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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. FAA-2009-0557; Directorate Identifier 2009-CE-031-AD; Amendment 39-16086; AD 2009-23-12]

RIN 2120-AA64

Airworthiness Directives; SOCATA Model TBM 700 Airplanes

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

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: We are revising an existing airworthiness directive (AD) for the products listed above. 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:

During a SOCATA flight test, it has been noted some difficulties for the pilot to release oxygen.

After investigation it has been found that, due to the design of the oxygen generator release pin, one of the mask's lanyard linked to the pin can be jammed when it is pulled by a pilot or a passenger.

This condition, if not corrected, would lead, in case of an emergency procedure due to decompression, to a risk of generator fault with subsequent lack of oxygen on crew and/or passenger.

* * *

This revision has been released to clarify the applicability.

We are issuing this AD to require actions to correct the unsafe condition on these products.

DATES: This AD becomes effective December 18, 2009.

As of July 9, 2009 (74 FR 29126, June 19, 2009), the Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference of page 3.13.5 of Temporary Revision No. 3, dated March 2009, of SOCATA TBM 700 A & B Pilot Operating Handbook (POH), listed in this AD.

ADDRESSES: You may examine the AD docket on the Internet at <http://www.regulations.gov> or in person at the Docket Management Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M-30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC 20590.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Albert Mercado, Aerospace Engineer, FAA, Small Airplane Directorate, 901 Locust, Room 301, Kansas City, Missouri 64106; telephone: (816) 329-4119; fax: (816) 329-4090.

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 September 2, 2009 (74 FR 45391), and proposed to revise AD 2009-13-05, Amendment 39-15944 (74 FR 29126, June 19, 2009). That NPRM proposed to correct an unsafe condition for the specified products. The MCAI states that:

During a SOCATA flight test, it has been noted some difficulties for the pilot to release oxygen.

After investigation it has been found that, due to the design of the oxygen generator release pin, one of the mask's lanyard linked to the pin can be jammed when it is pulled by a pilot or a passenger.

This condition, if not corrected, would lead, in case of an emergency procedure due to decompression, to a risk of generator fault with subsequent lack of oxygen on crew and/or passenger.

For the reason described above, SOCATA has released Pilot Operating Handbook (POH) Temporary Revision (TR) 03 which asks, in case of failure to release oxygen, to pull on the other mask lanyard in order to activate the oxygen generator.

This revision has been released to clarify the applicability.

A SOCATA modification enabling to solve this issue is under preparation. Once this modification has been released, this AD is expected to be revised to confirm the acceptability of that modification.

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 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.

Differences Between This AD and the MCAI or Service Information

We have reviewed the MCAI and related service information and, in general, agree with their substance. But we might have found it necessary to use different words from those in the MCAI to ensure the AD is clear for U.S. operators and is enforceable. In making these changes, we do not intend to differ substantively from the information provided in the MCAI and related service information.

We might also have required different actions in this AD from those in the MCAI in order to follow FAA policies. Any such differences are highlighted in a NOTE within the AD.

Costs of Compliance

We estimate that this AD will affect 147 products of U.S. registry. We also estimate that it will take about 0.5 work-hour per product to comply with the basic requirements of this AD. The average labor rate is \$80 per work-hour.

Based on these figures, we estimate the cost of this AD on U.S. operators to be \$5,880, or \$40 per product.

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 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); and
- (3) 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 Management Facility between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The AD docket contains the NPRM, the regulatory evaluation, any comments received, and other information. The street address for the Docket 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 removing Amendment 39-15944 (74 FR 29126, June 19, 2009) and adding the following new AD:



2009-23-12 SOCATA: Amendment 39-16086; Docket No. FAA-2009-0557; Directorate Identifier 2009-CE-031-AD.

Effective Date

(a) This airworthiness directive (AD) becomes effective December 18, 2009.

Affected ADs

(b) This AD revises AD 2009-13-05, Amendment 39-15944.

Applicability

- (c) This AD applies to the following model and serial number airplanes that are:
 - (i) certificated in any category; and
 - (ii) equipped with a chemical oxygen generation system.

Model	Serial Nos.
TBM 700	1 through 204, 206 through 239, and 241 through 243.

Subject

(d) Air Transport Association of America (ATA) Code 35: Oxygen.

Reason

(e) The mandatory continuing airworthiness information (MCAI) states:

During a SOCATA flight test, it has been noted some difficulties for the pilot to release oxygen. After investigation it has been found that, due to the design of the oxygen generator release pin, one of the mask's lanyard linked to the pin can be jammed when it is pulled by a pilot or a passenger.

This condition, if not corrected, would lead, in case of an emergency procedure due to decompression, to a risk of generator fault with subsequent lack of oxygen on crew and/or passenger.

For the reason described above, SOCATA has released Pilot Operating Handbook (POH) Temporary Revision (TR) 03 which asks, in case of failure to release oxygen, to pull on the other mask lanyard in order to activate the oxygen generator.

This revision has been released to clarify the applicability.

A SOCATA modification enabling to solve this issue is under preparation. Once this modification has been released, this AD is expected to be revised to confirm the acceptability of that modification.

Actions and Compliance

(f) Unless already done, do the following actions.

(1) Before further flight after July 9, 2009 (the effective date retained from AD 2009-13-05), insert Page 3.13.5 of Temporary Revision No. 3, dated March 2009, into the Emergency Procedures section and the Limitations section of SOCATA TBM 700 A & B Pilot Operating Handbook (POH).

(2) Under 14 CFR section 43.7 of the Federal Aviation Administration Regulations (14 CFR 43.7), the owner/operator holding at least a private pilot certificate is allowed to insert the temporary revision into the POH. Make an entry into the aircraft logbook showing compliance with this portion of the AD per compliance with section 43.9 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR 43.9).

FAA AD Differences

Note: This AD differs from the MCAI and/or service information as follows: No differences.

Other FAA AD Provisions

(g) The following provisions also apply to this AD:

(1) Alternative Methods of Compliance (AMOCs): The Manager, Standards Office, FAA, has the authority to approve AMOCs for this AD, if requested using the procedures found in 14 CFR 39.19. Send information to Attn: Albert Mercado, Aerospace Engineer, FAA, Small Airplane Directorate, 901 Locust, Room 301, Kansas City, Missouri 64106; telephone: (816) 329-4119; fax: (816) 329-4090. Before using any approved AMOC on any airplane to which the AMOC applies, notify your appropriate principal inspector (PI) in the FAA Flight Standards District Office (FSDO), or lacking a PI, your local FSDO.

(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: For any reporting requirement in this AD, under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.), the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has approved the information collection requirements and has assigned OMB Control Number 2120-0056.

Material Incorporated by Reference

(h) You must use page 3.13.5 of Temporary Revision No. 3, dated March 2009, of SOCATA TBM 700 A & B Pilot Operating Handbook (POH), to do the actions required by this AD, unless the AD specifies otherwise.

(1) On July 9, 2009 (74 FR 29126, June 19, 2009), the Director of the Federal Register previously approved the incorporation by reference of page 3.13.5 of Temporary Revision No. 3, dated March 2009, of SOCATA TBM 700 A & B Pilot Operating Handbook (POH).

(2) For service information identified in this AD, contact SOCATA, 65921-TARBES Cedex 9, France; telephone: +33 6 07 32 62 24; or SOCATA, North Perry Airport, 7501 South Airport Rd., Pembrokes Pines, FL 33023; telephone: (954) 893-1400; fax: (954) 964-4141; Internet: <http://mysocata.com>.

(3) You may review copies of the service information incorporated by reference for this AD at the FAA, Central Region, Office of the Regional Counsel, 901 Locust, Kansas City, Missouri 64106. For information on the availability of this material at the Central Region, call (816) 329-3768.

(4) You may also review copies of the service information incorporated by reference for this AD 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/code_of_federal_regulations/ibr_locations.html.

Issued in Kansas City, Missouri, on November 6, 2009.

Margaret Kline,

Acting Manager, Small Airplane Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. E9-27321 Filed 11-12-09; 8:45 am]