

Continued Airworthiness Notification to the International Community

To: Civil Aviation Authorities

Date: July 15, 2021

From: Federal Aviation Administration
Aircraft Certification Service
Compliance & Airworthiness Division

Subject: This message is to advise you of the FAA's ongoing continued operational safety activities related to latent failures of the cabin altitude pressure switches on Boeing Model 737 airplanes.

Situation description: The FAA received reports of latent failures of the cabin altitude pressure switches. In September 2020, an operator reported that both pressure switches failed the on-wing functional test on three of its airplanes. In May 2021, after further assessments into operator data, Boeing found that the failure rate was much higher than anticipated. A latent failure of both pressure switches could result in the cabin altitude warning system not activating if the cabin altitude exceeds 10,000 feet, and possibly result in hypoxia and prevent the continued safe operation and landing of the airplane.

Boeing and the FAA are investigating whether the unsafe condition also exists on Boeing Model 707, 720, 727, and 747-100/-200/-300 airplanes. Those airplanes are equipped with the same cabin altitude pressure switches.

Aircraft/engine make, model, and series: All Boeing Model 737 airplanes

U.S.-registered fleet: 2,502 airplanes; **Worldwide fleet:** 9,315 airplanes

Operators: 9 Air, Aerolineas Argentinas, Aeromexico, Air Canada, Air China Chongqing Branch, Air China Tianjin Branch, Air China, Air Italy S.p.a., Alaska Airlines, American Airlines, American Owlines LLC, AMK Aircraft Limited, Belavia Belarusian Airlines, Blue Air, Caribbean Airlines Limited, Cayman Airways, China Eastern Airlines, China Southern Airlines, Comair Limited, Copa Airlines, Corendon Airlines, Donghai Airlines, Eastar Jet, Enerjet, Enter Air Sp. Z o.o., Ethiopian Airlines Group, Fertitta Enterprises, Inc., Fiji Airways, Flair Airlines, Flydubai, Fuzhou Airlines Co., Ltd, Garuda Indonesia, GOL Linhas Airlines, Hainan Airlines Holding, Icelandair, Jet Aviation AG - Zurich, Korean Air, Kunming Airlines, Lion Air, LOT Polish Airlines, Lucky Air, Malindo Airways, Mauritania Airlines, MIAT Mongolian Airlines, Minsheng Leasing, Neos Air, Norwegian Air International, Norwegian Air Shuttle, Norwegian Air Sweden, Okay Airways Company Limited, Oman Air (SAOC), Qatar Airways, Royal Air Maroc, Ryanair, S7 Airlines, SCAT Airlines, Shandong Airlines, Shanghai Airlines, Shenzhen Airlines, Singapore Airlines, Smartwings, a.s., SMBC Aviation Capital, Southwest Airlines, Spicejet, Sunexpress Airlines, Sunwing Airlines Inc., Thai Lion, TUI Airways, TUI Fly Belgium, TUI Fly Deutschland, TUI Fly Netherlands, TUI Fly Nordic, Tui Travel Aviation Finance Limited, Turkish Airlines, T'Way Air, United Airlines, Ural Airlines, Valla Jets Limited, Westjet, Xiamen Airlines, and other numerous worldwide operators.

Ongoing activities: Boeing published a multi-operator message MOM-MOM-21-0292-01B recommending functional tests of the pressure switches at a 2000-flight-hour interval (sooner than the currently scheduled 6,000-flight-hour interval for the 737 NG/MAX and 4,000-flight-hour interval for the 737 CL). The FAA is considering mandatory airworthiness action requiring the functional tests at the reduced interval.

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