



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. FAA-2025-5027; Project Identifier MCAI-2025-00023-A; Amendment
39-23283; AD 2026-05-10]

RIN 2120-AA64

**Airworthiness Directives; Baykar Piaggio Aerospace S.p.A. (Type Certificate
Previously Held by Piaggio Aviation S.p.A.) Airplanes**

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The FAA is adopting a new airworthiness directive (AD) for certain Baykar Piaggio Aerospace S.p.A. (type certificate previously held by Piaggio Aviation S.p.A.) (Piaggio) Model P-180 airplanes. This AD was prompted by a report of chafing in the flap transmission shafts. This AD requires inspecting the flap transmission shaft for chafing or any damage (surface abrasions, grooves or rubbing tracks, and metallic smears or transfers), measuring specific gaps, and, depending on findings, accomplishing applicable corrective actions. The FAA is issuing this AD to address the unsafe condition on these products.

DATES: This AD is effective [INSERT DATE 35 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

The Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference of a certain publication listed in this AD as of [INSERT DATE 35 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

ADDRESSES: *AD Docket:* You may examine the AD docket at regulations.gov under Docket No. FAA-2025-5027; 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 final rule, the mandatory continuing airworthiness information (MCAI), any comments received, and other information. The address for Docket Operations is U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M-30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590.

Material Incorporated by Reference:

- For Piaggio Aerospace material identified in this AD, contact Piaggio, P180 Customer Support, via Pionieri e Aviatori d'Italia, snc - 16154 Genoa, Italy; phone: +39 331 679 74 93; email: technicalsupport@piaggioaerospace.it.
- You may view this material at the FAA, Airworthiness Products Section, Operational Safety Branch, 901 Locust, Kansas City, MO 64106. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call (817) 222-5110.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Frank Huynh, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, 1600 Stewart Avenue, Suite 410, Westbury, NY 11590; phone: (404) 983-5288; email: frank.huynh@faa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The FAA issued a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) to amend 14 CFR part 39 by adding an AD that would apply to certain Piaggio Aviation S.p.A. (type certificate currently held by Baykar Piaggio Aerospace S.p.A.) Model P-180 airplanes. The NPRM was published in the *Federal Register* on December 10, 2025 (90 FR 57170). The NPRM was prompted by European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) AD 2025-0014, dated January 13, 2025 (EASA AD 2025-0014) (also referred to as the MCAI), issued by EASA, which is the Technical Agent for the Member States of the European Union. The MCAI states that an occurrence was reported where, during scheduled airplane maintenance, chafing was detected on the flap transmission shafts. A subsequent

investigation identified a limited clearance between flap transmission shafts 1 and 7 and the wing rib at wing station 440 and between flap transmission shaft 7 and the cabin door seal inflation system pneumatic pipe. This condition, if not detected and corrected, could affect the integrity of the flap transmission and lead to reduced control of the airplane.

In the NPRM, the FAA proposed to require inspecting the flap transmission shafts for chafing or any damage (surface abrasions, grooves or rubbing tracks, and metallic smears or transfers), measuring specific gaps, and, depending on the findings, accomplishing corrective actions. The FAA is issuing this AD to address the unsafe condition on these products.

You may examine the MCAI in the AD docket at [regulations.gov](https://www.regulations.gov) under Docket No. FAA-2025-5027.

Discussion of Final Airworthiness Directive

Comments

The FAA received no comments on the NPRM or on the determination of the costs.

Explanation of Change To Type Certificate Holder Name

The FAA has revised the applicability of this AD to identify the type certificate holder's name as published in the most recent type certificate data sheet for the affected models.

Conclusion

These products have been approved by the civil aviation authority of another country and are approved for operation in the United States. Pursuant to the FAA's bilateral agreement with this State of Design Authority, that authority has notified the FAA of the unsafe condition described in the MCAI referenced above. The FAA reviewed the relevant data, considered any comments received, and determined that air safety requires adopting this AD as proposed. Accordingly, the FAA is issuing this AD to

address the unsafe condition on these products. Except for minor editorial changes, this AD is adopted as proposed in the NPRM. None of the changes will increase the economic burden on any operator.

Material Incorporated by Reference Under 1 CFR Part 51

The FAA reviewed Piaggio Aerospace Service Bulletin (SB) 80-0498, Revision 0, dated August 2, 2024 (Piaggio SB 80-0498, Revision 0). This material specifies procedures for inspecting the flap transmission shaft for chafing or any damage (surface abrasions, grooves or rubbing tracks, and metallic smears or transfers), measuring specific gaps, and depending on findings, accomplishing applicable corrective actions. This material 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.

Differences Between this AD and the Referenced Material

The referenced material requires contacting Piaggio for approved repair instructions. This AD requires contacting either the Manager, International Validation Branch, FAA; EASA; or Piaggio's EASA Design Organization Approval (DOA), for approved repair instructions.

Costs of Compliance

The FAA estimates that this AD affects 98 airplanes of U.S. registry.

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

Estimated costs

Action	Labor Cost	Parts Cost	Cost per product	Cost on U.S. operators
Initial inspection of flap transmission shafts	28 work-hours x \$85 per hour = \$2,380	\$0	\$2,380	\$233,240

The FAA estimates the following costs to do any rework, repairs or replacements that would be required based on the results of the inspection. Any corrective action that

may be needed as a result of the inspection can vary from airplane to airplane. The agency has no way of determining the number of airplanes that might need this rework, repairs, or replacements:

On-condition costs

Action	Labor Cost	Parts Cost	Cost per product
Repetitive inspections of flap transmission shafts	28 work-hours x \$85 per hour = \$2,380, per inspection	\$0	\$2,380, per inspection
Rework of wing rib(s)	40 work-hours x \$85 per hour = \$3,400, per rework	\$0	\$3,400, per rework
Repair of pneumatic pipe	20 work-hours x \$85 per hour = \$1,700, per repair	\$0	\$1,700, per repair
Replacement of flap transmission shaft (all four)	20 work-hours x \$85 per hour = \$1,700	\$21,282	\$22,982

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

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.

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:

2026-05-10 Baykar Piaggio Aerospace S.p.A. (Type Certificate Previously Held by Piaggio Aviation S.p.A.): Amendment 39-23283; Docket No. FAA-2025-5027; Project Identifier MCAI-2025-00023-A.

(a) Effective Date

This airworthiness directive (AD) is effective [INSERT DATE 35 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

(b) Affected ADs

None.

(c) Applicability

This AD applies to Baykar Piaggio Aerospace S.p.A. (type certificate previously held by Piaggio Aviation S.p.A.) Model P-180 airplanes, serial numbers 1002, 1004 through 3016, and 3018, certificated in any category.

(d) Subject

Joint Aircraft System Component (JASC) Code 2700, Flight Control System.

(e) Unsafe Condition

This AD was prompted by a report of chafing in the flap transmission shafts. The FAA is issuing this AD to detect and address chafing or any damage (surface abrasions, grooves or rubbing tracks, and metallic smears or transfers) in the flap transmission shafts. The unsafe condition, if not addressed, could affect the integrity of the flap transmission, which could lead to reduced control of the airplane.

(f) Compliance

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

(g) Required Actions

(1) Within 220 hours time-in-service (TIS) after the effective date of this AD, inspect the outboard and inboard flap transmission shafts (#1 and #7) at the crossing holes and openings on wing rib 440 and inspect the left-hand (LH) inboard flap transmission shaft (#7) and the pneumatic pipe for chafing or any damage (surface abrasions, grooves or rubbing tracks, and metallic smears or transfers). Additionally, measure the gaps between the outboard and inboard flap transmission shafts (#1 and #7) and their respective crossing holes and openings on wing rib 440, and the gap between the LH inboard flap transmission shaft (#7) and the pneumatic pipe. Perform these actions in accordance with the ACCOMPLISHMENT INSTRUCTIONS, paragraph B. PROCEDURE/MODIFICATION, steps (10) and (11) in Piaggio Aerospace Service

Bulletin (SB) 80-0498, Revision 0, dated August 2, 2024 (Piaggio SB 80-0498, Revision 0).

(2) If chafing or any damage (surface abrasions, grooves or rubbing tracks, and metallic smears or transfers) (referred to as discrepancies) is found during the inspections required by paragraph (g)(1) of this AD, perform any rework, repair, replacement, and repetitive inspections, as applicable, as specified in paragraphs (g)(2)(i) through (iv) of this AD.

(i) If no discrepancies are found or discrepancies are found that meet the criteria in Case 1 of paragraph 14 of Part A, paragraph B. PROCEDURE/MODIFICATION, of the ACCOMPLISHMENT INSTRUCTIONS section in Piaggio SB 80-0498, Revision 0, no further action is required by this AD.

(ii) If discrepancies are found that meet the criteria in Case 2 of paragraph 14 of Part A, paragraph B. PROCEDURE/MODIFICATION, of the ACCOMPLISHMENT INSTRUCTIONS section in Piaggio SB 80-0498, Revision 0, accomplish the actions of paragraph (g)(2)(ii)(A) and (B):

(A) Repetitively perform the inspections of paragraph (g)(1) at intervals not to exceed 220 hours TIS until the rework required by paragraph (g)(2)(ii)(B) of this AD is done.

(B) Within 660 hours TIS after the initial inspection required by paragraph (g)(1) of this AD, rework the wing rib(s) 440 (LH part number (P/N) 80-201367-001, right-hand (RH) P/N 80-201367-002) in accordance with Steps 14 through 21 of Part A and Part B, paragraph B. PROCEDURE/MODIFICATION, of the ACCOMPLISHMENT INSTRUCTIONS section in Piaggio SB 80-0498, Revision 0.

(iii) If discrepancies are found that meet the criteria in Case 3 of paragraph 14 of Part A, paragraph B. PROCEDURE/MODIFICATION, of the ACCOMPLISHMENT

INSTRUCTIONS section in Piaggio SB 80-0498, Revision 0, accomplish the actions of paragraph (g)(2)(iii)(A) and (B):

(A) Repetitively perform the inspections of paragraph (g)(1) of this AD at intervals not to exceed 110 hours TIS until the rework required by paragraph (g)(2)(iii)(B) of this AD is done.

(B) Within 220 hours TIS after the initial inspection required by paragraph (g)(1) of this AD, rework the wing rib(s) 440 (LH P/N 80-201367-001, RH P/N 80-201367-002) in accordance with Steps 14 through 21 of Part A and Part B, paragraph B. PROCEDURE/MODIFICATION, of the ACCOMPLISHMENT INSTRUCTIONS section in Piaggio SB 80-0498, Revision 0.

(iv) If discrepancies are found that meet the criteria in Case 4 of paragraph 14 of Part A, paragraph B. PROCEDURE/MODIFICATION, of the ACCOMPLISHMENT INSTRUCTIONS section in Piaggio SB 80-0498, Revision 0, before further flight, perform the following:

(A) Rework the wing rib(s) 440 (LH P/N 80-201367-001, RH P/N 80-201367-002) in accordance with Steps 14 through 21 of Part A and Part B, paragraph B. PROCEDURE/MODIFICATION, of the ACCOMPLISHMENT INSTRUCTIONS section in Piaggio SB 80-0498, Revision 0.

(B) Repair the pneumatic pipe (P/N 80-207493-401) in accordance with Steps 22 through 42 of Part B, paragraph B. PROCEDURE/MODIFICATION, of the ACCOMPLISHMENT INSTRUCTIONS section in Piaggio SB 80-0498, Revision 0.

(C) Replace any damaged transmission shaft with an airworthy one.

(3) If clearance cannot be obtained during Steps 21, 41, or 42 of Part B, paragraph B. PROCEDURE/MODIFICATION, of the ACCOMPLISHMENT INSTRUCTIONS section in Piaggio SB 80-0498, Revision 0, as required by paragraphs (g)(2)(ii)(B), (g)(2)(iii)(B), or (g)(2)(iv)(B) of this AD, contact the Manager, International Validation

Branch, FAA; the European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA); or Piaggio's EASA Design Organization Approval (DOA) for approved repair instructions, and before further flight, perform the repair. If the repair is approved by the DOA, the approval must include the DOA-authorized signature.

(h) No Reporting Requirement

Although Piaggio SB 80-0498, Revision 0, specifies to submit certain information to the manufacturer, this AD does not include that requirement.

(i) Alternative Methods of Compliance (AMOCs)

The Manager, International Validation 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 International Validation Branch, send it to the attention of the person identified in paragraph (j) of this AD and email to: AMOC@faa.gov. 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.

(j) Additional Information

For more information about this AD, contact Frank Huynh, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, 1600 Stewart Avenue, Suite 410, Westbury, NY 11590; phone: (404) 983-5288; email: frank.huynh@faa.gov.

(k) Material Incorporated by Reference

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

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

(i) Piaggio Aerospace Service Bulletin 80-0498, Revision 0, dated August 2, 2024.

(ii) [Reserved]

(3) For Piaggio Aerospace material identified in this AD, contact Baykar Piaggio Aerospace S.p.A., P180 Customer Support, via Pionieri e Aviatori d'Italia, snc - 16154 Genoa, Italy; phone: +39 331 679 74 93; email: technicalsupport@piaggioaerospace.it.

(4) You may view this material at the FAA, Airworthiness Products Section, Operational Safety Branch, 901 Locust, Kansas City, MO 64106. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call (817) 222-5110.

(5) You may view this material at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). For information on the availability of this material at NARA, visit www.archives.gov/federal-register/cfr/ibr-locations or email fr.inspection@nara.gov.

Issued on March 17, 2026.

Steven W. Thompson,
Acting Deputy Director, Compliance & Airworthiness Division,
Aircraft Certification Service.
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