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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. FAA-2023-1987; Project Identifier MCAI-2023-00807-T; Amendment 39-22806; AD 2024-15-14]

RIN 2120-AA64

Airworthiness Directives; ATR-GIE Avions de Transport Régional Airplanes

AGENCY:

Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION:

Final rule.

SUMMARY:

The FAA is superseding Airworthiness Directive (AD) 2021-17-02, which applied to all ATR-GIE Avions de Transport Régional Model ATR42-200, -300, and -320 airplanes. AD 2021-17-02 required a one-time inspection for discrepancies of the wire bundles between the left- and right-hand angle of attack (AOA) probes and the crew alerting computer, and, depending on findings, applicable corrective actions. AD 2021-17-02 also required, for certain airplanes, modifying the captain stick shaker wiring, and for all airplanes, revising the existing aircraft flight manual (AFM) and applicable corresponding operational procedures to incorporate procedures for the stick pusher/shaker. Since the FAA issued AD 2021-17-02, additional modification of the affected wiring for certain airplanes was developed. This AD retains all of the requirements of AD 2021-17-02 and requires installing a new AOA power supply unit and removing the AFM amendment; as specified in a European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) AD, which is incorporated by reference. The FAA is issuing this AD to address the unsafe condition on these products.

DATES:

This AD is effective October 23, 2024.

The Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference of a certain publication listed in this AD as of October 23, 2024.

ADDRESSES:

AD Docket: You may examine the AD docket at *regulations.gov* under Docket No. FAA-2023-1987; or in person at Docket Operations between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The AD docket contains this final rule, the mandatory continuing airworthiness information (MCAI), any comments received, and other information. The address for Docket Operations is U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M-30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590.

Material Incorporated by Reference:

- For EASA material identified in this AD, contact EASA, Konrad-Adenauer-Ufer 3, 50668 Cologne, Germany; telephone +49 221 8999 000; email<u>ADs@easa.europa.eu</u>; website easa.europa.eu. You may find this material on the EASA website ad.easa.europa.eu.
- You may view this material at the FAA, Airworthiness Products Section, Operational Safety Branch, 2200 South 216th Street, Des Moines, WA. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call 206-231-3195. It is also available at*regulations.gov* under Docket No. FAA-2023-1987.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Shahram Daneshmandi, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, 1600 Stewart Avenue, Suite 410, Westbury, NY 11590; telephone 206-231-3220; email *Shahram.Daneshmandi@faa.gov*.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The FAA issued a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) to amend <u>14 CFR part 39</u> to supersede AD 2021-17-02, Amendment 39-21685 (<u>86 FR 48490</u>, August 31, 2021) (AD 2021-17-02). AD 2021-17-02 applied to all ATR-GIE Avions de Transport Régional Model ATR42-200, -300, and -320 airplanes. AD 2021-17-02 required a one-time inspection for discrepancies of the wire bundles between the left-and right-hand AOA probes and the crew alerting computer, and, depending on findings, applicable corrective actions. AD 2021-17-02 also required for certain airplanes, modifying the captain stick shaker wiring, and for all airplanes, revising the existing AFM and applicable corresponding operational procedures to incorporate procedures for the stick pusher/shaker. The FAA issued AD 2021-17-02 to address false activation of the stall warning system due to wiring damage on the wire bundle between an AOA probe and the crew alerting computer, which could result in loss of control of the airplane during take-off and landing phases.

The NPRM published in the **Federal Register** on October 5, 2023 (<u>88 FR 69102</u>). The NPRM was prompted by AD 2023-0134, dated July 5, 2023 (EASA AD 2023-0134), issued by EASA, which is the Technical Agent for the Member States of the European Union. EASA AD 2023-0134 states final modification instructions of the affected wiring were developed.

In the NPRM, the FAA proposed to require installing a new AOA power supply unit and revising the existing AFM, as specified in EASA AD 2023-0134.

The FAA issued a supplemental notice of proposed rulemaking (SNPRM) to amend <u>14 CFR part 39</u> to supersede AD 2021-17-02. The SNPRM published in the **Federal Register** on May 21, 2024 (<u>89 FR 44568</u>). The SNPRM was prompted by additional modification of the affected wiring for certain airplanes, and by the issuance of EASA AD 2023-0191, dated November 2, 2023 (EASA AD 2023-0191) (also referred to as the MCAI). In the SNPRM, the FAA proposed to retain all of the requirements of AD 2021-17-02. The NPRM also proposed to require installing a new AOA power supply unit and removing the AFM amendment. The FAA is issuing this AD to address the unsafe condition on these products.

You may examine the MCAI in the AD docket at *regulations.gov* under Docket No. FAA-2023-1987.

Discussion of Final Airworthiness Directive

Comments

The FAA received one comment, from Air Line Pilots Association, International (ALPA), who supported the SNPRM without change.

Conclusion

This product has been approved by the aviation authority of another country and is approved for operation in the United States. Pursuant to the FAA's bilateral agreement with this State of Design Authority, it has notified the FAA of the unsafe condition described in the MCAI referenced above. The FAA reviewed the relevant data, considered the comment received, and determined that air safety requires adopting this AD as proposed. Accordingly, the FAA is issuing this AD to address the unsafe condition on this product. Except for minor editorial changes this AD is adopted as proposed in the SNPRM. None of the changes will increase the economic burden on any operator.

Material Incorporated by Reference Under <u>1 CFR Part 51</u>

EASA AD 2023-0191 specifies procedures for a one-time inspection for discrepancies of the wire bundles between the left- and right-hand AOA probes and the crew alerting computer, and, depending on findings, applicable corrective actions (repair). EASA AD 2023-0191 also specifies procedures, for certain airplanes, for modifying the captain stick shaker wiring, and for all airplanes, revising the existing AFM to incorporate procedures for the stick pusher/shaker. Finally, EASA AD 2023-0191 specifies procedures for installing the AOA power supply unit, removing the AFM amendment, and accomplishing additional modification of the affected wiring.

This material 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.

Costs of Compliance

The FAA estimates that this AD affects 26 airplanes of U.S. registry. The FAA estimates the following costs to comply with this AD:

Action	Labor cost	Parts cost	Cost per product	Cost on U.S. operators
Retained actions from AD 2021-17-02	Up to 14 work-hours × \$85 per hour = Up to \$1,190	\$100	Up to \$1,290	Up to \$33,540.
New actions	50 work-hours × \$85 per hour = \$4,250	0	\$4,250	\$110,500.

The FAA has received no definitive data on which to base the cost estimates for the on-condition actions specified in this AD.

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.

The FAA is 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

This AD will not have federalism implications under <u>Executive Order 13132</u>. 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 that this AD:

(1) Is not a "significant regulatory action" under Executive Order 12866,

(2) Will not affect intrastate aviation in Alaska, 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.

List of Subjects in 14 CFR Part 39

- Air transportation
- Aircraft
- Aviation safety
- Incorporation by reference

Safety

The Amendment

Accordingly, under the authority delegated to me by the Administrator, the FAA amends <u>14 CFR part</u> <u>39</u> as follows:

PART 39—AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVES

1. The authority citation for part 39 continues to read as follows:

Authority: <u>49 U.S.C. 106(g)</u>, <u>40113</u>, <u>44701</u>.

§<u>39.13</u> [Amended]

- **2.** The FAA amends § 39.13 by:
 - **a.** Removing Airworthiness Directive 2021-17-02, Amendment 39-21685 (<u>86 FR 48490</u>, August 31, 2021); and
 - **b.** Adding the following new Airworthiness Directive:
 - **2024-15-14** ATR—GIE Avions de Transport Régional: Amendment 39-22806; Docket No. FAA-2023-1987; Project Identifier MCAI-2023-00807-T.

(a) Effective Date

This airworthiness directive (AD) is effective October 23, 2024.

(b) Affected ADs

This AD replaces AD 2021-17-02, Amendment 39-21685 (<u>86 FR 48490</u>, August 31, 2021) (AD 2021-17-02).

(c) Applicability

This AD applies to all ATR-GIE Avions de Transport Régional Model ATR42-200, -300, and -320 airplanes, certificated in any category.

(d) Subject

Air Transport Association (ATA) of America Code 31, Instruments.

(e) Unsafe Condition

This AD was prompted by false activation of the stall warning system due to wiring damage on the wire bundle between an angle of attack (AOA) probe and the crew alerting computer, and the development of additional wiring modifications and an aircraft flight manual (AFM) update to address the unsafe condition. The FAA is issuing this AD to address this condition, which could result in loss of control of the airplane during take-off and landing phases.

(f) Compliance

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

(g) Requirements

Except as specified in paragraph (h) of this AD: Comply with all required actions and compliance times specified in, and in accordance with, European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) AD 2023-0191, dated November 2, 2023 (EASA AD 2023-0191).

(h) Exceptions to EASA AD 2023-0191

(1) Where EASA AD 2023-0191 refers to October 27, 2020 (the effective date of EASA AD 2020-0221), this AD requires using December 3, 2020 (the effective date of AD 2020-23-13, Amendment 39-21330 (<u>85 FR 73407</u>, November 18, 2020)).

(2) Where EASA AD 2023-0191 refers to February 2, 2021 (the effective date of EASA AD 2021-0024), this AD requires using October 5, 2021 (the effective date of AD 2021-17-02).

(3) Where paragraph (2) of EASA AD 2023-0191 refers to "discrepancies," for this AD, discrepancies include, but are not limited to, wire damage, missing or damaged conduits, and incorrect routing of wiring and conduits.

(4) Where paragraph (8) of EASA AD 2023-0191 specifies "accomplish the additional work as identified in" replace that text with "accomplish the additional work as identified in section `1— ADDITIONAL WORK.'"

(5) Where paragraphs (4) and (5) of EASA AD 2023-0191 specify to "inform all flight crews, and, thereafter, operate the aeroplane accordingly," this AD does not require those actions, as those actions are already required by existing FAA operating regulations (see <u>14 CFR 91.9</u>, <u>91.505</u>, and <u>121.137</u>).

(6) Where EASA AD 2023-0191 refers to its effective date, this AD requires using the effective date of this AD.

(7) Where EASA AD 2023-0191 refers to July 19, 2023 (the effective date of EASA AD 2023-0134), this AD requires using the effective date of this AD.

(8) This AD does not adopt the "Remarks" section of EASA AD 2023-0191.

(i) Additional AD Provisions

The following provisions also apply to this AD:

(1) *Alternative Methods of Compliance (AMOCs):* The Manager, International Validation Branch, FAA, has the authority to approve AMOCs for this AD, if requested using the procedures found in <u>14</u> <u>CFR 39.19</u>. In accordance with <u>14 CFR 39.19</u>, send your request to your principal inspector or responsible Flight Standards Office, as appropriate. If sending information directly to the manager of the International Validation Branch, mail it to the address identified in paragraph (j) of this AD or email to: <u>9-AVS-AIR-730-AMOC@faa.gov</u>. If mailing information, also submit information by email.

Before using any approved AMOC, notify your appropriate principal inspector, or lacking a principal inspector, the manager of the responsible Flight Standards Office.

(2) *Contacting the Manufacturer:* For any requirement in this AD to obtain instructions from a manufacturer, the instructions must be accomplished using a method approved by the Manager, International Validation Branch, FAA; or EASA; or ATR-GIE Avions de Transport Régional's EASA Design Organization Approval (DOA). If approved by the DOA, the approval must include the DOA-authorized signature.

(j) Additional Information

For more information about this AD, contact Shahram Daneshmandi, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, 1600 Stewart Avenue, Suite 410, Westbury, NY 11590; telephone 206-231-3220; email <u>Shahram.Daneshmandi@faa.gov</u>.

(k) Material Incorporated by Reference

(1) The Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference (IBR) of the material listed in this paragraph under 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 1 CFR part 51.

(2) You must use this material as applicable to do the actions required by this AD, unless this AD specifies otherwise.

(i) European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) AD 2023-0191, dated November 2, 2023.

(ii) [Reserved]

(3) For EASA AD 2023-0191, contact EASA, Konrad-Adenauer-Ufer 3, 50668 Cologne, Germany; telephone +49 221 8999 000; email <u>ADs@easa.europa.eu</u>; website *easa.europa.eu*. You may find this EASA AD on the EASA website at *ad.easa.europa.eu*.

(4) You may view this material at the FAA, Airworthiness Products Section, Operational Safety Branch, 2200 South 216th Street, Des Moines, WA. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call 206-231-3195.

(5) You may view this material at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). For information on the availability of this material at NARA, visit <u>www.archives.gov/federal-register/cfr/</u><u>ibr-locations</u> or email <u>fr.inspection@nara.gov</u>.

Issued on September 12, 2024.

Victor Wicklund,

Deputy Director, Compliance & Airworthiness Division, Aircraft Certification Service.

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