



[4910-13-P]

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. FAA-2020-0009; Project Identifier MCAI-2019-00111-E]

RIN 2120-AA64

Airworthiness Directives; Rolls-Royce Deutschland Ltd & Co KG (Type Certificate previously held by Rolls-Royce plc) Turbofan Engines

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM).

SUMMARY: The FAA proposes to supersede airworthiness directive (AD) 2018-08-02 which applies to all Rolls-Royce Deutschland Ltd & Co KG (RRD) Trent 1000-A2, Trent 1000-AE2, Trent 1000-C2, Trent 1000-CE2, Trent 1000-D2, Trent 1000-E2, Trent 1000-G2, Trent 1000-H2, Trent 1000-J2, Trent 1000-K2, and Trent 1000-L2 model turbofan engines. AD 2018-08-02 requires initial and repetitive ultrasonic or visual inspections of the intermediate-pressure compressor (IPC) stage 1 rotor blades, IPC stage 2 rotor blades, and IPC shaft stage 2 dovetail posts, and removal of any cracked parts from service. Since the FAA issued AD 2018-08-02, the manufacturer identified cracking of parts in-service resulting in the need to require new inspections using new inspection thresholds and intervals. This proposed AD would require new inspections based on updated inspection thresholds and intervals for these IPC parts. This AD would also add an optional terminating action, amend the asymmetric power condition for engine inspection, and require an inspection after a cabin depressurization event. 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 Rolls-Royce Deutschland Ltd & Co KG, Eschenweg 11, 15827 Blankenfelde-Mahlow, Germany; phone: +49 (0) 33 708 6 0; email: <https://www.rolls-royce.com/contact-us.aspx>. You may view this service information at the FAA, Airworthiness Products Section, Operational Safety 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-2020-0009; 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: Stephen Elwin, Aerospace Engineer, ECO Branch, FAA, 1200 District Avenue, Burlington, MA 01803; phone: 781-238-7236; fax: 781-238-7199; email: Stephen.L.Elwin@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-2020-0009; Project Identifier MCAI-2019-00111-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 Stephen Elwin, 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 FAA issued AD 2018-08-02, Amendment 39-19255 (83 FR 17746, April 24, 2018), (“AD 2018-08-02”), for all RRD Trent 1000-A2, Trent 1000-AE2, Trent 1000-C2, Trent 1000-CE2, Trent 1000-D2, Trent 1000-E2, Trent 1000-G2, Trent 1000-H2, Trent 1000-J2, Trent 1000-K2, and Trent 1000-L2 model turbofan engines. AD 2018-08-02 requires initial and repetitive ultrasonic and visual inspections of the IPC stage 1 rotor blades, IPC stage 2 rotor blades, and IPC shaft stage 2 dovetail posts, and removal of any cracked parts from service. AD 2018-08-02 resulted from IPC blade separations resulting in engine failures. The FAA issued AD 2018-08-02 to prevent failure of the IPC.

Actions Since AD 2018-08-02 Was Issued

Since the FAA issued AD 2018-08-02, The European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA), which is the Technical Agent for the Member States of the European Community, has issued EASA AD 2019-0250, dated October 9, 2019 (referred to after this as “the MCAI”), to address the unsafe condition on these products. The MCAI states:

Occurrences were reported on Rolls-Royce Trent 1000 ‘Pack C’ engines, where some IPC Rotor 1 and Rotor 2 blades were found cracked.

This condition, if not detected and corrected, could lead to in-flight blade release, possibly resulting in reduced control of the aeroplane.

To address this potential unsafe condition, Rolls-Royce initially issued Alert NMSB TRENT 1000 72-AJ814 and 72-AJ819 to provide inspection instructions for IPC Rotor 1 blades, and IPC Rotor 2 blades and IPC shaft Stage 2 dovetail posts, respectively. Rolls-Royce also issued NMSB TRENT 1000 72-J871 to provide rework instructions for the affected parts, and Alert NMSB TRENT 1000 72-AJ869 to inspect those post-rework parts. Consequently, EASA issued AD 2017-0248 to require repetitive inspections of the affected IPC Rotor blades and IPC shaft Stage 2 dovetail posts and, depending on findings, removal from service of the engine for corrective action.

After that [EASA] AD was issued, Rolls-Royce issued Alert NMSB TRENT 1000 72-AK058 to provide instructions for a one-time on-wing inspection. Consequently, EASA issued AD 2018-0073, retaining the requirements of EASA AD 2017-0248, which was superseded, to require an additional borescope inspection of certain engines and, depending on findings, removal from service of the engine for corrective action.

After that [EASA] AD was issued, it was determined that repetitive borescope inspections are necessary on all engines to ensure fleet-wide continued safe operation. Consequently, Rolls-Royce revised Alert NMSB TRENT 1000 72-AJ869, Alert NMSB TRENT 1000 72-AJ814, Alert NMSB TRENT 1000 72-AJ819 and NMSB TRENT 1000 72-J871, and issued NMSB TRENT 1000 72-AK060 to consolidate all inspection instructions. Consequently, EASA issued AD 2018-0084 (later revised), retaining the

requirements of EASA AD 2018-0073, which was superseded, and requiring repetitive on-wing borescope inspections of the affected Rotor 1 parts and affected Rotor 2 parts and, depending on findings, removal from service of the engine for corrective action. That [EASA] AD also introduced specific requirements for engines installed on aeroplanes involved in ETOPS, and inspection following operation in asymmetric power conditions. Rolls-Royce then introduced NMSB Trent 1000 72-AK092 to provide inspections for the rear face of the Rotor 2 blades and NMSB TRENT 1000 72-AK060 was revised (R1) accordingly. Later, Rolls-Royce developed mod 72-J941, installing improved IPC Stage 1 and Stage 2 rotor blades, and issued the modification SB, providing the necessary instructions for in-service application. EASA issued AD 2018-0084R2 to exclude post-mod 72-J941 engines from the Applicability and introducing the modification SB as terminating action for the repetitive inspections as required by that [EASA] AD. Since that [EASA] AD was issued, Rolls-Royce issued the NMSB and revised Alert NMSB TRENT 1000 72-AJ814, 72-AJ819 and 72-AK092 to introduce new inspections, new thresholds and new intervals, depending on engine configuration. These inspections are now applicable for all operations, ETOPS and non-ETOPS. The latest revision of the NMSB also amended the asymmetric power conditions for engine inspection and introduced cabin depressurisation as an event to trigger engine inspection(s).

For the reason described above, this [EASA] AD requires introduction of the new inspections, replacing those previously imposed by EASA AD 2018-0084R2 (through NMSB TRENT 1000 72-AK060), and removes the references to Engine Health Monitoring messages and ETOPS-related requirements.

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-2020-0009.

Related Service Information under 1 CFR Part 51

The FAA reviewed Rolls-Royce plc (RR) Alert Non-Modification Service Bulletin (NMSB) Trent 1000 72-AK313, Revision 1, dated August 22, 2019; and RR Service Bulletin (SB) Trent 1000 72-J941, Revision 1, dated February 6, 2019, and Initial Issue, dated December 6, 2018. RR Alert NMSB Trent 1000 72-AK313 defines the initial inspection threshold and repeat inspection intervals for Trent 1000 IPC stage 1 blade, stage 2 blade, and IPC shaft stage 2 dovetail posts. RR SB Trent 1000 72-J941 describes procedures for modifying the engine by installing the redesigned IPC stage 1 and stage 2 rotor blades. 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 RR Alert NMSB Trent 1000 72-AJ819, Revision 4, dated May 3, 2019; RR Alert NMSB Trent 1000 72-AJ814, Revision 5, dated May 3, 2019; and RR Alert NMSB Trent 1000 72-AK092, Revision 4, dated May 3, 2019. RR Alert NMSB Trent 1000 72-AJ819 describes procedures for performing a visual borescope inspection of the IPC stage 2 rotor blades and IPC shaft stage 2 dovetail posts. RR Alert NMSB Trent 1000 72-AJ814 describes procedures for performing an ultrasonic inspection (USI)

of the IPC stage 1 rotor blades. RR Alert NMSB Trent 1000 72-AK092 describes procedures for performing a USI of the IPC stage 2 rotor blades.

FAA’s Determination

The FAA is 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 design.

Proposed AD Requirements

This proposed AD would retain certain requirements of AD 2018-08-02. This proposed AD would require initial and repetitive ultrasonic or visual inspections, of the IPC stage 1 blade root (front face), IPC stage 2 blade root (front and rear face), and IPC shaft stage 2 dovetail post (front face), and removal of any cracked parts from service. This AD would also require an inspection after asymmetric power and cabin depressurization events.

Costs of Compliance

The FAA estimates that this AD affects 7 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 |
|--|---|-------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Inspect the IPC stage 1 blade root (Front Face) | 20 work-hours x \$85 per hour = \$1,700 | \$0 | \$1,700 | \$11,900 |
| Inspect the IPC stage 2 blade root (Front Face) and IPC shaft stage 2 dovetail post (Front Face) | 6 work-hours x \$85 per hour = \$510 | \$0 | \$510 | \$3,570 |

| | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|-----|-------|---------|
| Inspect the IPC stage 2 blade root (Rear Face) | 10 work-hours x \$85 per hour = \$850 | \$0 | \$850 | \$5,950 |
|--|---------------------------------------|-----|-------|---------|

The FAA estimates the following costs to do any necessary replacements that would be required based on the results of the proposed inspection. The FAA has no way of determining the number of engines that might need these replacements.

On-condition costs

| Action | Labor Cost | Parts Cost | Cost per product |
|--------------------------|---|-------------------|-------------------------|
| Replace all 34 R1 Blades | 280 work-hours x \$85 per hour = \$23,800 | \$52,360 | \$76,160 |
| Replace all 49 R2 Blades | 280 work-hours x \$85 per hour = \$23,800 | \$48,755 | \$72,555 |
| Replace IPC Drum | 144 work-hours x \$85 per hour = \$12,240 | \$1,370,000 | \$1,382,240 |

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 has 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 that the 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 removing airworthiness directive (AD) 2018-08-02, Amendment 39-19255 (83 FR 17746, April 24, 2018), and adding the following new AD:

Rolls-Royce Deutschland Ltd & Co KG (Type Certificate previously held by Rolls-Royce plc): Docket No. FAA-2020-0009; Project Identifier MCAI-2019-00111-E.

(a) Comments Due Date

The FAA must receive comments on this AD action by [INSERT DATE 45 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

(b) Affected ADs

This AD replaces AD 2018-08-02, Amendment 39-19255 (83 FR 17746, April 24, 2018).

(c) Applicability

This AD applies to Rolls-Royce Deutschland Ltd & Co KG (Type Certificate previously held by Rolls-Royce plc) Trent 1000-A2, Trent 1000-AE2, Trent 1000-C2, Trent 1000-CE2, Trent 1000-D2, Trent 1000-E2, Trent 1000-G2, Trent 1000-H2, Trent 1000-J2, Trent 1000-K2, and Trent 1000-L2 model turbofan engines, except those that have the redesigned intermediate-pressure compressor (IPC) stage 1 and stage 2 rotor blades introduced by Rolls-Royce plc (RR) Service Bulletin (SB) Trent 1000 72-J941, Revision 1, dated February 6, 2019.

(d) Subject

Joint Aircraft System Component (JASC) Code 7230, Turbine Engine Compressor Section.

(e) Unsafe Condition

This AD was prompted by IPC blade separations resulting in engine failures. Subsequently, the manufacturer identified cracking of parts in-service resulting in the need to require new inspections using new inspection thresholds and intervals. The manufacturer also determined the need to add an optional terminating action, amend the asymmetric power condition for engine inspection, and require an inspection after a cabin depressurization event. The FAA is issuing this AD to prevent failure of the IPC. The unsafe condition, if not addressed, could result in failure of one or more engines, loss of thrust control, and loss of the airplane.

(f) Compliance

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

(g) Required Actions

(1) After the effective date of this AD, before exceeding the initial inspection thresholds and repeat inspection intervals specified in Table 1 of RR Alert Non-Modification Service Bulletin (NMSB) Trent 1000 72-AK313, Revision 1, dated August 22, 2019 (“RR NMSB Trent 1000 72-AK313, R1”):

(i) Perform initial ultrasonic inspections (USIs) of the IPC stage 1 blade root (front face).

(ii) Thereafter, perform repetitive USIs of the IPC stage 1 blade root (front face).

(iii) Use the Accomplishment Instructions, paragraph 3.A.(1)(a) (on-wing) or 3.A.(2)(a) and (b) (in-shop) of RR NMSB Trent 1000 72-AK313, R1 to perform the inspections.

(2) After the effective date of this AD, before exceeding the initial inspection thresholds and repeat inspection intervals specified in Table 2 of RR NMSB Trent 1000 72-AK313, R1:

(i) Perform initial visual inspections of the IPC stage 2 blade root (front face) and IPC shaft stage 2 dovetail post (front face).

(ii) Thereafter, perform repetitive visual inspections of the IPC stage 2 blade root (front face) and IPC shaft stage 2 dovetail post (front face).

(iii) Use the Accomplishment Instructions, paragraph 3.B.(1)(a) (on-wing) or 3.B.(2)(b) (in-shop) of RR NMSB Trent 1000 72-AK313, R1 to perform the inspections.

(3) After the effective date of this AD, before exceeding the initial inspection threshold and repeat inspection intervals specified in Table 2 of RR NMSB Trent 1000 72-AK313, R1:

(i) Perform initial USIs of IPC stage 2 blade root (rear face).

(ii) Thereafter, perform repetitive USIs of IPC stage 2 blade root (rear face).

(iii) Use the Accomplishment Instructions, paragraph 3.C.(1)(a) (on-wing) or 3.C.(2)(a) (in-shop) of RR NMSB Trent 1000 72-AK313, R1 to perform the inspections.

(4) After the effective date of this AD, within 5 engine flight cycles (FCs) after each occurrence in which any engine operates in asymmetric power conditions at an altitude of less than 28,000 feet, perform the following inspections on the engine not affected by the power reduction or in-flight shutdown (IFSD):

(i) Perform initial USIs and visual inspections required by paragraphs (g)(1), (2), and (3) of this AD.

(ii) Thereafter, perform the repetitive USIs and visual inspections required by paragraphs (g)(1), (2), and (3) of this AD.

(iii) Use the service information and repetitive inspection thresholds required by paragraphs (g)(1)(iii), (2)(iii), and (3)(iii) to perform the inspections, as applicable.

(5) After the effective date of this AD, within 5 engine FCs following a cabin depressurization event, perform the following inspections on both engines installed on the airplane:

(i) Perform initial USIs and visual inspections required by paragraphs (g)(1), (2), and (3) of this AD.

(ii) Thereafter, perform the repetitive USIs and visual inspections required by paragraphs (g)(1), (2), and (3) of this AD.

(iii) Use the service information and repetitive inspection thresholds required by paragraphs (g)(1)(iii), (2)(iii), and (3)(iii) to perform the inspections, as applicable.

(6) If any IPC stage 1 blade root (front face), IPC stage 2 blade root (front face), IPC shaft stage 2 dovetail post (front face), or IPC stage 2 blade root (rear face) is found cracked during any inspection required by this AD, replace the part with a part eligible for installation before further flight.

(h) Terminating Action (Optional)

Modification of an engine by installing the redesigned IPC stage 1 and stage 2 rotor blades, using RR SB Trent 1000 72-J941, Revision 1, dated February 6, 2019, or Initial Issue, dated December 6, 2018, is the terminating action for the initial and repetitive ultrasonic or visual inspection requirements, as applicable, of paragraph (g)(1) through (5) of this AD for that engine.

(i) Definition

For the purpose of this AD, an “asymmetric power condition” is the operation of the airplane at an altitude of less than 28,000 feet, experiencing either single engine take-off, engine fault (reduced power on one engine), or single engine IFSD, which includes execution of any non-normal checklist procedure.

(j) Credit for Previous Actions

You may take credit for the initial inspections required by paragraphs (g)(1) through (5) of this AD if you performed these inspections before the effective date of this AD using any of the following.

(1) RR Alert NMSB Trent 1000 72-AJ819, Revision 3, dated April 13, 2018, or earlier revisions;

(2) RR NMSB Trent 1000 72-AJ814, Revision 4, dated September 28, 2018, or earlier revisions;

(3) RR Alert NMSB Trent 1000 72-AK313, Initial Issue, dated May 2, 2019; or

(4) RR Alert NMSB Trent 1000 72-AK092, Revision 3, dated February 28, 2019 or earlier revisions.

(k) Special Flight Permit

Special flight permits, as described in Section 21.197 and Section 21.199 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR 21.197 and 21.199), are subject to the requirements of paragraph (k)(1) of this AD.

(1) Operators who are prohibited from further flight due to a crack finding as a result of paragraph (g) of this AD, may perform a one-time non-revenue ferry flight to a location where the engine can be removed from service. This ferry flight must be performed without passengers, involve non-ETOPS operation, and consume no more than three FCs.

(2) [Reserved]

(l) 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 certification office, send it to the attention of the person identified in paragraph (m)(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.

(m) Related Information

(1) For more information about this AD, contact Stephen Elwin, Aerospace Engineer, ECO Branch, FAA, 1200 District Avenue, Burlington, MA 01803; phone: 781-238-7236; fax: 781-238-7199; email: Stephen.L.Elwin@faa.gov.

(2) Refer to European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) AD 2019-0250, dated October 9, 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-2020-0009.

(3) For service information identified in this AD, contact Rolls-Royce Deutschland Ltd. & Co KG, Eschenweg 11, 15827 Blankenfelde-Mahlow, Germany;

phone: +49 (0) 33 708 6 0; email: <https://www.rolls-royce.com/contact-us.aspx>. You may view this referenced service information at the FAA, Airworthiness Products Section, Operational Safety Branch, 1200 District Avenue, Burlington, MA, 01803. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call 781-238-7759.

Issued on April 23, 2020.

Gaetano A. Sciortino, Deputy Director for Strategic Initiatives,
Compliance & Airworthiness Division,
Aircraft Certification Service.

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