

Dated: May 3, 2001.

Danny L. McDonald,
Chairman, Federal Election Commission.
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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Parts 27 and 29

[Docket No. FAA-2001-9616; Amdt. Nos. 27-40 and 29-47]

Rotorcraft Airworthiness Standards

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.
ACTION: Technical amendment.

SUMMARY: This document contains technical amendments to a final rule that was published in the **Federal Register** on December 20, 1976 (41 FR 55454). That final rule amended the airworthiness standards for normal and transport category rotorcraft under Parts 27 and 29 of title 14, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). The particular sections being amended relate to limit pilot forces and torques.

EFFECTIVE DATE: May 9, 2001.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jim Grigg, telephone (817) 222-5490.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The final regulations that are the subject of these amendments were originally codified as:

- Civil Air Regulations (CAR) 7.225 and 7.226, recodified as 14 CFR 29.397, effective February 1, 1965, and later amended by Amendment 29-12, effective February 1, 1977; and
- CAR 6.225 and 6.226, recodified as 14 CFR 27.397, effective February 1, 1965, and later amended by Amendment 27-11, effective February 1, 1977, was intended to establish a maximum pilot force for twist controls of 80R inch-pounds.

However, as published, the final regulations contain an error that has long been recognized by the FAA and industry as being misleading and in need of clarification. When these regulations were previously published, we inadvertently omitted the word "inch" in the phrase "Twist controls, 80R inch-pounds". These technical amendments clarify that the appropriate measurement is to be in "inch-pounds" not "pounds".

List of Subjects in 14 CFR Parts 27 and 29

Aircraft, Aviation safety, Rotorcraft.

The Amendment

Accordingly, the Federal Aviation Administration amends 14 CFR parts 27 and 29 by making the following technical amendments:

PART 27—AIRWORTHINESS STANDARDS: NORMAL CATEGORY ROTORCRAFT

1. The authority citation for part 27 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 106(g), 40113, 44701-44702, 44704.

2. § 27.397(b)(2) is amended by revising "80R pounds" to state "80R inch-pounds".

PART 29—AIRWORTHINESS STANDARDS: TRANSPORT CATEGORY ROTORCRAFT

3. The authority citation for part 29 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 106(g), 40113, 44701-44702, 44704.

4. § 29.397(b)(2) is amended by revising "80R pounds" to state "80R inch-pounds".

Issued in Washington, DC, on May 3, 2001.

Donald P. Byrne,

Assistant Chief Counsel for Regulations.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. 2001-NM-51-AD; Amendment 39-12220; AD 2001-09-13]

RIN 2120-AA64

Airworthiness Directives; Boeing Model 767-200, -300, and -300F Series Airplanes

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Final rule; request for comments.

SUMMARY: This amendment adopts a new airworthiness directive (AD) that is applicable to certain Boeing Model 767-200, -300, and -300F series airplanes. This action requires inspections for fatigue cracking of the horizontal stabilizer pivot bulkhead, and repetitive inspections or other follow-on actions. This action also provides a permanent repair, which is optional for airplanes with no cracks, and, if accomplished, ends the repetitive inspections. This action is necessary to find and fix

fatigue cracking of the horizontal stabilizer pivot bulkhead and adjacent structure, which could result in loss of the horizontal stabilizer. This action is intended to address the identified unsafe condition.

DATES: Effective May 24, 2001.

The incorporation by reference of certain publications listed in the regulations is approved by the Director of the Federal Register as of May 24, 2001.

Comments for inclusion in the Rules Docket must be received on or before July 9, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments in triplicate to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Transport Airplane Directorate, ANM-114, Attention: Rules Docket No. 2001-NM-51-AD, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington 98055-4056. Comments may be inspected at this location between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. Comments may be submitted via fax to (425) 227-1232. Comments may also be sent via the Internet using the following address: 9-anm-iarcomment@faa.gov. Comments sent via fax or the Internet must contain "Docket No. 2001-NM-51-AD" in the subject line and need not be submitted in triplicate. Comments sent via the Internet as attached electronic files must be formatted in Microsoft Word 97 for Windows or ASCII text.

The service information referenced in this AD may be obtained from Boeing Commercial Airplane Group, P.O. Box 3707, Seattle, Washington 98124-2207. This information may be examined at the FAA, Transport Airplane Directorate, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington; or at the Office of the Federal Register, 800 North Capitol Street, NW., suite 700, Washington, DC.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John Craycraft, Aerospace Engineer, Airframe Branch, ANM-120S, FAA, Seattle Aircraft Certification Office, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington 98055-4056; telephone (425) 227-2782; fax (425) 227-1181.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The FAA has received reports that fatigue cracking of the horizontal stabilizer pivot bulkhead has been found on several Boeing Model 767-200, -300, and -300F series airplanes. The cracks occurred in the forward and aft outer chords and the outer chord splice fitting of the Station 1809.5 bulkhead, just above the horizontal stabilizer fitting. Cracking also occurred in the intercostals that support the Station 1809.5 bulkhead. Analysis indicates that these fatigue cracks occur because the