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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. FAA-2019-0350; Product Identifier 2019-CE-025-AD; Amendment 39-19634; AD 2019-08-13]

RIN 2120-AA64

Airworthiness Directives; Textron Aviation, Inc. Airplanes

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Final rule; request for comments.

SUMMARY: We are adopting a new airworthiness directive (AD) for certain Textron Aviation, Inc. (type certificate previously held by Cessna Aircraft Company) Models 525, 525A, and 525B airplanes with Tamarack active load alleviation system (ATLAS) winglets installed in accordance with Supplemental Type Certificate (STC) SA03842NY. This AD results from mandatory continuing airworthiness information (MCAI) issued by the aviation authority of another country to identify and correct an unsafe condition on an aviation product. The MCAI describes the unsafe condition as malfunction of the ATLAS. We are issuing this AD to require actions to address the unsafe condition on these products.

DATES: This AD is effective May 24, 2019.

We must receive comments on this AD by July 8, 2019.

ADDRESSES: You may send comments by any of the following methods:

Federal eRulemaking Portal: Go to <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

Fax: (202) 493-2251.

Mail: U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M-30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590.

Hand Delivery: U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M-30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

Examining the AD Docket

You may examine the AD docket on the internet at <http://www.regulations.gov> by searching for and locating Docket No. FAA-2019-0350; 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 AD, the regulatory evaluation, any comments received, and other information. The street address for Docket Operations (telephone (800) 647-5527) is in the ADDRESSES section. Comments will be available in the AD docket shortly after receipt.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Steven Dzierzynski, Aerospace Engineer, FAA, New York ACO Branch, 1600 Stewart Avenue, Suite 410, Westbury, New York 11590; telephone: (516) 228-7367; fax: (516) 794-5531; email: steven.dzierzynski@faa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Discussion

The European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA), which is the Technical Agent for the Member States of the European Community, has issued EASA AD No.: 2019-0086-E, dated April 19, 2019 (referred to after this as “the MCAI”), to correct an unsafe condition for Textron Aviation, Inc. Models 525, 525A, and 525B airplanes with Tamarack ATLAS winglets installed in accordance with STC SA03842NY. The MCAI states:

The active load alleviation system (ATLAS), when operational, deflects the Tamarack active control surfaces (TACS) on the outboard wings. Recently, occurrences have been reported in which ATLAS appears to have malfunctioned, causing upset events where, in some cases, the pilots had difficulty to recover the aeroplane to safe flight. Investigation continues to determine the cause(s) for the reported events.

This condition, if not corrected, could lead to loss of control of the aeroplane.

To address this potential unsafe condition, Cranfield Aerospace Solutions have issued the [service bulletin] SB, providing instructions to pull and collar the ATLAS circuit breaker, to make TACS immovable and to amend the applicable AFMS.

For the reasons described above, this [EASA] AD requires the Tamarack ATLAS to be deactivated and the TACS to be fixed in place. This [EASA] AD also requires implementation of operational limitations and repetitive pre-flight inspections by amending the applicable AFMS. Finally, this [EASA] AD requires a modification of the ATLAS, which would provide relief for the deactivation, limitations and repetitive inspections as required by this AD.

This [EASA] AD is an interim action and further AD action may follow.

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) is investigating a fatal accident involving a Model 525 airplane with the ATLAS STC installed. The NTSB investigation focuses on the role the ATLAS may have played in the accident. In addition to the accident, five incidents of aircraft uncommanded roll events with the ATLAS activated have been reported to EASA and the FAA. In each incident, the pilot was able to recover from the event and land the aircraft safely. You may examine

the MCAI on the internet at <http://www.regulations.gov> by searching for and locating Docket No. FAA-2019-0350.

FAA's Determination and Requirements of the AD

This product has been approved by the aviation authority of another country, and is approved for operation in the United States. Pursuant to our bilateral agreement with this State of Design Authority, they have notified us of the unsafe condition described in the MCAI and service information referenced above. We are issuing this AD because we evaluated all information provided by the State of Design Authority and determined the unsafe condition exists and is likely to exist or develop on other products of the same type design.

EASA has approved a master minimum equipment list (MMEL) for the ATLAS, which allows operation of the airplane with the system disabled for up to 10 flight hours with operating limitations. However, the FAA has not approved an MMEL for the ATLAS. The EASA AD allows operation for up to 100 flight hours with the system disabled and with the same operating limitations as in the MMEL. However, this AD does not allow operation with the ATLAS disabled.

Instead, this AD prohibits all flight until a modification has been incorporated in accordance with an FAA-approved method. Until a modification method is developed and approved, this AD requires revising the operating limitations in the AFM and fabricating and installing a placard to prohibit further flight.

The FAA finds the service information from the STC holder (Cranfield Aerospace Solutions) does not contain adequate instructions to safely disable the ATLAS. Those instructions include the use of "speed tape" around each Tamarack active camber surface (TACS) to keep them faired in the neutral position during flight. Any modifications mandated through AD action become changes to the type design in the U.S. system. The FAA would need to ensure that the use of speed tape complies with the applicable airworthiness regulations for use on a movable surface to hold that surface in a fixed position. The speed tape does not have sufficient testing and analysis to support the type design change. This program would involve testing for environmental effects, fatigue analysis, and analysis of hazards due to potential failures of the tape. Without more analysis, the security of the speed tape method to prevent movement of the TACS cannot be assured, and loss of control of the airplane may occur with the ATLAS disabled. An operator or Cranfield may provide substantiating data to the FAA and request an alternative method of compliance using the procedures in paragraph (g) of this AD.

This AD specifies that the owner/operator (pilot) may revise the AFM and may fabricate and install a placard prohibiting flight. Revising an AFM is not considered a maintenance action and may be done by a pilot holding at least a private pilot certificate. Allowing the pilot to fabricate and install a placard is an exception to our standard maintenance regulations. These actions must be recorded in the aircraft maintenance records to show compliance with this AD.

FAA's Determination of the Effective Date

An unsafe condition exists that requires the immediate adoption of this AD. The FAA has found that the risk to the flying public justifies waiving notice and comment prior to adoption of this rule because the ATLAS, when operational, deflects the active control surfaces on the outboard wings. The malfunction of the ATLAS may reduce the pilot's ability to control the airplane. The service information provided by the STC holder does not contain adequate instructions to mitigate the unsafe condition. This unsafe condition could lead to loss of control of the airplane with consequent loss of life. The severity of the risk warrants compliance before further flight. Therefore, we find good cause that notice and opportunity for prior public comment are impracticable. In addition, for the reasons stated above, we find that good cause exists for making this amendment effective upon publication.

Comments Invited

This AD is a final rule that involves requirements affecting flight safety, and we did not precede it by notice and opportunity for public comment. We invite you to send any written relevant data, views, or arguments about this AD. Send your comments to an address listed under the ADDRESSES section. Include “Docket No. FAA-2019-0350; Product Identifier 2019-CE-025-AD” at the beginning of your comments. We specifically invite comments on the overall regulatory, economic, environmental, and energy aspects of this AD. We will consider all comments received by the closing date and may amend this AD because of those comments.

We will post all comments we receive, without change, to <http://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal information you provide. We will also post a report summarizing each substantive verbal contact we receive about this AD.

Costs of Compliance

We estimate that this AD affects 76 products of U.S. registry. We also estimate that it will take about 2 work-hours per product to revise the Operating Limitations section of the AFM and to fabricate and install a placard. The average labor rate is \$85 per work-hour. We estimate the parts cost to fabricate the placard as \$5.

Based on these figures, we estimate the cost of the proposed AD on U.S. operators to be \$13,300, or \$175 per product.

This AD prohibits flight until the incorporation of an FAA-approved modification. At this time, a modification does not exist; therefore, we have no data to use for estimating the cost of the modification.

As indicated earlier in this preamble, we specifically invite the submission of comments and other data regarding the costs of 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.

We are 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.

This AD is issued in accordance with authority delegated by the Executive Director, Aircraft Certification Service, as authorized by FAA Order 8000.51C. In accordance with that order, issuance of ADs is normally a function of the Compliance and Airworthiness Division, but during this transition period, the Executive Director has delegated the authority to issue ADs applicable to small airplanes, gliders, balloons, airships, domestic business jet transport airplanes, and associated appliances to the Director of the Policy and Innovation Division.

Regulatory Findings

We determined that this AD will not have federalism implications under Executive Order 13132. 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) Is not a “significant rule” under the DOT Regulatory Policies and Procedures (44 FR 11034, February 26, 1979),
- (3) Will not affect intrastate aviation in Alaska, and
- (4) 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.

Adoption of the Amendment

Accordingly, under the authority delegated to me by the Administrator, the FAA amends 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. The FAA amends § 39.13 by adding the following new airworthiness directive (AD):



2019-08-13 Textron Aviation, Inc. (Type certificate previously held by Cessna Aircraft Company): Amendment 39-19634; Docket No. FAA-2019-0350; Product Identifier 2019-CE-025-AD.

(a) Effective Date

This AD becomes effective May 24, 2019.

(b) Affected ADs

None.

(c) Applicability

This AD applies to Textron Aviation, Inc. (type certificate previously held by Cessna Aircraft Company) Models 525, 525A, and 525B airplanes, certificated in any category, with Tamarack active load alleviation system (ATLAS) winglets installed in accordance with Supplemental Type Certificate (STC) SA03842NY.

(d) Subject

Air Transport Association of America (ATA) Code 27: Flight Controls.

(e) Reason

This AD was prompted by mandatory continuing airworthiness information (MCAI) issued by the aviation authority of another country to identify and correct an unsafe condition on an aviation product. The MCAI describes the unsafe condition as malfunction of the ATLAS, which could cause difficulty for the pilot to recover the airplane to safe flight. We are issuing this AD to prevent failure of the Tamarack ATLAS winglets, which may lead to the pilot's inability to control the airplane.

(f) Actions and Compliance

Unless already done, do the following actions in paragraphs (f)(1) through (3) of this AD.

(1) Before further flight after May 24, 2019 (the effective date of this AD):

(i) Revise the Operating Limitations section of the airplane flight manual (AFM) to prohibit further flight. You may insert a copy of this AD into the Operating Limitations section of the AFM to comply with this requirement.

(ii) Fabricate and install a placard in the cockpit of the airplane, in plain view of the pilot, with the following text: ALL FLIGHT IS PROHIBITED.

(2) In addition to the provisions of 14 CFR 43.3 and 43.7, the actions required by paragraph (f)(1) of this AD may be performed by the owner/operator (pilot) holding at least a private pilot certificate and must be entered into the aircraft records showing compliance with this AD in accordance with 14 CFR 43.9(a)(1) through (4) and 14 CFR 91.417(a)(2)(v). The record must be

maintained as required by 14 CFR 91.417. This authority is not applicable to aircraft being operated under 14 CFR part 119.

(3) You may remove the AFM revision and placard required by paragraph (f)(1) of this AD after incorporating an FAA-approved modification. To obtain FAA-approval, the modification method must be approved by the Manager, New York ACO Branch, and the approval letter must specifically refer to this AD. To contact the New York ACO Branch, you may use the contact information found in paragraph (g) of this AD.

(g) Alternative Methods of Compliance (AMOCs)

The Manager, New York ACO Branch, FAA, has the authority to approve AMOCs for this AD, if requested using the procedures found in 14 CFR 39.19. Send information to ATTN: Program Manager, Continued Operational Safety FAA, New York ACO Branch, 1600 Stewart Avenue, Suite 410, Westbury, New York 11590; telephone: (516) 228-7300; fax: (516) 794-5531; email: 9-avs-nyaco-cos@faa.gov. Before using any approved AMOC on any airplane to which the AMOC applies, notify your appropriate principal inspector (PI) in the FAA Flight Standards District Office (FSDO), or lacking a PI, your local FSDO.

(h) Special Flight Permit

A special flight permit may be issued to allow 10 hours time-in-service for non-passenger carrying flight under the operating limitations in figure 1 to this paragraph of this AD.

Model	Operating Limitations
Cessna 525	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Aircraft is operated at FL250 or below. b) Aircraft is operated at or below 140 KIAS c) Aircraft is not operated in known, forecast, or AFM-defined icing conditions.
Cessna 525A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Aircraft is operated at FL250 or below. b) Aircraft is operated at or below 161 KIAS c) Aircraft is not operated in known, forecast, or AFM-defined icing conditions.
Cessna 525B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Aircraft is operated at FL250 or below. b) Aircraft is operated at or below 161 KIAS c) Aircraft is not operated in known, forecast, or AFM-defined icing conditions.

Figure 1 to paragraph (h) of this AD

(i) Related Information

Refer to MCAI European Aviation Safety Agency AD No.: 2019-0086-E, dated April 19, 2019, for related information. You may examine the MCAI on the internet at <http://www.regulations.gov> by searching for and locating Docket No. FAA-2019-0350.

Issued in Kansas City, Missouri, on May 20, 2019.

Melvin J. Johnson,

Aircraft Certification Service, Deputy Director, Policy and Innovation Division, AIR-601.

[FR Doc. 2019-10993 Filed 5-22-19; 11:15 am]

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