

Continued Airworthiness Notification to the International Community

To: Civil Aviation Authorities

Date: November 1, 2019

From: Federal Aviation Administration
Aircraft Certification Service
System Oversight Division, AIR-800
2200 South 216th Street
Des Moines, WA 98198

Subject: This message provides updated information regarding the FAA's continued operational safety activities related to cracking found on certain frame fittings and failsafe straps on certain Boeing Model 737-600, -700, -700C, -800, -900, and -900ER (737 NG) airplanes.

Situation Description: The FAA issued airworthiness directive (AD) 2019-20-02, effective October 3, 2019, requiring repetitive inspections for cracking of the left- and right-hand side outboard chords of frame fittings and failsafe straps at station 663.75 (around 2 fasteners), and repair if any cracking is found. During accomplishment of AD 2019-20-02, an operator found a crack in the left-hand side fitting on a Boeing Model 737-800 airplane. The operator subsequently found an additional crack below the original finding (outside the mandated inspection area). The airplane had accumulated 33,242 total flight cycles. Boeing also found a crack in a second airplane (Boeing Model 737-800BCF airplane (Boeing Model 737-800 airplane converted to a freighter) with 36,168 total flight cycles) in the station 663 frame outside the mandated inspection area.

Inspections in accordance with AD 2019-20-02 are not sufficient to detect cracking in the left- and right-hand side outboard chords of frame fittings and failsafe straps in the area of the new crack findings. Boeing is developing service information to inspect the expanded area. The FAA intends to supersede AD 2019-20-02 with an Immediately Adopted Rule to mandate inspections of the expanded area (around 8 fasteners).

Boeing 737-8 and -9 (737 MAX) and 737-100, -200, -200C, -300, -400, and -500 (737 Classic) airplanes are not affected due to design differences.

Aircraft/engine make, model, and series: Boeing Model 737-600, -700, -700C, -800, -900, and -900ER (737 NG) series airplanes.

U.S.-registered fleet: 1,911 airplanes; **Worldwide fleet:** 6,636 airplanes

Operators: Silver Air LLC, M Automotive Group, LLC, Meridian Jet Limited, SkyUp Airlines, Metrojet, ACASS, American Airlines, Phenix Jet, AAR Aircraft Advisory Services, LATAM Airlines Colombia, Air Transat, Avcon Jet SrL, AJW, Arik Air, Royal Flight Airlines, Amber, Air Algerie, Al-Atheer Trading Company, AIR ITALY S.p.A., AMC Airlines, Air Malawi, ARMSCOR, Aeromexico, All Nippon Airways Co., Ltd., ANA Trading Corp. U.S.A., TAAG Angola Airlines, Carlyle Aviation Partners Ltd., Aero Capital Solutions, Air Europa, Aerolineas Argentinas, Aeroflot - Russian Airlines, Alaska Airlines, ConocoPhillips Alaska, Inc., Air Austral, AVTrade Limited, AirExplore, Art Aviation, ATRAN, Aviation Horizons Ltd., Bahamasair, BBAM Aircraft Management LP, Blue Bird Airways, Costa Azzoura Limited, Beijing City International Jet, Boeing Executive Flight Operations, Spectre Air Capital LLC, Air China, Star Aviation, Inc. (BBJ), Batik Air, Brickell Asset Management XII, Biman Bangladesh Airlines, Banco Safra, BoA, Blue Panorama Airlines, Buraq Air, TUI Airways, Defense, Space & Security - IDS, Blue Air, Caribbean Airlines Limited, Ceilo del Rey Co., Limited, China Development Bank Fin., Corendon Dutch Airlines B.V., China Eastern Airlines, Texel Air, Jet2.com Ltd, Aviation Capital Group, China Airlines, Air China Chongqing Branch, AIR CHANGAN CO., LTD, Aircastle Limited, Nordavia-Regional Airlines, Charter Jets, Comair Limited, Camair-Co, Copa Airlines, China United Airlines Ltd., Clay Lacy Aviation, ASKY Airlines, Delta Air Lines, AerCap, Deer Jet, Dalian Airlines, Dobro Limited, DP WORLD, Dehong South Asian General Aviation Co., LTD., Dubai Aerospace Enterprise, DVB Bank, SCAT Airlines, Washington Corporations,

Enter Air Sp. z o.o., AECOM, EgyptAir, Republic of Equatorial Guinea, EIE Eagle, Executive Jets Limited, Eastern Air Lines Group, Inc., EL AL Israel Airlines, AerSale, Inc., L-3 Communications Integrated Systems, Ethiopian Airlines Group, Eastar Jet, Executive Aviation Taiwan Corp., ASL Airlines France, EZNIS, easyJet, Flybaghdad airline, Flybondi, FlyEgypt, Fiji Airways, Flair Airlines, Wells Fargo, Funair, Fuzhou Airlines Co., Ltd, First Virtual Air II, LLC, Gazpromavia, GECAS, Georgian Airways, Germania, Genesis Funding Limited, Garuda Indonesia, GainJet Aviation SA, Global Jet Luxembourg SA , GOL Linhas Aereas, Go2Sky, China Southern Airlines, Hyperion Aviation, TUI fly, Air Lease Corporation, Hebei Airlines Company, LTD, HCC, AirDo, HKBWJ, Hong Kong Jet, ACM Air Charter, Hainan Airlines Holding, Corendon Airlines, TUI fly Netherlands, Hyundai, Johor, Air India Express, The Republic of Indonesia, Pegas Fly, International Lease Finance Corporation, Iraqi Airways, AlbaStar, ITS, Belavia Belarusian Airlines, Jet Aviation Malta, Japan Airlines, Jin Air, Jeju Air, Jet Time, Jetmagic Ltd., Jet Airways, Jet Lite, Jet Stream Aviation, LLC, Jackson Square Aviation, Premier Avia JSC, Jet Aviation AG - Zurich, Jetran, LLC., Donghai Airlines, flydubai, Jiangxi Air, Korean Air, Dallah Albaraka Company, KaiserAir, Inc., Kenya Airways, KG Aircraft Rotables, Azurair, Killick Aerospace Limited, KLM Royal Dutch Airlines, Kunming Airlines, Kuwait Airways, LAM, Pobeda Airlines LLC, Lucky Air, Globus Airlines, SMBC Aviation Capital, LOT Polish Airlines, Alrosa Air Company Limited, Luxair, Las Vegas Sands, Corp., Lowa Corporation, My Way Airlines Co LTD, MAG Aerospace, Air Madagascar, euroAtlantic Airways, Malaysia Airlines, MCAP Europe Limited, Miami Air, Lion Air, Malindo Airways, MIAT Mongolian Airlines, Magnetic Parts Trading Limited, Mauritania Airlines, Midwest Airlines (Egypt), Myanmar National Airlines, N480CH, LLC., Norwegian Air Argentina, National Air Services Holdings, 9 Air, Neos Air, Nofa Ltd., Mango, Air Niugini, Norwegian Air International, Nok Air, Nordwind Airlines, Norwegian Air Shuttle, Okay Airways Company Limited, Oman Air (SAOC), ORIX Aviation, Plane Business Leasing, Pembroke Capital Limited, Pegasus Airlines, PrivatAir Saudi Arabia, Sky Holding Company, PrivatAir, PRIVAJET, Qantas Airways, Royal Air Maroc, ARAMCO Associated Company, Arabasco, Retentura, Copa Airlines Colombia, Regent Airways, Royal Jet, LLC, SpiceJet, E & A Aviation, Town & Country Foods Inc., Ruili Airlines, RwandAir, Ryanair, Las Vegas Sands Corporation, SERENE, Dream Aviation Ltd., Scandinavian Airlines, Sinojet Beijing Co., Ltd., Sun Country Airlines, Swift Air LLC, FlySafair, Shanghai Airlines, Shandong Airlines, Shenzhen Airlines, BOC Aviation Limited, Sriwijaya Air, Spring Airlines Japan, New Gen Airways, SAS Institute Inc., Aircompany Yakutia, Mid East Jet, Skymark Airlines Inc., SilkAir, SunExpress Airlines, Solaseed Air, Southern Air, SonAir, Somon Air, Vistara, Sino Jet Management Limited, Rossiya Airlines, Sunwing Airlines Inc., Surinam Airways, AA 767 LLC, Swoop, Southwest Airlines, Japan Transocean Air, SunExpress Deutschland GmbH, Corendon Airlines Europe, TAG Aviation Asia, Tianjin Air Cargo, Transavia Airlines, GA Telesis, Turkish Airlines, Thai Airways International, Air China Tianjin Branch, TUI fly Belgium, ASL Airlines Belgium, TUI fly Nordic, TAROM Romanian Air Transport, Transaero Airlines, Smartwings, a.s., Tassili Airlines, Tutor-Saliba Corporation, Turkmenhowayollary Agency, TunisAir, Transavia France, T'way Air, Thai Lion, NordStar, United Airlines, Universal Asset Management, US Bangla Airlines, Ukraine International Airlines, Bel Air Limited, Unical Aviation, Picton II, Urumqi Air, UTair Aviation, Azur Air Ukraine Airlines, LLC, Vallejo Investments, Inc., Air Vanuatu, Virgin Australia Airlines, Orient Global Aviation, VIP AIR TRANSPORT, Willis Lease, WOL, White Airways, SA, WestJet Airlines, White Springs Holdings Limited, WWTAI Finance Ltd. (Bermuda), ATX Air Services, XDL, LTD, Xiamen Airlines, West Atlantic AB, China Postal Airlines, Ty Air, Arab Wings Company, Suparna Airlines, Beijing Airlines, Boeing Capital Corporation

Ongoing activities: This issue affects all Boeing Model 737 NG series airplanes. Boeing is investigating the potential impact to other Boeing models.

FAA contact: Jeffrey E. Duven, Director, System Oversight Division
Telephone and Fax: (206) 231-3200