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## **DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

### **Federal Aviation Administration**

#### **14 CFR Part 39**

**[Docket No. FAA-2019-0608; Product Identifier 2019-NM-084-AD; Amendment 39-19713; AD 2019-16-10]**

**RIN 2120-AA64**

#### **Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes**

**AGENCY:** Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Final rule; request for comments.

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**SUMMARY:** The FAA is adopting an airworthiness directive (AD) for certain The Boeing Company Model 787-8 airplanes. This AD requires a one-time inspection of the horizontal stabilizer pivot pin assemblies for misalignment and incorrect gapping, and applicable on-condition actions. This AD was prompted by a report of possible misalignment of the horizontal stabilizer pivot pin lock ring, outer pivot pin, and outboard spacer at final assembly. The FAA is issuing this AD to address the unsafe condition on these products.

**DATES:** This AD is effective September 19, 2019.

The Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference of a certain publication listed in this AD as of September 19, 2019.

The FAA must receive comments on this AD by October 21, 2019.

**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 <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: Deliver to Mail address above between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

For service information identified in this AD, contact Boeing Commercial Airplanes, Attention: Contractual & Data Services (C&DS), 2600 Westminister Blvd., MC 110-SK57, Seal Beach, CA 90740-5600; telephone 562-797-1717; internet <https://www.myboeingfleet.com>. You may view this referenced service information at the FAA, Transport Standards Branch, 2200 South 216th St., Des

Moines, WA. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call 206-231-3195. It is also available on the internet at <http://www.regulations.gov> by searching for and locating Docket No. FAA-2019-0608.

## **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-2019-0608; or in person at the Docket Management Facility between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The AD docket contains this final rule, the regulatory evaluation, any comments received, and other information. The street address for Docket Operations is listed above. Comments will be available in the AD docket shortly after receipt.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Greg Rutar, Aerospace Engineer, Airframe Section, FAA, Seattle ACO Branch, 2200 South 216th St., Des Moines, WA 98198; phone and fax: 206-231-3529; email: [Greg.Rutar@faa.gov](mailto:Greg.Rutar@faa.gov).

## **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Discussion**

The FAA has received a report indicating possible misalignment of the horizontal stabilizer pivot pin lock ring, outer pivot pin, and outboard spacer at final assembly. One operator reported a left side pivot pin assembly that did not have a visible gap between the outboard nut and trap fitting. The pivot pin outboard spacer was not set correctly flush against the horizontal stabilizer pivot bearing and outboard washer due to a misaligned pivot pin lock ring. It was determined that only certain airplanes were possibly delivered with this condition. This condition, if not addressed, could result in decreased lateral load capacity, the loss of pivot pin retention parts, and consequent loss of the horizontal stabilizer and loss of control of the airplane.

## **Related Service Information Under 1 CFR Part 51**

The FAA reviewed Boeing Alert Requirements Bulletin B787-81205-SB550009-00 RB, Issue 001, dated April 2, 2019. This service information describes procedures for a one-time detailed inspection of the horizontal stabilizer pivot pin assemblies for misalignment and incorrect gapping, and applicable on-condition actions. On-condition actions include replacing any incorrectly installed horizontal stabilizer pivot pin assembly. 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.

## **FAA's Determination**

The FAA is issuing this AD because we evaluated all the relevant information and determined the unsafe condition described previously is likely to exist or develop in other products of the same type design.

## **AD Requirements**

This AD requires accomplishment of the actions identified in Boeing Alert Requirements Bulletin B787-81205-SB550009-00 RB, Issue 001, dated April 2, 2019, described previously, except for any differences identified as exceptions in the regulatory text of this AD.

For information on the procedures and compliance times, see this service information at <http://www.regulations.gov> by searching for and locating Docket No. FAA-2019-0608.

## FAA's Justification and Determination of the Effective Date

There are currently no domestic operators of this product. Therefore, the FAA finds that notice and opportunity for prior public comment are unnecessary and that good cause exists for making this amendment effective in less than 30 days.

## Comments Invited

This AD is a final rule that involves requirements affecting flight safety and was not preceded by notice and an opportunity for public comment. However, the FAA invites you to send any written data, views, or arguments about this final rule. Send your comments to an address listed under the ADDRESSES section. Include the docket number FAA-2019-0608 and Product Identifier 2019-NM-084-AD at the beginning of your comments. The FAA specifically invites comments on the overall regulatory, economic, environmental, and energy aspects of this final rule. The FAA will consider all comments received by the closing date and may amend this final rule because of those comments.

The FAA will post all comments received, without change, to <http://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal information you provide. The FAA will also post a report summarizing each substantive verbal contact received about this final rule.

## Costs of Compliance

Currently, there are no affected U.S.-registered airplanes. If an affected airplane is imported and placed on the U.S. Register in the future, the FAA provides the following cost estimates to comply with this AD:

### Estimated Costs for Required Actions

Action	Labor cost	Parts cost	Cost per product
Inspection	2 work-hours × \$85 per hour = \$170	\$0	\$170

The FAA estimates the following costs to do any necessary on-condition actions that would be required based on the results of any required actions. The FAA has no way of determining the number of aircraft that might need these on-condition actions:

### Estimated Costs of On-Condition Actions

Action	Labor cost	Parts cost	Cost per product
Replacement	12 work-hours × \$85 per hour = \$1,020	Negligible	\$1,020

According to the manufacturer, some or all of the costs of this AD may be covered under warranty, thereby reducing the cost impact on affected individuals. The FAA does not control warranty coverage for affected individuals. As a result, the FAA has included all known costs in our cost estimate.

## 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.

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 transport category airplanes and associated appliances to the Director of the System Oversight Division.

### **Regulatory Findings**

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) 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.

### **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):



**2019-16-10 The Boeing Company:** Amendment 39-19713; Docket No. FAA-2019-0608; Product Identifier 2019-NM-084-AD.

**(a) Effective Date**

This AD is effective September 19, 2019.

**(b) Affected ADs**

None.

**(c) Applicability**

This AD applies to The Boeing Company Model 787-8 airplanes, certificated in any category, as identified in Boeing Alert Requirements Bulletin B787-81205-SB550009-00 RB, Issue 001, dated April 2, 2019.

**(d) Subject**

Air Transport Association (ATA) of America Code 55, Stabilizers.

**(e) Unsafe Condition**

This AD was prompted by a report of possible misalignment of the horizontal stabilizer pivot pin lock ring, outer pivot pin, and outboard spacer at final assembly. The FAA is issuing this AD to address incorrect installation of the horizontal stabilizer pivot pin assemblies, which could result in decreased lateral load capacity, the loss of pivot pin retention parts, and consequent loss of the horizontal stabilizer and loss of control of the airplane.

**(f) Compliance**

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

**(g) Required Actions**

Except as specified by paragraph (h) of this AD: At the applicable times specified in the “Compliance” paragraph of Boeing Alert Requirements Bulletin B787-81205-SB550009-00 RB, Issue 001, dated April 2, 2019, do all applicable actions identified in, and in accordance with, the Accomplishment Instructions of Boeing Alert Requirements Bulletin B787-81205-SB550009-00 RB, Issue 001, dated April 2, 2019.

Note 1 to paragraph (g): Guidance for accomplishing the actions required by this AD can be found in Boeing Alert Service Bulletin B787-81205-SB550009-00, dated April 2, 2019, which is referred to in Boeing Alert Requirements Bulletin B787-81205-SB550009-00 RB, Issue 001, dated April 2, 2019.

## **(h) Exception to Service Information Specifications**

For purposes of determining compliance with the requirements of this AD: Where Boeing Alert Requirements Bulletin B787-81205-SB550009-00 RB, Issue 001, dated April 2, 2019, uses the phrase “the Issue 001 date of Requirements Bulletin B787-81205-SB550009-00 RB,” this AD requires using “the effective date of this AD.”

## **(i) Alternative Methods of Compliance (AMOCs)**

(1) The Manager, Seattle ACO 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 certification office, send it to the attention of the person identified in paragraph (j) of this AD. Information may be emailed to: 9-ANM-Seattle-ACO-AMOC-Requests@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.

(3) An AMOC that provides an acceptable level of safety may be used for any repair, modification, or alteration required by this AD if it is approved by The Boeing Company Organization Designation Authorization (ODA) that has been authorized by the Manager, Seattle ACO Branch, FAA, to make those findings. To be approved, the repair method, modification deviation, or alteration deviation must meet the certification basis of the airplane, and the approval must specifically refer to this AD.

## **(j) Related Information**

For more information about this AD, contact Greg Rutar, Aerospace Engineer, Airframe Section, FAA, Seattle ACO Branch, 2200 South 216th St., Des Moines, WA 98198; phone and fax: 206-231-3529; email: Greg.Rutar@faa.gov.

## **(k) Material Incorporated by Reference**

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

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

(i) Boeing Alert Requirements Bulletin B787-81205-SB550009-00 RB, Issue 001, dated April 2, 2019.

(ii) [Reserved]

(3) For service information identified in this AD, contact Boeing Commercial Airplanes, Attention: Contractual & Data Services (C&DS), 2600 Westminister Blvd., MC 110-SK57, Seal Beach, CA 90740-5600; telephone 562-797-1717; internet <https://www.myboeingfleet.com>.

(4) You may view this service information at the FAA, Transport Standards Branch, 2200 South 216th St., Des Moines, WA. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call 206-231-3195.

(5) You may view this service information that is incorporated by reference at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). For information on the availability of this material at NARA, call 202-741-6030, or go to: <http://www.archives.gov/federal-register/cfr/ibr-locations.html>.

Issued in Des Moines, Washington, on August 16, 2019.

Michael Kaszycki,  
Acting Director, System Oversight Division,  
Aircraft Certification Service.