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## **DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

### **Federal Aviation Administration**

#### **14 CFR Part 39**

**[Docket No. FAA-2012-0039; Directorate Identifier 2011-NM-144-AD; Amendment 39-17087; AD 2012-12-07]**

**RIN 2120-AA64**

#### **Airworthiness Directives; Fokker Services B.V. Airplanes**

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

**ACTION:** Final rule.

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**SUMMARY:** We are adopting a new airworthiness directive (AD) for certain Fokker Services B.V. Model F.28 Mark 0070 and 0100 airplanes. This AD was prompted by reports of cracks underneath the passenger door in a butt-joint on the forward fuselage of a Model F.28 Mark 0100 airplane. This AD requires repetitive low frequency eddy current inspections of the forward fuselage butt-joints for cracks, and if necessary, a temporary repair followed by a permanent repair. We are issuing this AD to detect and correct cracking of the butt-joint on the forward fuselage, which could result in explosive decompression and consequent loss of control of the airplane.

**DATES:** This AD becomes effective July 30, 2012.

The Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference of certain publications listed in this AD as of July 30, 2012.

**ADDRESSES:** You may examine the AD docket on the Internet at <http://www.regulations.gov> or in person at the U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M-30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Tom Rodriguez, Aerospace Engineer, International Branch, ANM-116, Transport Airplane Directorate, FAA 1601 Lind Avenue SW., Renton, Washington 98057-3356; telephone (425) 227-1137; fax (425) 227-1149.

## **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

### **Discussion**

We issued a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) to amend 14 CFR part 39 to include an AD that would apply to the specified products. That NPRM was published in the Federal Register on February 6, 2012 (77 FR 5724). That NPRM proposed to correct an unsafe condition for the specified products. The MCAI states:

A report has been received of a crack, detected in a butt-joint on the forward fuselage of an F28 Mark 0100 aeroplane, underneath the passenger door.

Investigations revealed that, depending on the configuration of the aeroplane, one or two butt-joints in the forward fuselage can be affected.

This condition, if not detected and corrected, could lead to explosive decompression and consequent loss of the aeroplane.

For the reasons described above, this [EASA] AD requires repetitive [low frequency eddy current] inspections of the forward fuselage butt joints for cracks and, when a crack is detected, accomplishment of a temporary repair. This [EASA] AD also requires reporting any cracks found to Fokker Services to enable the development of a modification and the determination of an interval for a repetitive inspection task, to be incorporated in the ALI [airworthiness limitations instructions] section of the MRB [maintenance review board] document. This [EASA] AD is considered to be an interim measure and further AD action is likely.

Required actions include a permanent repair of the forward fuselage butt-joints. You may obtain further information by examining the MCAI in the AD docket.

### **Comments**

We gave the public the opportunity to participate in developing this AD. We received no comments on the NPRM (77 FR 5724, February 6, 2012) or on the determination of the cost to the public.

### **Conclusion**

We reviewed the available data and determined that air safety and the public interest require adopting the AD as proposed—except for minor editorial changes. We have determined that these minor changes:

- Are consistent with the intent that was proposed in the NPRM (77 FR 5724, February 6, 2012) for correcting the unsafe condition; and
- Do not add any additional burden upon the public than was already proposed in the NPRM (77 FR 5724, February 6, 2012).

### **Costs of Compliance**

We estimate that this AD will affect 4 products of U.S. registry. We also estimate that it will take about 3 work-hours per product to comply with the basic requirements of this AD. The average labor rate is \$85 per work-hour. Based on these figures, we estimate the cost of this AD to the U.S. operators to be \$1,020, or \$255 per product.

In addition, we estimate that any necessary follow-on actions would take about 40 work-hours and require parts costing \$0, for a cost of \$3,400 per product. We have no way of determining the number of products that may need these actions.

### **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 products identified in this rulemaking action.

### **Regulatory Findings**

We determined that 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 the DOT Regulatory Policies and Procedures (44 FR 11034, February 26, 1979);
3. Will not affect intrastate aviation in Alaska; 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 a regulatory evaluation of the estimated costs to comply with this AD and placed it in the AD docket.

### **Examining the AD Docket**

You may examine the AD docket on the Internet at <http://www.regulations.gov>; 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 the NPRM (77 FR 5724, February 6, 2012), the regulatory 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.

### **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**

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 AD:



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**2012-12-07 Fokker Services B.V.:** Amendment 39-17087. Docket No. FAA-2012-0039; Directorate Identifier 2011-NM-144-AD.

**(a) Effective Date**

This airworthiness directive (AD) becomes effective July 30, 2012.

**(b) Affected ADs**

None.

**(c) Applicability**

This AD applies to Fokker Services B.V. Model F.28 Mark 0070 and 0100 airplanes, as identified in Fokker Service Bulletin SBF100-53-115, dated June 16, 2011.

**(d) Subject**

Air Transport Association (ATA) of America Code 53: Fuselage.

**(e) Reason**

This AD was prompted by reports of cracks underneath the passenger door in a butt-joint on the forward fuselage of a Model F.28 Mark 0100 airplane. We are issuing this AD to detect and correct cracking of the butt-joint on the forward fuselage, which could result in explosive decompression and consequent loss of control of the airplane.

**(f) Compliance**

You are responsible for having the actions required by this AD performed within the compliance times specified, unless the actions have already been done.

**(g) Inspection**

Before the accumulation of 20,000 total flight cycles, or within 180 flight cycles after the effective date of this AD, whichever occurs later, do a low frequency eddy current inspection of the forward fuselage butt-joints for cracks, in accordance with the Accomplishment Instructions of Fokker Service Bulletin SBF100-53-115, dated June 16, 2011. Repeat the inspection thereafter at intervals not to exceed 1,000 flight cycles. Doing the temporary repair in paragraph (h) of this AD is terminating action for the repetitive inspections required by this paragraph. The temporary repair can also be accomplished if no cracking is found.

## **(h) Temporary Repair**

If any cracking is found during any inspection required by paragraph (g) of this AD, before further flight, do a temporary repair, in accordance with the Accomplishment Instructions of Fokker Service Bulletin SBF100-53-115, dated June 16, 2011. Doing the temporary repair is terminating action for the repetitive inspections required by paragraph (g) of this AD.

## **(i) Permanent Repair**

Within 10,000 flight cycles after installing the temporary repair, as required by paragraph (h) of this AD, install a permanent repair using a method approved by the Manager, International Branch, ANM-116, Transport Airplane Directorate, FAA.

## **(j) Reporting**

Submit a report of the findings (both positive and negative), to Fokker Services B.V., Technical Services Dept., P.O. Box 231, 2150 AE Nieuw-Vennep, the Netherlands, using the reports form of Fokker Service Bulletin SBF100-53-115, dated June 16, 2011, of the inspection required by paragraph (g) of this AD, at the applicable time specified in paragraph (j)(1) or (j)(2) of this AD.

(1) If the inspection was done on or after the effective date of this AD: Submit the report within 30 days after the inspection.

(2) If the inspection was done before the effective date of this AD: Submit the report within 30 days after the effective date of this AD.

## **(k) Other FAA AD Provisions**

The following provisions also apply to this AD:

(1) Alternative Methods of Compliance (AMOCs): The Manager, International Branch, ANM-116, Transport Airplane Directorate, FAA, has the authority to approve AMOCs for this AD, if requested using the procedures found in 14 CFR 39.19. In accordance with 14 CFR 39.19, send your request to your principal inspector or local Flight Standards District Office, as appropriate. If sending information directly to the International Branch, send it to Attn: Tom Rodriguez, Aerospace Engineer, International Branch, ANM-116, Transport Airplane Directorate, FAA 1601 Lind Avenue SW., Renton, Washington 98057-3356; telephone (425) 227-1137; fax (425) 227-1149. Information may be emailed to: 9-ANM-116-AMOC-REQUESTS@faa.gov. Before using any approved AMOC, notify your appropriate principal inspector, or lacking a principal inspector, the manager of the local flight standards district office/certificate holding district office. The AMOC approval letter must specifically reference this AD.

(2) Airworthy Product: For any requirement in this AD to obtain corrective actions from a manufacturer or other source, use these actions if they are FAA-approved. Corrective actions are considered FAA-approved if they are approved by the State of Design Authority (or their delegated agent). You are required to assure the product is airworthy before it is returned to service.

(3) Reporting Requirements: A federal agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, nor shall a person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with a collection of information subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act unless that collection of information displays a current valid OMB Control Number. The OMB Control Number for this information collection is 2120-0056. Public reporting for this collection of information is estimated to be approximately 5 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, completing and reviewing the collection of information. All responses to this collection of information are mandatory. Comments concerning the accuracy of this burden and suggestions for reducing the burden should be directed to the FAA at: 800 Independence Ave. SW., Washington, DC 20591, Attn: Information Collection Clearance Officer, AES-200.

## **(l) Related Information**

Refer to MCAI European Aviation Safety Agency Airworthiness Directive 2011-0115, dated June 17, 2011; and Fokker Service Bulletin SBF100-53-115, dated June 16, 2011; for related information.

## **(m) Material Incorporated by Reference**

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

(2) You must use the following service information to do the actions required by this AD, unless the AD specifies otherwise.

(i) Fokker Service Bulletin SBF100-53-115, dated June 16, 2011.

(3) For Fokker service information identified in this AD, contact Fokker Services B.V., Technical Services Dept., P.O. Box 231, 2150 AE Nieuw-Vennep, the Netherlands; telephone +31 (0)252-627-350; fax +31 (0)252-627-211; email [technicalservices.fokkerservices@stork.com](mailto:technicalservices.fokkerservices@stork.com); Internet <http://www.myfokkerfleet.com>

(4) You may review copies of the service information at the FAA, Transport Airplane Directorate, 1601 Lind Avenue SW., Renton, Washington. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call 425-227-1221.

(5) You may also review copies of the service information that is incorporated by reference at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). For information on the availability of this material at an NARA facility, call 202-741-6030, or go to [http://www.archives.gov/federal\\_register/code\\_of\\_federal\\_regulations/ibr\\_locations.html](http://www.archives.gov/federal_register/code_of_federal_regulations/ibr_locations.html).

Issued in Renton, Washington, on June 7, 2012.

Michael Kaszycki,  
Acting Manager, Transport Airplane Directorate,  
Aircraft Certification Service.