TABLE 2.1—TEST PROVISIONS FOR SPECIFIC COMPONENTS—Continued

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Test provisions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Furnaces and Steam/Hydronic Heat Coils, Power Correction Capacitors.</td>
<td>A capacitor that increases the power factor measured at the line connection to the equipment. These devices are a requirement of the power distribution system supplying the unit.</td>
<td>Test with the coils in place but providing no heat. Remove power correction capacitors for testing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hail Guards</td>
<td>A grille or similar structure mounted to the outside of the unit covering the outdoor coil to protect the coil from hail, flying debris and damage from large objects.</td>
<td>Remove hail guards for testing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ducted Condenser Fans.</td>
<td>A condenser fan/motor assembly designed for optional external ducting of condenser air that provides greater pressure rise and has a higher rated motor horsepower than the condenser fan provided as a standard component with the equipment.</td>
<td>Test with the ducted condenser fan installed and operating using zero external static pressure, unless the manufacturer specifies use of an external static pressure greater than zero, in which case, use the manufacturer-specified external static pressure. Removable sound traps/sound attenuators shall be removed for testing. Otherwise, test with sound traps/attenuators in place.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sound Traps/Sound Attenuators.</td>
<td>An assembly of structures through which the supply air passes before leaving the equipment or through which the return air from the building passes immediately after entering the equipment for which the sound insertion loss is at least 6 dB for the 125 Hz octave band frequency range.</td>
<td>Remove sound traps/sound attenuators for testing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Humidifiers</td>
<td>A device placed in the supply air stream for moisture evaporation and distribution. The device may require building steam or water, hot water, electric or gas to operate.</td>
<td>Remove humidifiers for testing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UV Lights</td>
<td>A lighting fixture and lamp mounted so that it shines light on the conditioning coil, that emits ultraviolet light to inhibit growth of organisms on the conditioning coil surfaces, the condensate drip pan, and/or locations within the equipment.</td>
<td>Remove UV lights for testing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High-Effectiveness Indoor Air Filtration.</td>
<td>Indoor air filters with greater air filtration effectiveness than MERV 8 or the lowest MERV filter distributed in commerce, whichever is greater.</td>
<td>Test with a MERV 8 filter or the lowest MERV filter distributed in commerce, whichever is greater.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


dates: The FAA must receive comments on this proposed AD by February 7, 2022.

Addresses: You may send comments, using the procedures found in 14 CFR 11.43 and 11.45, by any of the following methods:
- Federal eRulemaking Portal: Go to https://www.regulations.gov. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.
- Fax: (202) 493–2251.
- Hand Delivery: Deliver to Mail address between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

For service information identified in this NPRM, contact Bell Textron Canada Limited, 12,800 Rue de l’Avenir, Mirabel, Quebec J7J 1R4, Canada; telephone 1–450–437–2862 or 1–800–363–8023; fax 1–450–433–0272; email productsupport@bellflight.com; or at https://www.bellflight.com/support/contact-support. You may view this service information at the FAA, Office of the Regional Counsel, Southwest Region, 10101 Hillwood Pkwy., Room 6N–321, Fort Worth, TX 76177. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call (817) 222–5110.

Examining the AD Docket
You may examine the AD docket at https://www.regulations.gov by searching for and locating Docket No.
FAA—2021–1074; 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 NPRM, the Transport Canada AD, any comments received, and other information. The street address for Docket Operations is listed above.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Andrea Jimenez, Aerospace Engineer, COS Program Management Section, Operational Safety Branch, Compliance & Airworthiness Division, FAA, 1600 Stewart Ave., Suite 410, Westbury, NY 11590; telephone (516) 228–7330; email andrea.jimenez@faa.gov. Any commentary that the FAA receives which is not specifically designated as CBI will be placed in the public docket for this rulemaking.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Comments Invited

The FAA invites you to send any written relevant data, views, or arguments about this proposal. Send your comments to an address listed under ADDRESSES. Include “Docket No. FAA—2021–1074; Project Identifier MCAI–2021–00447–R” at the beginning of your comments. The most helpful comments reference a specific portion of the proposal, explain the reason for any recommended change, and include supporting data. The FAA will consider all comments received by the closing date and may amend this proposal because of those comments.

Except for Confidential Business Information (CBI) as described in the following paragraph, and other information as described in 14 CFR 11.35, the FAA will post all comments received, without change, to https://www.regulations.gov, including any personal information you provide. The agency will also post a report summarizing each substantive verbal contact received about this NPRM.

Confidential Business Information

CBI is commercial or financial information that is both customarily and actually treated as private by its owner. Under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) (5 U.S.C. 552), CBI is exempt from public disclosure. If your comments responsive to this NPRM contain commercial or financial information that is customarily treated as private, that you actually treat as private, and that is relevant or responsive to this NPRM, it is important that you clearly designate the submitted comments as CBI. Please mark each page of your submission containing CBI as “PROPIN.” The FAA will treat such marked submissions as confidential under the FOIA, and they will not be placed in the public docket of this NPRM. Submissions containing CBI should be sent to Andrea Jimenez, Aerospace Engineer, COS Program Management Section, Operational Safety Branch, Compliance & Airworthiness Division, FAA, 1600 Stewart Ave., Suite 410, Westbury, NY 11590; telephone (516) 228–7330; email andrea.jimenez@faa.gov. Any commentary that the FAA receives which is not specifically designated as CBI will be placed in the public docket for this rulemaking.

Background

Transport Canada, which is the aviation authority for Canada, has issued Canadian AD CF–2021–15, dated April 14, 2021 (Transport Canada AD CF–2021–15), to correct an unsafe condition for Bell Textron Canada Limited Model 429 helicopters, serial numbers (S/N) 57001 and subsequent. Transport Canada advises of multiple in-service reports of failed rivets at the joint between the tailboom skin and the TR gearbox support assembly part number (P/N) 429–034–701–101 or P/N 429–035–705–101. Transport Canada states that in-service reports also revealed a quality escape resulted in a gapping condition between the tailboom skin and the TR gearbox support fitting at some locations around the joint, and that rivets of inadequate grip length have been installed at the affected joint. This condition, if not addressed, could result in progressive deterioration of the joint structural integrity, detachment of the TR gearbox support assembly and loss of control of the helicopter.

Accordingly, Transport Canada AD CF–2021–15 requires for certain serial-numbered helicopters an initial visual inspection of the rivets at the TR gearbox support assembly for signs of Failed rivets or inadequate grip length. Transport Canada AD CF–2021–15 also requires, for all serial-numbered helicopters defined in the applicability, repeating the initial visual inspection at intervals not to exceed 400 hours air time or 12 months, whichever occurs first. Transport Canada AD CF–2021–15 also requires repair or replacement of affected parts if discrepancies are found. Transport Canada considers its AD an interim action and states that further AD action may follow.

FAA’s Determination

These helicopters have been approved by the aviation authority of Canada and are approved for operation in the United States. Pursuant to the FAA’s bilateral agreement with Canada, Transport Canada, its technical representative, has notified the FAA of the unsafe condition described in its AD. The FAA is proposing this AD after evaluating all known relevant information and determining that the unsafe condition described previously is likely to exist or develop on other helicopters of these same type designs.

Related Service Information Under 1 CFR Part 1

The FAA reviewed Bell Alert Service Bulletin 429–19–47, Revision B, dated January 27, 2021 (ASB 429–19–47). This service information specifies procedures for an initial and repetitive general visual inspections and other detailed inspections of the affected rivets at the joint between the tailboom skin and the TR gearbox support assembly. This service information also specifies procedures for replacing the affected rivets and repairing the gaps in accordance with an approved Bell structural repair scheme.

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.

Proposed AD Requirements in This NPRM

For Model 429 helicopters with S/N 57002 through 57210 inclusive and S/N 57212 and subsequent that, as of the effective date of this AD, have accumulated less than 300 total hours time-in-service (TIS), before accumulating 400 total hours TIS; or for helicopters with S/N 57002 through 57210 inclusive and S/N 57212 and subsequent that, as of the effective date of this AD, have replaced certain part-numbered TR gearbox support assemblies and the helicopter has accumulated less than 300 total hours TIS since the replacement of the TR gearbox support assembly, before accumulating 400 total hours TIS since the replacement, this proposed AD would require visually inspecting the external surface of the TR gearbox support assembly for any rivet heads that have separated from their tail, measuring any gaps, and before further flight, removing affected rivets from service or repairing gaps in accordance with FAA-approved methods.

This proposed AD would also require either borescope inspecting or using a light source and mirror to visually inspect each rivet inside the tailboom for missing rivet tails, rivet tails not resting against the tailboom skin, and any rivet tails resting at the bottom of the tailboom. Depending on the inspection results, this proposed AD would require, before further flight, additional inspections or removing certain parts from service. This proposed AD would require performing a tactile inspection of certain rivets
The FAA determines that this proposed AD would not have federalism implications under Executive Order 13132. This proposed AD would 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, I certify this proposed regulation:
(1) Is not a “significant regulatory action” under Executive Order 12866, 
(2) Would not affect intrastate aviation in Alaska, and 
(3) Would 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 Proposed Amendment

Accordingly, under the authority delegated to me by the Administrator, the FAA proposes to amend 14 CFR part 39 as follows:

PART 39—AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVES

§ 39.13 [Amended]

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:


(a) Comments Due Date

The FAA must receive comments on this airworthiness directive (AD) by February 7, 2022.

(b) Affected ADs

None.

(c) Applicability

This AD applies to Bell Textron Canada Limited Model 429 helicopters, serial numbers (S/N) 57001 and subsequent, certified in any category.

(d) Subject

Joint Aircraft Service Component (JASC) Code: 5302, Rotorcraft tail boom.

(e) Unsafe Condition

This AD was prompted by reports of failed rivets between the tailboom skin and the tail rotor (TR) gearbox support assembly. The FAA is issuing this AD to detect failed rivets and rivets with inadequate grip length. The unsafe condition, if not addressed, could result in deterioration of the joint structural integrity, detachment of the TR gearbox support assembly, and loss of helicopter control.

(f) Compliance

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

(g) Required Actions

(1) As of the effective date of this AD, for Model 429 helicopters S/N 57002 through 57210 inclusive and S/N 57212 and subsequent that have accumulated less than 300 total hours time-in-service (TIS), before accumulating 400 total hours TIS; or for Model 429 helicopters S/N 57002 through 57210 inclusive and S/N 57212 and subsequent that have replaced the TR gearbox support assembly part number (P/N) 429–034–701–101 or P/N 429–035–705–101 and the helicopter has accumulated less than 300 total hours TIS since the replacement of the TR gearbox support assembly, before accumulating 400 total hours TIS since the replacement:

(i) Visually inspect the external surface of the TR gearbox support assembly for any rivet heads that have separated from their tail. If there are any rivet heads that have separated from their tail, before further flight, measure any gaps between the TR gearbox support assembly and the tailboom skin by following the Accomplishment Instructions, Part I, paragraphs 9.b. through 9.d of Bell Alert Service Bulletin 429–19–47, Revision B, dated January 27, 2021 (ASB 429–19–47 Rev B).

(A) If there are no gaps or if any gap measures less than 0.005 in (0.127 mm), before further flight, remove the rivets from service.

(B) If there are any gaps that are equal to or exceed 0.005 in (0.127 mm), before further flight, repair the gaps in accordance with an FAA-approved method, and remove the rivets from service.

(ii) Borescope inspect or use a light source and mirror to visually inspect each rivet inside the tailboom for any missing rivet tails, any rivet tails resting at the bottom of the tailboom, and any rivet tails not resting against the tailboom skin.

(A) If there are any missing rivet tails, or any rivet tails resting at the bottom of the tailboom, before further flight, measure any gaps between the TR gearbox support assembly and the tailboom skin by following the Accomplishment Instructions, Part I, paragraphs 9.b. through 9.d of ASB 429–19–47 Rev B, and perform the corrective actions specified in paragraphs (g)(1)(i)(A) or (B) of this AD as applicable.

(B) If there are any rivet tails not resting against the tailboom skin before further flight, remove the rivets from service.

(iii) Perform a tactile inspection of the rivets identified in Figure 1 of ASB 429–19–47 Rev B, by pulling on each rivet tail with pliers or pulling by hand. If any rivet does not come out when pulled with pliers or when pulled by hand, before further flight, remove the rivet from service.

(2) For Model 429 helicopters S/N 57002 through 57210 inclusive and S/N 57212 and subsequent that have replaced the TR gearbox support assembly, within 400 hours TIS after the effective date of this AD, perform the actions as specified in paragraph (g)(1)(i) through (iii) of this AD.

(3) For Model 429 helicopters S/N 57002 through 57210 inclusive and S/N 57212 and subsequent, within 400 hours TIS after the effective date of this AD, and thereafter at intervals not to exceed 400 hours TIS, accomplish the actions required by paragraphs (g)(1)(i) through (iii) of this AD.

(b) Credit for Previous Actions

This paragraph provides credit for the actions specified in paragraphs (g)(1) and (2) of this AD, if those actions were performed before the effective date of this AD using Bell Alert Service Bulletin 429–19–47, Revision A, dated November 2, 2020, or Bell Alert Service Bulletin 429–19–47, dated August 28, 2019.

(i) Alternative Methods of Compliance (AMOCs)

(1) The Manager, International Validation Branch, FAA, has the authority to approve AMOCs for this AD, if requested using the procedures found in 14 CFR 39.19. In accordance with 14 CFR 39.19, send your request to your principal inspector or local Flight Standards District Office, as appropriate. If sending information directly to the manager of the International Validation Branch, send it to the attention of the person identified in paragraph (j)(1) of this AD. Information may be emailed to: 9-AVS-AIR-730-AMOC@faa.gov.

(2) Before using any approved AMOC, notify your appropriate principal inspector, or lacking a principal inspector, the manager of the local flight standards district office/ certificate holding district office.

(j) Related Information

(1) For more information about this AD, contact Andrea Jimenez, Aerospace Engineer, COS Program Management Section, Operational Safety Branch, Compliance & Airworthiness Division, FAA, 1600 Stewart Ave., Suite 410, Westbury, NY 11590; telephone (516) 939–7330; email andreia.jimenez@faa.gov.

(2) For service information identified in this AD, contact Bell Textron Canada Limited, 12,800 Rue de l’Avenir, Mirabel, Quebec J7V 4A4, Canada; telephone 1–450–437–2862 or 1–800–363–5023; fax 1–450–433–0272; email productsupport@bellflight.com; or at https://www.bellflight.com/support/contact-support. You may view this referenced service information at the FAA, Office of the Regional Counsel, Southwest Region, 10101 Hillwood Pkwy., Room 6N–321, Fort Worth, TX 76177. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call (817) 222–5110.


Issued on December 15, 2021
Ross Landes, Deputy Director for Regulatory Operations, Compliance & Airworthiness Division, Aircraft Certification Service.

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