Air Comm about the effect of the terminating action in Emergency AD 2015–24–51 and whether it is necessary to deactivate the air conditioning system. As a result, we are removing from the terminating action the requirement to fully or partially deactivate the air conditioning system. This AD requires replacing the pulley before further flight. If there is cracking, any scoring or metal pick-up, or if a measurement shows wear, this AD requires replacing the wheel before further flight.

This AD also requires reporting certain information to the FAA within 10 days.

Replacing the Air Comm pulley with Airbus Helicopters output flange part number C632A2158201 constitutes terminating action for this AD.

Differences Between This AD and the Service Information

The service information specifies recurring inspections after 100 flight hours, while this AD requires recurring inspections at intervals not to exceed 25 hours TIS. The service information requires inspecting the pulley and drive shaft (wheel) splines for excessive wear or chatter and replacing the pulley and wheel if there is any play. This AD requires replacing the pulley if any splines are not straight, have inconsistent cross-sections, or contain material deformation or loss. This AD requires replacing the wheel if cracking, scoring, or metal pick-up are found, or measurement of the splines indicates excessive wear. The service information requests that information be submitted to Air Comm, while this AD requires the inspection results be reported to the FAA.

Costs of Compliance

We estimate that this AD will affect 5 helicopters of U.S. Registry and that labor costs average $85 a work-hour. Based on these estimates we expect that inspecting the pulley and wheel will take about 7.5 work-hours for a cost of $638 per helicopter and $3,190 for the U.S. fleet per inspection cycle. Replacing an Air Comm pulley will cost $2,380 for parts and 0.5 additional work-hour for a cost of $2,423 per helicopter. Replacing an Airbus wheel will cost $19,231 for parts and 10 additional work-hours for a cost of $20,081 per helicopter. The optional terminating action of installing an Airbus output flange will cost $2,327 for parts and 0.5 additional work-hour for a cost of $2,370 per helicopter. Reporting the required inspection information to the FAA will take about 0.5 work-hour for a cost of about $43 per helicopter and $215 for the U.S. fleet.

Authority for This Rulemaking

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
Adoption of the Amendment

Accordingly, under the authority delegated to me by the Administrator, the FAA amends 14 CFR part 39 as follows:

PART 39—AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVES

§ 39.13 [Amended]

2. The FAA amends § 39.13 by adding the following new airworthiness directive (AD):


(a) Applicability

This AD applies to Airbus Helicopters Model EC120B helicopters with an Air Comm Corporation (Air Comm) air conditioning kit installed in accordance with supplemental type certificate (STC) No. SR00491DE, where the compressor is driven aft of the rotor brake, certificated in any category.

(b) Unsafe Condition

This AD defines the unsafe condition as failure of an air conditioner compressor drive pulley (pulley) or tail rotor output wheel (wheel), leading to loss of tail rotor drive and helicopter control.

(c) Affected ADs


(d) Effective Date

This AD becomes effective May 8, 2017.

(e) Compliance

You are responsible for performing each action required by this AD within the specified compliance time unless it has already been accomplished prior to that time.

(f) Required Actions

(1) Before further flight, and at intervals not to exceed 25 hours time-in-service, disassemble the tail rotor drive system and remove the pulley.

(i) Visually inspect the pulley splines for wear. If any splines are not straight, contain any inconsistent cross-sections end-to-end, or contain any localized material deformation or any material loss, replace the pulley before further flight.

Note 1 to paragraph (f)(1)(i) of this AD: End-to-end (fore-and-aft) movement witness marks and polishing are acceptable as the pulley is allowed to slip fore and aft on the wheel per its intended function.

(ii) Inspect the exposed portion of each wheel spline for cracking, scoring, metal pick-up, and wear by using Figure 1 to paragraph (f)(1)(ii) of this AD. To inspect for wear, position two 3 mm (0.118 inch) rods in all diametrically opposed splines and measure to determine whether there is a minimum of 37.3 mm (1.47 inches) across the outside diameter of the rods. If there is any cracking, scoring or metal pick-up, or if a measurement is less than 37.3 mm, replace the wheel.

(2) Within 10 days after completing the initial inspection, report the information requested in Appendix 1 to this AD by mail to the Denver Aircraft Certification Office, FAA, Technical Operations Center, 26805 East 68th Avenue, Room 214, Denver, CO 80249, attn. Richard R. Thomas; by fax to (303) 342–1088; or by email to richard.r.thomas@faa.gov.

(3) Replacing the Air Comm pulley with Airbus Helicopters output flange part number C832A2158201 constitutes terminating action for this AD.

(g) Special Flight Permits

Special flight permits are prohibited.

(h) Alternative Methods of Compliance (AMOCs)

(1) The Manager, Denver Aircraft Certification Office, FAA, may approve

Figure 1 to paragraph (f)(1)(ii)
AMOCs for this AD. Send your proposal to: Richard R. Thomas, Aerospace Engineer, Denver Aircraft Certification Office, FAA, Technical Operations Center, 26805 East 68th Avenue, Room 214, Denver, CO 80249; fax (303) 342–1088; email richard.r.thomas@faa.gov.

(2) For operations conducted under a 14 CFR part 119 operating certificate or under 14 CFR part 91, subpart K, we suggest that you notify your principal inspector, or lacking a principal inspector, the manager of the local flight standards district office or certificate holding district office, before operating any aircraft complying with this AD through an AMOC.

(i) Additional Information

(a) Air Comm Service Bulletin No. SB–EC120–11815, Revision A, dated November 20, 2015, which is not incorporated by reference, contains additional information about the subject of this AD. For service information identified in this AD, contact: Air Comm Corporation, 1575 West 124th Avenue, Westminster, CO 80234, telephone: (303) 440–4075 (during business hours) or (720) 233–8330 (after hours); email: service@aircommcorp.com, Web site: http://www.aircommcorp.com/contact.


(c) You may review a copy of the service information at the FAA, Office of the Regional Counsel, Southwest Region, 10101 Hillwood Pkwy., Room 6N–321, Fort Worth, TX 76177.

(ii) Subject

Joint Aircraft Service Component (JASC) Code: 6500, Tail Rotor Drive System.

Issued in Fort Worth, Texas, on February 1, 2017.

Scott A. Horn,

Acting Manager, Rotorcraft Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service.

Appendix 1 to AD 2017–06–11

Please report the following to the Denver Aircraft Certification Office, FAA, Technical Operations Center, by mail to 26805 East 68th Avenue, Room 214, Denver, CO 80249, attn. Richard R. Thomas; by fax to (303) 342–1088; or by email to richard.r.thomas@faa.gov:

(1) Condition of the splined joint. Document any damage found with photographs.

(2) Flight hours since the air-conditioning kit was installed.

(3) Aircraft serial number.

(4) Pulley serial number (etched on the pulley’s face).

(5) Output wheel serial number from main gearbox, MAIN MODULE hard card.

(6) Primary operating location of the aircraft.

(7) Approximate average percentage of time the air conditioner is used.

(8) Operator and maintenance facility contact information.

(9) If parts are replaced, will air conditioning system remain fully or partially operable?

[FR Doc. 2017–07777 Filed 4–20–17; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–13–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39


RIN 2120–AA64

Airworthiness Directives; DG Flugzeugbau GmbH

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Department of Transportation (DOT).

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: We are adopting a new airworthiness directive (AD) for DG Flugzeugbau GmbH Model DG–500MB gliders that are equipped with a Solo 2625 02 engine modified with a fuel injection system following the instructions of Solo Kleinmotoren GmbH Technische Mitteilung (TM)/Service Bulletin (SB) 4600–3 “Fuel Injection System” and identified as Solo 2625 02i. This AD results from mandatory continuing airworthiness information (MCAI) issued by an aviation authority of another country to identify and correct an unsafe condition on an aviation product. The MCAI describes the unsafe condition as possible in-flight engine shut-down and engine fire due to failure of the connecting stud for the two fuel injector mounts of the engine redundancy system. We are issuing this AD to require actions to address the unsafe condition on these products.

DATES: This AD is effective May 26, 2017.

The Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference of a certain publication listed in the AD as of May 26, 2017.


For service information identified in this AD, contact Solo Kleinmotoren GmbH, Postfach 600152, 71050 Sindelfingen, Germany; telephone: +49 703 1301–6; fax: +49 703 1301–136; email: aircraft@solo-germany.com; Internet: http://aircraft.solo-online.com. You may review this referenced service information at the FAA, Small Airplane Directorate, 901 Locust, Kansas City, Missouri 64106. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call (816) 329–4148.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jim Rutherford, Aerospace Engineer, 901 Locust, Room 301, Kansas City, Missouri 64106; telephone: (816) 329–4165; fax: (816) 329–4090; email: jim.rutherford@faa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Discussion

We issued a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) to amend 14 CFR part 39 by adding an AD that would apply to DG Flugzeugbau GmbH Model DG–500MB gliders. The NPRM was published in the Federal Register on February 7, 2017 (82 FR 9535). The NPRM proposed to correct an unsafe condition for the specified products and was based on mandatory continuing airworthiness information (MCAI) originated by an aviation authority of another country. The MCAI states:

An occurrence was reported involving a failure of the connecting stud for the two fuel injector mounts of the engine redundancy system.

This condition, if not corrected, could lead to an uncommanded in-flight engine shut-down and engine fire, possibly resulting in loss of control of the aeroplane.

To address this unsafe condition, Solo Kleinmotoren GmbH issued SB/TM 4600–5 to provide instructions for reinforcement and securing of the injector mounts. For the reason described above, this AD requires modification of the engine redundancy system.

Solo Kleinmotoren GmbH SB/TM 4600–5 (currently at issue 2, dated 03 December 2012) will be revised to incorporate the modification required by SB/TM 4600–5 for future Solo 2625 02i engines.

The MCAI can be found in the AD docket on the Internet at: https://www.regulations.gov/document?D=FAA-2017-0051-0002.

Comments

We gave the public the opportunity to participate in developing this AD. We received no comments on the NPRM or on the determination of the cost to the public.

Conclusion

We reviewed the relevant data and determined that air safety and the public interest require adopting the AD as proposed except for minor editorial