



[4910-13-P]

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**Federal Aviation Administration**

**14 CFR Part 39**

**[Docket No. FAA-2017-0806; Product Identifier 2017-NM-064-AD]**

**RIN 2120-AA64**

**Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes**

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

**ACTION:** Notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM).

**SUMMARY:** We propose to adopt a new airworthiness directive (AD) for all The Boeing Company Model 787-8 and 787-9 airplanes. This proposed AD was prompted by a flight test report indicating that the crew oxygen masks in the flight deck did not deploy correctly. This proposed AD would require an inspection to determine whether any crew oxygen mask having a certain part number is installed at four locations in the flight deck, and replacing affected crew oxygen masks. We are proposing this AD to address the unsafe condition on these products.

**DATES:** We must receive comments on this proposed AD by [INSERT DATE 45 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

**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 NPRM, 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, 1601 Lind Avenue SW., Renton, WA. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call 425-227-1221. It is also available on the internet at <http://www.regulations.gov> by searching for and locating Docket No. FAA-2017-0806.

#### **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-2017-0806; 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 NPRM, the regulatory evaluation, any comments received, and other information. The street address for the Docket Office (phone: 800-647-5527) is in the ADDRESSES section. Comments will be available in the AD docket shortly after receipt.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Susan L. Monroe, Aerospace Engineer, Cabin Safety and Environmental Systems Section, FAA, Seattle ACO Branch, 1601 Lind Avenue SW., Renton, WA; phone: 425-917-6457; fax: 425-917-6590; email: [susan.l.monroe@faa.gov](mailto:susan.l.monroe@faa.gov).

## **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

### **Comments Invited**

We invite you to send any written relevant data, views, or arguments about this proposal. Send your comments to an address listed under the ADDRESSES section. Include “Docket No. FAA-2017-0806; Product Identifier 2017-NM-064-AD” at the beginning of your comments. We specifically invite comments on the overall regulatory, economic, environmental, and energy aspects of this NPRM. We will consider all comments received by the closing date and may amend this NPRM 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 proposed AD.

### **Discussion**

We have received a Model 787-8 flight test report indicating that the crew oxygen masks in the flight deck did not deploy correctly. When the crew oxygen masks were removed from the stowage boxes, the harnesses were stuck in the face masks. The harness could get caught in the oronasal mask or goggles and increase the time needed to don the crew oxygen mask. Removing the harness from the face mask required using two hands and exceeded the requirement for the flight crew to don the oxygen mask in 5 seconds. Model 787-8 and 787-9 airplanes use the same design for the crew oxygen masks. This mask removal condition, if not corrected, could lead to flight crew hypoxia and the loss of useful consciousness, possibly resulting in loss of control of the aircraft.

### **Related Service Information under 1 CFR part 51**

We reviewed Boeing Service Bulletin B787-81205-SB350007-00, Issue 001, dated May 9, 2017. The service information describes procedures for replacing the crew

oxygen masks at four locations in the flight deck. 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**

We are proposing 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 designs.

### **Proposed AD Requirements**

This proposed AD would require accomplishment of the actions identified as "RC" (required for compliance) in the Accomplishment Instructions of Boeing Service Bulletin B787-81205-SB350007-00, Issue 001, dated May 9, 2017, described previously, except for any differences identified as exceptions in the regulatory text of this proposed 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-2017-0806.

For airplanes with an original certificate of airworthiness or original export certificate of airworthiness issued on or before the effective date of this AD, this proposed AD requires an inspection to determine whether any crew oxygen mask having part number MLD20-626-1 is installed, and replacement if necessary.

### **Differences Between this Proposed AD and the Service Information**

The proposed AD applicability differs from the service information due to rotability of parts. Because the affected parts are rotatable parts, we have determined that these parts could later be installed on airplanes that were initially delivered with acceptable parts, thereby subjecting those airplanes to the unsafe condition. We have coordinated this difference with Boeing.

## Costs of Compliance

We estimate that this proposed AD affects 57 airplanes of U.S. registry. We estimate the following costs to comply with this proposed AD:

### Estimated costs

Action	Labor cost	Parts cost	Cost per product	Cost on U.S. operators
Inspection	1 work-hour X \$85 per hour = \$85	\$0	\$85	\$4,845
Replacement	Up to 4 work-hours X \$85 per hour = \$340	Up to \$36,800	Up to \$37,140	Up to \$2,116,980

## 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 proposed 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 to the Director of the System Oversight Division.

### **Regulatory Findings**

We determined 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 above, I certify this proposed regulation:

- (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.

### **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**

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):

**The Boeing Company:** Docket No. FAA-2017-0806; Product Identifier  
2017-NM-064-AD.

**(a) Comments Due Date**

We must receive comments by [INSERT DATE 45 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE Federal Register].

**(b) Affected ADs**

None.

**(c) Applicability**

This AD applies to all The Boeing Company Model 787-8 and 787-9 airplanes, certificated in any category.

**(d) Subject**

Air Transport Association (ATA) of America Code 35, Oxygen.

**(e) Unsafe Condition**

This AD was prompted by a flight test report indicating that the crew oxygen masks in the flight deck did not deploy correctly. We are issuing this AD to prevent the oxygen mask harness from getting caught in the oronasal mask or goggles, which may lead to flight crew hypoxia and the loss of useful consciousness, possibly resulting in loss of control of the aircraft.

**(f) Compliance**

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

**(g) Oxygen Mask Inspection and Replacement**

For airplanes with an original certificate of airworthiness or original export certificate of airworthiness issued on or before the effective date of this AD: Within 72 months after the effective date of this AD, do an inspection to determine whether any crew oxygen mask having part number (P/N) MLD20-626-1 is installed at the four

locations identified in Boeing Service Bulletin B787-81205-SB350007-00, Issue 001, dated May 9, 2017. A review of airplane maintenance records is acceptable in lieu of this inspection if the part number of the crew oxygen mask can be conclusively determined from that review. If any crew oxygen mask having P/N MLD20-626-1 is found installed, within 72 months after the effective date of this AD, do all applicable actions identified as “RC” in, and in accordance with, the Accomplishment Instructions of Boeing Service Bulletin B787-81205-SB350007-00, Issue 001, dated May 9, 2017.

**(h) Parts Installation Prohibition**

As of the effective date of this AD, no person may install a crew oxygen mask having P/N MLD20-626-1 on any airplane.

**(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)(1) 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 Commercial Airplanes Organization Designation Authorization (ODA) that has been authorized by the Manager, Seattle ACO Branch, 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.

(4) For service information that contains steps that are labeled as RC, the provisions of paragraphs (i)(4)(i) and (i)(4)(ii) of this AD apply.

(i) The steps labeled as RC, including substeps under an RC step and any figures identified in an RC step, must be done to comply with the AD. If a step or substep is labeled “RC Exempt,” then the RC requirement is removed from that step or substep. An AMOC is required for any deviations to RC steps, including substeps and identified figures.

(ii) Steps not labeled as RC may be deviated from using accepted methods in accordance with the operator’s maintenance or inspection program without obtaining approval of an AMOC, provided the RC steps, including substeps and identified figures, can still be done as specified, and the airplane can be put back in an airworthy condition.

**(j) Related Information**

(1) For more information about this AD, contact Susan L. Monroe, Aerospace Engineer, Cabin Safety and Environmental Systems Section, FAA, Seattle ACO Branch, 1601 Lind Avenue SW., Renton, WA; phone: 425-917-6457; fax: 425-917-6590; email: susan.l.monroe@faa.gov.

(2) 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, 1601 Lind Avenue SW., Renton, WA. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call 425-227-1221.

Issued in Renton, Washington, on August 17, 2017.

Jeffrey E. Duven,  
Director,  
System Oversight Division,  
Aircraft Certification Service.

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