

Proposed Rules

Federal Register

Vol. 60, No. 28

Friday, February 10, 1995

This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains notices to the public of the proposed issuance of rules and regulations. The purpose of these notices is to give interested persons an opportunity to participate in the rule making prior to the adoption of the final rules.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. 94-CE-31-AD]

Airworthiness Directives; Beech Aircraft Corporation Models 1900, 1900C, and 1900D Airplanes

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM).

SUMMARY: This document proposes to supersede Airworthiness Directive (AD) 91-24-15, which currently requires modifying the instrument air plumbing system on Beech Aircraft Corporation (Beech) Models 1900 and 1900C airplanes. The proposed action would require an additional modification to the plumbing of the instrument air system on the Models 1900 and 1900C airplanes, and would add the Model 1900D airplanes to the applicability. Eight reports of moisture freezing in this system on airplanes with the modification required by AD 91-24-15 incorporated prompted the proposed action. In addition, recent testing on the Model 1900D indicates that the design of the instrument air system on these airplanes is also conducive to moisture freeze-ups. The actions specified by the proposed AD are intended to prevent ice formation in the plumbing of the instrument air system, which, if not detected and corrected, could result in aerodynamic problems and subsequent loss of control of the airplane.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before April 21, 1995.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments in triplicate to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Central Region, Office of the Assistant Chief Counsel, Attention: Rules Docket No. 94-CE-31-AD, Room 1558, 601 E. 12th Street, Kansas City, Missouri 64106. Comments may be inspected at this location

between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, holidays excepted.

Service information that applies to the proposed AD may be obtained from the Beech Aircraft Corporation, P.O. Box 85, Wichita, Kansas 67201-0085. This information also may be examined at the Rules Docket at the address above.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Harvey E. Nero, Aerospace Engineer, Wichita Aircraft Certification Office, FAA, 1801 Airport Road, Mid-Continent Airport, Wichita, Kansas 67209; telephone (316) 946-4137; facsimile (316) 946-4407.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Comments Invited

Interested persons are invited to participate in the making of the proposed rule by submitting such written data, views, or arguments as they may desire. Communications should identify the Rules Docket number and be submitted in triplicate to the address specified above. All communications received on or before the closing date for comments, specified above, will be considered before taking action on the proposed rule. The proposals contained in this notice may be changed in light of the comments received.

Comments are specifically invited on the overall regulatory, economic, environmental, and energy aspects of the proposed rule. All comments submitted will be available, both before and after the closing date for comments, in the Rules Docket for examination by interested persons. A report that summarizes each FAA-public contact concerned with the substance of this proposal will be filed in the Rules Docket.

Commenters wishing the FAA to acknowledge receipt of their comments submitted in response to this notice must submit a self-addressed, stamped postcard on which the following statement is made: "Comments to Docket No. 94-CE-31-AD." The postcard will be date stamped and returned to the commenter.

Availability of NPRMs

Any person may obtain a copy of this NPRM by submitting a request to the FAA, Central Region, Office of the Assistant Chief Counsel, Attention: Rules Docket No. 94-CE-31-AD, Room

1558, 601 E. 12th Street, Kansas City, Missouri 64106.

Discussion

AD 91-24-15, Amendment 39-8173 (57 FR 3927, February 3, 1992), currently requires modifying the plumbing of the instrument air system on Beech Models 1900 and 1900C airplanes. Several reports of moisture freezing in the plumbing of the instrument air system on the affected airplanes prompted that AD.

Since issuance of AD 91-24-15, the FAA has received eight reports of moisture freezing in the plumbing of the instrument air system on airplanes in compliance with that AD. In addition, recent testing on the Beech Model 1900D indicates that the design of the instrument air systems on these airplanes is also conducive to moisture freeze-ups.

Beech has developed kits that, upon installation, make plumbing changes in the instrument air system, add additional insulation, and make wing leading edge core modifications. Installation of the applicable kit on an affected airplane will maintain the air temperatures in the instrument air system at 50 degrees or higher, and help eliminate the possibility of moisture freezing in this system in cold humid environments. The following presents each kit and the applicable airplane model each kit applies to:

Models	Kit No.
1900 and 1900C.	118-9003-1 or 118-9003-3.
1900D	129-9010-1 or 129-9010-3.

After examining the circumstances and reviewing all available information related to the incidents described above, the FAA has determined that AD action should be taken to prevent ice formation in the plumbing of the instrument air system, which, if not detected and corrected, could result in aerodynamic problems and subsequent loss of control of the airplane.

Since an unsafe condition has been identified that is likely to exist or develop in other Beech Model 1900, 1900C, and 1900D airplanes of the same type design, the proposed AD would supersede AD 91-24-15, Amendment 39-8173, with a new AD that would require modifying the plumbing of the