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DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION
DOCKETS

[4910-13-U]

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (DOT)

2004 SEP 14 P 12:35

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. FAA-2004-¹⁸⁹⁹⁹⁻², Directorate Identifier 2003-NM-259-AD]

RIN 2120-AA64

Airworthiness Directives; Boeing Model 747-400, -400D, and -400F Series Airplanes

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM).

SUMMARY: The FAA proposes to adopt a new airworthiness directive (AD) for certain Boeing Model 747-400, -400D, and -400F series airplanes. This proposed AD would require replacing at least one flap control unit (FCU) in the main equipment center with a new or modified FCU. This proposed AD is prompted by a report indicating that after takeoff, an airplane was required to return to the airport because the autopilot disengaged. The report also indicated that, upon selecting flaps for landing, the flaps indication display did not indicate the flap setting, requiring the airplane to land in alternate flap mode. We are proposing this AD to prevent disconnection of autoland/autopilot functions and loss of primary flaps control and flaps indication display due to disengagement of all three flap control units (FCUs) at the same time, which could lead to a non-normal high speed landing with the flaps retracted, increased pilot workload, and possible runway departure at high speeds during landing.

DATES: We must receive comments on this proposed AD by [insert date 45 days after date of publication in the FEDERAL REGISTER].

ADDRESSES: Use one of the following addresses to submit comments on this proposed AD.

- DOT Docket web site: Go to <http://dms.dot.gov> and follow the instructions for sending your comments electronically.

CONCURRENCES
ROUTING SYMBOL 114
INITIALS/SIGNATURE J. Lovvick
DATE 7/19/04
ROUTING SYMBOL 1305
INITIALS/SIGNATURE BYT KMF AF
DATE 7/23/04
ROUTING SYMBOL 1005
INITIALS/SIGNATURE JAN
DATE 7/30/04
ROUTING SYMBOL AEG
INITIALS/SIGNATURE TAN
DATE 7/28/04
ROUTING SYMBOL -7
INITIALS/SIGNATURE DJ
DATE 8/17
ROUTING SYMBOL -101
INITIALS/SIGNATURE KJ
DATE 8/25/2004
ROUTING SYMBOL -114
INITIALS/SIGNATURE KJ
DATE 8/19