

levels of government. Therefore, it is determined that this final rule does not have federalism implications under Executive Order 13132.

For the reasons discussed above, I certify that this action (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. A final evaluation has been prepared for this action and it is contained in the Rules Docket. A copy of it may be obtained from the Rules Docket at the location provided under the caption **ADDRESSES**.

#### List of Subjects in 14 CFR Part 39

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

#### Adoption of the Amendment

Accordingly, pursuant to the authority delegated to me by the Administrator, the Federal Aviation Administration amends part 39 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (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. Section 39.13 is amended by removing Amendment 39-11429 (64 FR 62973, November 18, 1999), and by adding a new airworthiness directive (AD), Amendment 39-12048, to read as follows:

##### 2000-26-01 Eurocopter Deutschland

**GMBH:** Amendment 39-12048. Docket No. 99-SW-65-AD. Supersedes AD 99-24-05, Amendment 39-11429, Docket No. 99-SW-58-AD.

**Applicability:** Model BO-105 CB-5, and BO-105CBS-5 helicopters, certificated in any category.

**Note 1:** This AD applies to each helicopter identified in the preceding applicability provision, regardless of whether it has been otherwise modified, altered, or repaired in the area subject to the requirements of this AD. For helicopters that have been modified, altered, or repaired so that the performance of the requirements of this AD is affected, the owner/operator must request approval for an alternative method of compliance in accordance with paragraph (d) of this AD. The request should include an assessment of the effect of the modification, alteration, or

repair on the unsafe condition addressed by this AD; and if the unsafe condition has not been eliminated, the request should include specific proposed actions to address it.

**Compliance:** Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously.

To prevent fatigue failure of a tension-torsion (TT) strap, loss of a main rotor blade (blade), and subsequent loss of control of the helicopter, accomplish the following:

(a) Before further flight:

(1) Remove TT straps, part number (P/N) 2604067 (Bendix) or J17322-1 (Lord), from service or re-identify them as P/N 117-14110 or 117-14111, respectively, in accordance with the Accomplishment Instructions, paragraph 2.B.1.2., Eurocopter Deutschland GMBH Alert Service Bulletin BO 105 No. ASB-BO 105-10-113, Revision 2, dated November 16, 1999 (ASB). TT straps, P/N 2604067 (Bendix) or J17322-1 (Lord), are no longer eligible for installation.

(2) Create a component log card or equivalent record for each TT strap.

(3) Review the history of the helicopter and each TT strap. Determine the age since initial installation on any helicopter (age) and the number of flights on each TT strap. Enter both the age and the number of flights for each TT strap on the component log card or equivalent record. When the number of flights is unknown, multiply the number of hours time-in-service (TIS) by 5 to determine the number of flights.

(4) Remove any TT strap from service if the total hours TIS or number of flights and age cannot be determined.

(b) Before further flight, remove any TT strap, P/N 117-14110 or 117-14111, that has been in service 120 months since initial installation on any helicopter or accumulated 25,000 flights (a flight is a takeoff and a landing). Replace the TT strap with an airworthy TT strap.

(c) This AD revises the Airworthiness Limitations Section of the maintenance manual by establishing a life limit for the TT strap, P/N 117-14110 and 117-14111, of 120 months or 25,000 flights, whichever occurs first.

(d) An alternative method of compliance or adjustment of the compliance time that provides an acceptable level of safety may be used if approved by the Manager, Regulations Group, Rotorcraft Directorate, FAA. Operators shall submit their requests through an FAA Principal Maintenance Inspector, who may concur or comment and then send it to the Manager, Regulations Group.

**Note 2:** Information concerning the existence of approved alternative methods of compliance with this AD, if any, may be obtained from the Regulations Group.

(e) Special flight permits may be issued in accordance with sections 21.197 and 21.199 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR 21.197 and 21.199) to operate the helicopter to a location where the requirements of this AD can be accomplished.

(f) The modification shall be done in accordance with the Accomplishment Instructions, paragraph 2.B.1.2., Eurocopter Deutschland GMBH Alert Service Bulletin BO 105 No. ASB-BO 105-10-113, Revision 2, dated November 16, 1999. This incorporation by reference was approved by

the Director of the Federal Register in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 1 CFR part 51. Copies may be obtained from American Eurocopter Corporation, 2701 Forum Drive, Grand Prairie, Texas 75053-4005, telephone (972) 641-3460, fax (972) 641-3527. Copies may be inspected at the FAA, Office of the Regional Counsel, Southwest Region, 2601 Meacham Blvd., Room 663, Fort Worth, Texas; or at the Office of the Federal Register, 800 North Capitol Street, NW., suite 700, Washington, DC.

(g) This amendment becomes effective on January 26, 2001.

**Note 3:** The subject of this AD is addressed in the Luftfahrt Bundesamt (Federal Republic of Germany) AD 1999-289/2, dated September 1, 1999.

Issued in Fort Worth, Texas, on December 11, 2000.

**Henry A. Armstrong,**

*Manager, Rotorcraft Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service.*

[FR Doc. 00-32552 Filed 12-21-00; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-13-U**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Aviation Administration

#### 14 CFR Parts 121,125,135, and 145

[Docket No. FAA-2000-7952; Amendment Nos. 121-279, 125-35, 135-77, and 145-23]

RIN 2120-AF71

#### Service Difficulty Reports

**AGENCY:** Federal Aviation Administration, DOT.

**ACTION:** Final rule; delay of effective date.

**SUMMARY:** The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) is delaying the effective date of a final rule that amends the reporting requirements for air carriers and certificated domestic and foreign repair station operators concerning failures, malfunctions, and defects of aircraft, aircraft engines, systems, and components. This action was prompted by questions being raised by the aviation industry on the implementation of the new requirements. The delay will allow the FAA to develop appropriate guidance materials and disseminate that information to the aviation industry.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** The effective date (January 16, 2001) of the rule amending 14 CFR parts 121, 125, 129, and 145 published at 65 FR 56191, September 15, 2000, is delayed until July 16, 2001.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jose Figueroa, AFS-300, Federal Aviation Administration, 800 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20591, telephone 202-267-3797.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:****Background**

The FAA requested that comments on the information collection requirements of the Service Difficulty Reporting final rule (65 FR 56191, September 15, 2000) be submitted by November 14, 2000. The FAA has received written comments from the Air Transport Association, American Airlines, Evergreen International Airlines, and Pratt & Whitney, raising questions on some of the SDR reporting requirements and indicating the potential for duplicate reporting of certain failures, malfunctions, and defects.

Also one commentator has requested that the FAA delay the effective date of the final rule until the FAA has resolved these concerns.

The SDR rule, as published, has an effective date of January 16, 2001. The FAA has determined that it will need more time to review the commenter's concerns and to develop and disseminate guidance that will assist the industry in complying with the new rule. Therefore the FAA has delayed the effective date of the final rule until July 16, 2001. The existing rules will remain in effect until the new effective date.

Since this delay of the effective date is not a new requirement and does not impose any additional burden, I find that notice and public procedure thereon are unnecessary and that good cause exists for extending the effective date on less than 30 days notice.

Issued in Washington, DC, on December 15, 2000.

**Jane F. Garvey,**

*Administrator.*

[FR Doc. 00-32510 Filed 12-21-00; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-13-M**

**DEPARTMENT OF STATE****22 CFR Part 42**

[Public Notice 3515]

**Bureau of Consular Affairs; Visas: Immigrant Religious Workers**

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Consular Affairs, DOS.

**ACTION:** Final rule.

**SUMMARY:** This rule amends the Department of State's existing regulation regarding the validity of an immigrant visa issued to an alien worker coming to the United States to perform work in a religious occupation or vocation. The current regulation permits validity of those visas only until September 30, 2000. This rule amends the regulation to

extend the program until September 30, 2003. The amendment is necessitated by a change in the authorizing statute.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** December 22, 2000.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** H. Edward Odom, Legislation and Regulations Division, Visa Services, (202) 663-1204.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:****What Is the Background of This Regulation?***Immigration Act of 1990*

Sec. 151 of the Immigration Act of 1990 (IMMACT 90), Pub. L. 101-649, amended INA 101(a)(27)(C) by adding a new category of special immigrant visas for aliens who will work in a religious occupation or vocation for a religious organization in a professional or other capacity. Unlike the provision for special immigrant ministers of religion, which does not contain a sunset provision, the provisions for religious workers (as defined under INA 101(a)(27)(C)(ii)(II) and (III)), as originally enacted, required religious workers to seek to enter the United States before October 1, 1994.

*Immigration and Nationality Technical Corrections Act of 1994*

On October 25, 1994, sec. 214 of the Immigration and Nationality Technical Corrections Act of 1994 (Pub. L. 103-416) amended INA 101(a)(27)(C)(ii) to extend the sunset date to before October 1, 1997.

*Religious Workers Act of 1997*

Sec. 1 of the Religious Workers Act of 1997, Pub. L. 105-54 further extended the deadline for special immigrant religious workers to enter the United States until before October 1, 2000.

*Religious Workers Act of 2000*

On November 1, 2000, the President signed the Religious Workers Act of 2000 (Pub. L. 106-409), extending the program for three additional years through September 30, 2003.

**Final Rule****How Is the Department Amending Its Regulation?**

This rule amends 22 CFR 42.32(d)(1)(ii) by changing the date from September 30, 2000 to September 30, 2003 to conform to the statutory requirements of the Religious Workers Act of 2000.

*Administrative Procedure Act*

The Department's implementation of this regulation as a final rule is based upon the "good cause" exceptions found at 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B) and (d)(3).

As the amendment to the regulation provides a benefit to aliens by extending the special immigrant religious worker program for an additional three years, the Department has determined that it is unnecessary to publish a proposed rule or to solicit comments from the public. In view of this benefit and since the current validity date has already expired, the rule will be made effective immediately upon publication in the **Federal Register**.

*Regulatory Flexibility Act*

The Department of State, in accordance with the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 605(b)), has reviewed this regulation and, by approving it, certifies that this rule will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities.

*Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995*

This rule will not result in the expenditure by state, local and tribal governments, in the aggregate, or by the private sector, of \$100 million or more in any year and it will not significantly or uniquely affect small governments. Therefore, no actions were deemed necessary under the provisions of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995.

*Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996*

This rule is not a major rule as defined by section 804 of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Act of 1996. This rule will not result in an annual effect on the economy of \$100 million or more; a major increase in costs or prices; or significant adverse effects on competition, employment, investment, productivity, innovation, or on the ability of United States-based companies to compete with foreign-based companies in domestic and export markets.

*Executive Order 12866*

The Department of State does not consider this rule, to be a "significant regulatory action" under Executive Order 12866, section 3(f), Regulatory Planning and Review, and the Office of Management and Budget has waived its review process under section 6(a)(3)(A).

*Executive Order 13132*

This regulation will not have substantial direct effects 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. Therefore, in accordance with section 6 of Executive