

[Federal Register Volume 81, Number 55 (Tuesday, March 22, 2016)]

[Rules and Regulations]

[Pages 15154-15156]

From the Federal Register Online via the Government Publishing Office [www.gpo.gov]

[FR Doc No: 2016-06372]

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. FAA-2016-2701; Directorate Identifier 2016-NE-03-AD; Amendment 39-18440; AD 2016-06-09]

RIN 2120-AA64

Airworthiness Directives; Turbomeca S.A. Turboshift Engines

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Final rule; request for comments.

SUMMARY: We are adopting a new airworthiness directive (AD) for certain Turbomeca S.A. Makila 2A and 2A1 turboshift engines. This AD requires tightening the nut attaching the swivel union to the engine power turbine module M04. This AD was prompted by two occurrences of commanded in-flight shutdown following low oil pressure warning. We are issuing this AD to prevent loosening of the nut and oil leakage from the low-pressure oil system, which could lead to in-flight shutdown of the engine and forced landing.

DATES: This AD becomes effective April 6, 2016.

We must receive comments on this AD by May 6, 2016.

ADDRESSES: You may send comments by any of the following methods:

- Federal eRulemaking Portal: Go to <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.
- Mail: U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, Washington, DC 20590-0001.
- Hand Delivery: Deliver to Mail address above between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.
- Fax: 202-493-2251.

For service information identified in this AD, contact Turbomeca S.A., 40220 Tarnos, France; phone: 33 0 5 59 74 40 00; telex: 570 042; fax: 33 0 5 59 74 45 16. You may view this service information at the FAA, Engine & Propeller Directorate, 1200 District Avenue, Burlington, MA 01803. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call 781-238-7125. It is also available on the Internet at <http://www.regulations.gov> by searching for and locating Docket No. FAA-2016-2701.

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-2016-2701; 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 mandatory continuing airworthiness information (MCAI), regulatory evaluation, any comments received, and other information. The address for the Docket Office (phone: 800-647-5527) is in the ADDRESSES section. Comments will be available in the AD docket shortly after receipt.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Besian Luga, Aerospace Engineer, Engine Certification Office, FAA, Engine & Propeller Directorate, 1200 District Avenue, Burlington, MA 01803; phone: 781-238-7750; fax: 781-238-7199; email: besian.luga@faa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Comments Invited

This AD is a final rule that involves requirements affecting flight safety, and we did not precede it by notice and opportunity for public comment. We invite you to send any written relevant data, views, or arguments about this AD. Send your comments to an address listed under the ADDRESSES section. Include "Docket No. FAA-2016-2701; Directorate Identifier 2016-NE-03-AD" at the beginning of your comments. We specifically invite comments on the overall regulatory, economic, environmental, and energy aspects of this AD. We will consider all comments received by the closing date and may amend this AD because of those comments.

We will post all comments we receive, without change, to <http://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal information you provide. We will also post a report summarizing each substantive verbal contact with FAA personnel concerning this AD.

Discussion

The European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA), which is the Technical Agent for the Member States of the European Community, has issued EASA AD 2016-0016, dated January 15, 2016 (referred to hereinafter as "the MCAI"), to correct an unsafe condition for the specified products. The MCAI states:

Two occurrences of commanded in-flight shut down following low oil pressure warning were reported. In both cases the nut attaching the swivel union to the power turbine module 04 was found completely loose. After further investigation, it was determined that the application of Turbomeca Service Bulletin (SB) No. 298 79 2831 may have led to incorrect torque application or loosening of the nut.

Turbomeca S.A. has issued Alert Mandatory Service Bulletin No. A298 79 2835, Version A, dated January 14, 2016, to provide guidance to assist operators in resolving this unsafe condition. You may obtain further information by examining the MCAI in the AD docket on the Internet at <http://www.regulations.gov> by searching for and locating Docket No. FAA-2016-2701.

FAA's Determination and Requirements of This AD

This product has been approved by the aviation authority of France and is approved for operation in the United States. Pursuant to our bilateral agreement with the European Community, EASA has notified us of the unsafe condition described in the MCAI and service information referenced above. We are issuing this AD because we evaluated all information provided by EASA and determined the

unsafe condition exists and is likely to exist or develop on other products of the same type design. This AD requires tightening the nut attaching the swivel union to the engine power turbine module M04.

Related Service Information

Turbomeca S.A. has issued Alert Mandatory Service Bulletin No. A298 79 2835, Version A, dated January 14, 2016. The service information describes procedures for tightening the nut attaching the swivel union to the engine power turbine module (M04). 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 of this document.

FAA's Determination of the Effective Date

An unsafe condition exists that requires the immediate adoption of this AD. The FAA has found that the risk to the flying public justifies waiving notice and comment prior to adoption of this rule because operators are required to take action with 7 days or 30 engine hours after the effective date of this AD. Therefore, we find that notice and opportunity for prior public comment are impracticable and that good cause exists for making this amendment effective in less than 30 days.

Costs of Compliance

We estimate that this AD affects 10 engines installed on airplanes of U.S. registry. We also estimate that it will take about 1 hour per engine to comply with this AD. The average labor rate is \$85 per hour. No additional parts are required. Based on these figures, we estimate the total cost of the AD to U.S. operators to be \$850.

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 the 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.

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 airworthiness directive (AD):



2016-06-09 Turbomeca S.A.: Amendment 39-18440; Docket No. FAA-2016-2701; Directorate Identifier 2016-NE-03-AD.

(a) Effective Date

This AD is effective April 6, 2016.

(b) Affected ADs

None.

(c) Applicability

This AD applies to all Turbomeca S.A. Makila 2A and 2A1 turboshaft engines that have incorporated Turbomeca S.A. Service Bulletin No. 298 79 2831, Version B, dated November 13, 2015, or earlier.

(d) Reason

This AD was prompted by two occurrences of in-flight shutdowns as a result of the nut, attaching the swivel union to the power turbine module M04, coming loose. We are issuing this AD to prevent loosening of the nut, and oil leakage from the low pressure oil system, which could lead to in-flight shutdown of the engine and forced landing.

(e) Actions and Compliance

Comply with this AD within the compliance times specified, unless already done.

(1) Within 30 engine hours or 7 days after the effective date of this AD, whichever occurs first, apply 15 Newton-meters torque to the nut, part number 9560130990, attaching the swivel union to the engine power turbine module M04. Use a backup wrench to prevent the swivel union from rotating.

(f) Alternative Methods of Compliance (AMOCs)

The Manager, Engine Certification Office, FAA, may approve AMOCs for this AD. Use the procedures found in 14 CFR 39.19 to make your request. You may email your request to: ANE-AD-AMOC@faa.gov.

(g) Related Information

(1) For more information about this AD, contact Besian Luga, Aerospace Engineer, Engine Certification Office, FAA, Engine & Propeller Directorate, 1200 District Avenue, Burlington, MA 01803; phone: 781-238-7750; fax: 781-238-7199; email: besian.luga@faa.gov.

(2) Refer to MCAI European Aviation Safety Agency AD 2016-0016, dated January 15, 2016, for more information. You may examine the MCAI in the AD docket on the Internet at <http://www.regulations.gov> by searching for and locating it in Docket No. FAA-2016-2701.

(3) Turbomeca S.A. Alert Mandatory Service Bulletin No. A298 79 2835, Version A, dated January 14, 2016, which is not incorporated by reference in this AD, can be obtained from Turbomeca S.A., using the contact information in paragraph (g)(4) of this AD.

(4) For service information identified in this AD, contact Turbomeca S.A., 40220 Tarnos, France; phone: 33 0 5 59 74 40 00; telex: 570 042; fax: 33 0 5 59 74 45 16.

(5) You may view this service information at the FAA, Engine & Propeller Directorate, 1200 District Avenue, Burlington, MA 01803. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call 781-238-7125.

(h) Material Incorporated by Reference

None.

Issued in Burlington, Massachusetts, on March 14, 2016.

Ann C. Mollica,
Acting Manager, Engine & Propeller Directorate,
Aircraft Certification Service.