



[4910-13-P]

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. FAA-2019-1113; Project Identifier MCAI-2019-00117-E]

RIN 2120-AA64

Airworthiness Directives; Austro Engine GmbH Engines

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM).

SUMMARY: The FAA proposes to adopt a new airworthiness directive (AD) for all Austro Engine GmbH model E4 and E4P diesel piston engines. This proposed AD was prompted by reports of considerable wear of the timing chain and failure of fuel injectors on these engines. This proposed AD would require replacement of the timing chain and fuel injectors on the affected Austro Engine GmbH model E4 and E4P diesel piston engines. The FAA is proposing this AD to address the unsafe condition on these products.

DATES: The FAA 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 <https://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 Austro Engine GmbH, Rudolf-Diesel-Strasse 11, A-2700 Weiner Neustadt, Austria; phone: +43 2622 23000; fax: +43 2622 23000-2711; website: www.austroengine.at. You may view this service information at the FAA, Engine and Propeller Standards Branch, 1200 District Avenue, Burlington, MA, 01803. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call 781-238-7759.

Examining the AD Docket

You may examine the AD docket on the Internet at <https://www.regulations.gov> by searching for and locating Docket No. FAA-2019-1113; 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 mandatory continuing airworthiness information (MCAI), 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: Mehdi Lamnyi, Aerospace Engineer, ECO Branch, FAA, 1200 District Avenue, Burlington, MA, 01803; phone: 781-238-7743; fax: 781-238-7199; email: Mehdi.Lamnyi@faa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Comments Invited

The FAA invites you to send any written relevant data, views, or arguments about this proposed AD. Send your comments to an address listed under the ADDRESSES section. Include “Docket No. FAA-2019-1113; Project Identifier MCAI-2019-00117-E” at the beginning of your comments. The FAA specifically invites comments on the overall regulatory, economic, environmental, and energy aspects of this NPRM. The

FAA will consider all comments received by the closing date and may amend this NPRM because of those comments.

Except for Confidential Business Information 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 FAA will also post a report summarizing each substantive verbal contact received about this NPRM.

Confidential Business Information

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 Mehdi Lamnyi, Aerospace Engineer, ECO Branch, FAA, 1200 District Avenue, Burlington, MA, 01803. Any commentary that the FAA receives which is not specifically designated as CBI will be placed in the public docket for this rulemaking.

Discussion

The European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA), which is the Technical Agent for the Member States of the European Community, has issued EASA AD 2019-0041, dated February 25, 2019 (referred to after this as “the MCAI”), to address the unsafe condition on these products. The MCAI states:

The airworthiness limitations and maintenance tasks for the Austro Engine E4 and E4P engines, which are approved by EASA, are currently defined and published in the Austro Engine MM, Chapter 04. These instructions have been identified as mandatory for continued airworthiness.

Failure to accomplish these instructions could result in an unsafe condition.

Austro Engine recently revised the ALS, introducing life limit for the engine timing chain and for the fuel injectors.

For the reason described above, this [EASA] AD requires accomplishment of the actions specified in the ALS.

You may obtain further information by examining the MCAI in the AD docket on the Internet at <https://www.regulations.gov> by searching for and locating Docket No. FAA-2019-1113.

Related Service Information under 1 CFR Part 51

The FAA reviewed Austro Engine Mandatory Service Bulletin (MSB) No. MSB-E4-025, Rev. No. 3, dated January 8, 2019. The MSB describes procedures for replacing the fuel injectors. 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.

Other Related Service Information

The FAA reviewed Austro Engine Maintenance Manual (MM) Temporary Revision (TR) MM-TR-MDC-E4-454, dated October 3, 2018. The MM TR updates the time limits for the fuel injectors and timing chain and describes procedures for updating the Airworthiness Limitation Section in the existing approved MM.

FAA’s Determination

This product has been approved by EASA and is approved for operation in the United States. Pursuant to our bilateral agreement with the European Community, EASA has notified us of the unsafe condition described in the MCAI and service information referenced above. The FAA is proposing this AD because it evaluated all the relevant information provided by EASA and determined the unsafe condition described previously is likely to exist or develop in other products of the same type design.

Proposed AD Requirements

This proposed AD would require replacement of the timing chain and fuel injectors on the affected Austro Engine GmbH model E4 and E4P diesel piston engines.

Differences Between this Proposed AD and the MCAI

EASA AD 2019-0041, dated February 25, 2019, requires replacing components included in the revised ALS and updating the approved Aircraft Maintenance Program (AMP). This AD requires replacing the timing chain and the fuel injectors and does not require updating the AMP.

Costs of Compliance

The FAA estimates that this proposed AD affects 263 engines installed on airplanes of U.S. registry.

The FAA estimates the following costs to comply with this proposed AD:

Estimated costs

Action	Labor Cost	Parts Cost	Cost per product	Cost on U.S. operators
Replace the timing chain	2.5 work-hours x \$85 per hour = \$212.50	\$2,980	\$3,192.50	\$839,627.50
Replace the fuel injectors	2.5 work-hours x \$85 per hour = \$212.50	\$2,590	\$2,802.50	\$737,057.50

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

The FAA 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) 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 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):

Austro Engine GmbH: Docket No. FAA-2019-1113; Project Identifier MCAI-2019-00117-E.

(a) Comments Due Date

The FAA 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 Austro Engine GmbH Model E4 and E4P diesel piston engines.

(d) Subject

Joint Aircraft System Component (JASC) Code 7322, Fuel Control/Reciprocating Engines and Code 8520, Reciprocating Engine Power Section.

(e) Unsafe Condition

This AD was prompted by reports of considerable wear of the timing chain and failure of fuel injectors on the affected engines. The FAA is issuing this AD to prevent

failure of the timing chain and fuel injectors. The unsafe condition, if not addressed, could result in loss of engine thrust control and reduced control of the airplane.

(f) Compliance

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

(g) Required Actions

(1) For engines that have had a windmill restart before the effective date of this AD or for engines with a timing chain in which it cannot be determined if the engine has experienced any windmilling, after the effective date of this AD, remove the timing chain and replace with a part eligible for installation as follows, whichever occurs later:

- (i) Before the timing chain exceeds 900 flight hours (FHs) since new, or;
- (ii) Within 100 FHs after the windmilling restart, or;
- (iii) Before further flight.

(2) For engines that have a windmill restart after the effective date of this AD, remove the timing chain before it exceeds 900 FHs since new or within 100 FHs after the windmilling restart, whichever occurs later, and replace with a part eligible for installation.

(3) Remove the fuel injectors and replace with parts eligible for installation before they exceed 900 FHs since new or before further flight after the effective date of this AD, whichever occurs later.

(i) Use Accomplishment / Instructions, paragraph 2.1, of Austro Engine Mandatory Service Bulletin (MSB) No. MSB-E4-025, Rev. No. 3, dated January 8, 2019, to perform the required actions in paragraph (g)(3) of this AD.

(ii) [Reserved]

(4) Thereafter, repeat the replacement of the fuel injectors required by paragraph (g)(3) of this AD at intervals not exceeding 900 FHs since new.

(h) Non-Required Actions

The tagging and returning of the removed fuel injectors to the manufacturer, referenced in the Accomplishment / Instructions, paragraph 2.1, of Austro Engine MSB No. MSB-E4-025, Rev. No. 3, dated January 8, 2019, are not required by this AD.

(i) Credit for Previous Actions

You may take credit for the replacement of the timing chain that is required by paragraph (g)(1) of this AD if you performed this replacement before the effective date of this AD using Austro Engine MSB No. MSB-E4-017/2, Revision 2, dated December 2, 2016.

(j) Alternative Methods of Compliance (AMOCs)

(1) The Manager, ECO 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 ECO Branch, send it to the attention of the person identified in paragraph (k)(1) of this AD. You may email your request to: ANE-AD-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.

(k) Related Information

(1) For more information about this AD, contact Mehdi Lamnyi, Aerospace Engineer, ECO Branch, FAA, 1200 District Avenue, Burlington, MA, 01803; phone: 781-238-7743; fax: 781-238-7199; email: Mehdi.Lamnyi@faa.gov.

(2) Refer to European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) AD 2019-0041, dated February 25, 2019, for more information. You may examine the EASA AD in the

AD docket on the Internet at <https://www.regulations.gov> by searching for and locating it in Docket No. FAA-2019-1113.

(3) For Austro Engine GmbH service information identified in this AD, contact Austro Engine GmbH, Rudolf-Diesel-Strasse 11, A-2700 Weiner Neustadt, Austria; phone: +43 2622 23000; fax: +43 2622 23000-2711; website: www.austroengine.at. You may view this referenced service information at the FAA, Engine and Propeller Standards Branch, 1200 District Avenue, Burlington, MA, 01803. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call 781-238-7759.

Issued on March 11, 2020.

Lance T. Gant, Director,
Compliance & Airworthiness Division,
Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. 2020-05292 Filed: 3/19/2020 8:45 am; Publication Date: 3/20/2020]