The Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference (IBR) of the service information listed in this paragraph under 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 1 CFR part 51.

You must use this service information as applicable to do the actions required by this AD, unless the AD specifies otherwise. (i) Boeing Special Attention Service Bulletin 777–28–0078, Revision 3, dated December 19, 2017. (ii) Reserved. (iii) For service information identified in this AD, contact Boeing Commercial Airplanes, Attention: Contractual & Data Services (C&DS), 2600 Westminster Blvd., MC 110–SK57, Seal Beach, CA 90740–5600; telephone 562–797–1717; internet https://www.myboeingfleet.com. (iv) You may view this service information at the FAA, Transport Standards Branch, 2200 South 216th St., Des Moines, WA. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call 206–231–3195. (v) You may view this service information that is incorporated by reference at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). For information on the availability of this material at NARA, call 202–741–6030, or go to: http://www.archives.gov/federal-register/cfr/ibr-locations.html.

Issued in Des Moines, Washington, on June 29, 2018.

Jeffrey E. Duven,
Director, System Oversight Division, Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. 2018–14702 Filed 7–11–18; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4910–13–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39


RIN 2120–AA64

Airworthiness Directives; Bell Helicopter Textron Canada Limited Helicopters

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: We are adopting a new airworthiness directive (AD) for certain serial numbered Bell Helicopter Textron Canada Limited (BHTC) Model 429 helicopters. This AD requires marking a serial number on life-limited forward spars and actuator fitting assemblies. The actions of this AD are intended to prevent an unsafe condition on these products.

DATES: This AD is effective August 16, 2018.
procedures for permanently marking each forward spar and actuator fitting assembly with the serial number of the helicopter.

This service information is reasonably available because the interested parties have access to it through their normal course of business or by the means identified in the ADDRESSES section.

Other Related Service Information

We also reviewed Bell Helicopter Model 429 Maintenance Manual BHT–429–MM–1, Chapter 4, Airworthiness Limitations Schedule, Revision 26, dated September 9, 2016, which specifies airworthiness life limits and inspection intervals for parts installed on Model 429 helicopters.

Costs of Compliance

We estimate that this AD affects 6 helicopters of U.S. Registry and that labor costs average $85 per work-hour. We estimate that marking the forward spars and actuator fitting assemblies requires 1 work-hour, and no parts are needed. Based on these estimates, we expect a total cost of $85 per helicopter and $510 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 helicopters identified in this rulemaking action.

Regulatory Findings

This AD will not have federalism implications under Executive Order 13132. This AD will 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.

For the reasons discussed above, I certify that this AD:

(1) Is not a “significant regulatory action” under Executive Order 12866;
(2) Is not a “significant rule” under DOT Regulatory Policies and Procedures (44 FR 11034, February 26, 1979);
(3) Will not affect intrastate aviation in Alaska to the extent that it justifies making a regulatory distinction; and
(4) 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 an economic evaluation of the estimated costs to comply with this AD and placed it in the AD docket.

List of Subjects in 14 CFR Part 39

Air transportation, Aircraft, Aviation safety, Incorporation by reference, Safety.

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–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 adding the following new airworthiness directive (AD):


(a) Applicability


(b) Unsafe Condition

This AD defines the unsafe condition as a forward spar or actuator fitting assembly remaining in service after reaching its life limit. This condition could result in failure of a forward spar or actuator fitting assembly and subsequent collapse of the landing gear.

(c) Effective Date

This AD becomes effective August 16, 2018.

(d) 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.

(e) Required Actions

1. Within 800 hours time-in-service, clean and identify each forward spar and actuator fitting assembly with the helicopter serial number in accordance with the Accomplishment Instructions, paragraphs 3 through 5 and with reference to Figure 1 of Bell Helicopter Alert Service Bulletin 429–16–34, dated November 10, 2016.

2. After the effective date of this AD, do not install a forward spar P/N 429–031–213–103 or 429–031–213–104 or actuator fitting assembly P/N 429–031–222–101 or 429–031–222–102 on any helicopter unless it has been marked with a serial number in accordance with paragraph (e)(1) of this AD.

(f) Alternative Methods of Compliance (AMOCs)

1. The Manager, Safety Management Section, FAA, may approve AMOCs for this AD. Send your proposal to: Helene Gandy, Aviation Safety Engineer, Regulations & Policy Section, Rotorcraft Standards Branch, FAA, 10101 Hillwood Pkwy., Fort Worth, TX 76177; telephone (817) 222–5413; email 9–ASW–FTW–AMOC–Requests@faa.gov.

2. For operations conducted under a 14 CFR part 91 operating certificate or under 14 CFR part 91, subpart K, we suggest that you notify your principal inspector, or in his absence, 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.

(g) Additional Information

1. Bell Helicopter Model 429 Maintenance Manual BHT–429–MM–1, Chapter 4, Airworthiness Limitations Schedule, Revision 26, dated September 9, 2016, which is not incorporated by reference, contains additional information about the subject of this AD. For service information identified in this AD, contact Bell Helicopter Textron Canada Limited, 12,800 Rue de l'Avenir, Mirabel, Quebec J7V1R4; telephone (450) 437–2862 or (800) 363–8023; fax (450) 433–0272; or at http://www.bellcustomer.com/ files/. 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.


(h) Subject

Joint Aircraft Service Component (JASC) Code: 1100, Placards and Markings.

(i) Material Incorporated by Reference

1. The Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference of the service information listed in this paragraph under 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 1 CFR part 51.

2. You must use this service information as applicable to do the actions required by this AD, unless the AD specifies otherwise.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39

[DOCKET NO. FAA–2018–13–01; RIN 2120–AA64]

Airworthiness Directives; Rolls-Royce Corporation Turboshaft Engines

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: We are adopting a new airworthiness directive (AD) for certain Rolls-Royce Corporation (RRC) model 250–C turboshaft engines. This AD was prompted by several reports of engine power loss, one of which resulted in a fatal helicopter accident. This AD requires removal of the power turbine governor (PTG) bearing assembly, part number (P/N) 2544198, and its replacement with a bearing assembly eligible for installation. We are issuing this AD to address the unsafe condition on these products.

DATES: This AD is effective August 16, 2018.

ADDRESSES: For service information identified in this final rule, contact Rolls-Royce Corporation, 450 South Meridian Street, Mail Code NB–02–05, Indianapolis, IN 46225; phone: 317–230–3774; email: indy.pubs.services@rolls-royce.com; internet: www.rolls-royce.com. You may view this service information at the FAA, Office of the Regional Counsel, Southwest Region, 10101 Hillwood Pkwy., Room 6N–321, Fort Worth, TX 76177. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call (817) 222–5110.

You may view this service information that is incorporated by reference at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). For information on the availability of this material at NARA, call (202) 741–4030, or go to: http://www.archives.gov/federal-register/cfr/ibr-locations.html.

Issued in Fort Worth, Texas, on June 1, 2018. James A. Grigg, Acting Director, Compliance & Airworthiness Division, Aircraft Certification Service.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John Tallarovic, Aerospace Engineer, Chicago ACO Branch, FAA, 2300 E. Devon Ave., Des Plaines, IL 60018; phone: 847–294–8180; fax: 847–294–7834; email: john.m.tallarovic@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 certain Rolls-Royce Corporation (RRC) model 250–C turboshaft engines. The NPRM published in the Federal Register on February 1, 2018 (83 FR 4609). The NPRM was prompted by several reports of loss of engine power on certain RRC model 250–C turboshaft engines installed on single-engine helicopters. One of these instances of power loss resulted in a fatal helicopter accident on May 4, 2016. The NPRM proposed to require removal of the affected PTG bearing assembly and replace it with a bearing assembly with a new design. We are issuing this AD to address the unsafe condition on these products.

Comments

We gave the public the opportunity to participate in developing this final rule. The following presents the comments received on the NPRM and the FAA’s response to each comment.

Request To Specify the New Bearing Assembly

The NTSB and Honeywell Aerospace requested that the AD prohibit the installation of bearing assembly, P/N 2544198, and specify the installation of the new bearing assembly, P/N 2526146. The NTSB expressed concern that differences between the proposed AD and the actions described in the Honeywell SB and Rolls-Royce CB5s could lead to the installation of a dual-spool bearing into an affected PTG.

We partially agree. We agree with the request to prohibit the installation of another bearing assembly, P/N 2544198, because our intent is to remove them from service. We disagree with the request to specify the installation of the new bearing assembly, P/N 2526146, because of the possibility of a new bearing P/N being introduced or the specified P/N being discontinued in the future. We added an installation prohibition paragraph to this AD to prohibit the installation of bearing assembly, P/N 2544198.

Request To Re-Identify the PTG After Changing the Bearing Assembly

The NTSB and Honeywell Aerospace requested that the AD require re-identifying the PTG P/N after changing the bearing assembly in accordance with the related service information. Honeywell Aerospace reasoned that maintenance personnel and operators could easily determine if the service bulletin has been accomplished. This increases the efficiency of operations and reduces the potential for misunderstandings about whether the bearing assembly has been replaced.

We disagree. While re-identifying the PTG after changing the bearing assembly is helpful for maintenance personnel, we are not requiring this action within this AD. During the replacement of the bearing assembly, P/N 2544198, the related service information instructs personnel to re-identify the PTG. We did not change this AD.

Request To Reduce the Compliance Time

Honeywell Aerospace requested that we reduce the compliance time to 50 hours or within 90 days for PTGs that have greater than 750 hours. The commenter reasoned that the original compliance schedule was established 10 years ago based on field experience at that time. The fatal accident referenced in the NPRM occurred on a PTG with 1,048.7 hours since new.

We disagree. The compliance time for removing the bearing assembly, P/N 2544198, in this AD is based on Rolls-