



ALL OPERATORS LETTER (AOL 060)

Circular Ref: NCAA/DAWS/AD.1104/AOL 060/Vol.I
Date: 20th Dec., 2016
To: All AOC Holders
From: Directorate of Airworthiness Standards
Attn: Quality Assurance Manager/Director of Maintenance

SUBJECT: AGEING AIRPLANE AIRWORTHINESS AND SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS

PREAMBLE

Investigations have attributed structural fatigue failure as the cause of a number of ageing airplane accidents in the world and among such are Widespread Fatigue Damage failure, corrosion and older repairs. The Nigeria Civil Aviation Regulations (2015) that became effective on 1st July, 2016 has as one of the new requirements, the requirement for AOC holders operating transport category airplanes to comply with the ageing airplane airworthiness and safety improvements requirements stated in Nig. CARs 2015 Part 9.4.1.17.

The purpose of this regulation is to assure continuing airworthiness of ageing airplane and mitigate the risk of ageing for large transport aeroplanes by mandating actions for future aircraft and for the existing fleet. AOC holders are required to revise their approved maintenance programme to ensure continuing structural integrity in accordance with the manufacturers' documentations approved by the State of Design.

Nig. CARs 2015 Part 9.4.1.17 specifically stipulates that:

- (a) *This sub-section requires persons holding an air operator certificate under part 9 of these regulations to support the continued airworthiness of each airplane. These requirements may include, but are not limited to, revising the maintenance program required by 9.4.1.12 of this part, incorporating design changes, and incorporating revisions to Instructions for Continued Airworthiness.*
- (b) *All AOC holder shall comply with the ageing airplane inspections and records reviews requirements as contained in IS 9.4.1.17(b).*
- (c) *All AOC holder shall comply with the repair assessment for pressurized fuselage requirements as contained in IS 9.4.1.17(c)*
- (d) *All AOC holder shall comply with the supplemental inspections requirements as contained in IS 9.4.1.17(d).*
- (e) *All AOC holder shall comply with the Electrical wiring interconnection systems (EWIS) maintenance program requirements as contained in IS 9.4.1.17(e)*
- (f) *All AOC holder shall comply with the Fuel tank system maintenance program requirements as contained in IS 9.4.1.17(f).*
- (g) *All AOC holder shall comply with the Limit of validity requirements as contained in IS 9.4.1.17(g)*

(h) All AOC holder shall comply with the Flammability reduction means requirements as contained in IS-9.4.1.17(h)"

ACTION REQUIRED

These ageing airplane airworthiness rules and safety improvement requirements are applicable to AOC holders in Nigeria and the following actions are hereby required:

1. All AOC holders are required to revise the approved maintenance programme in accordance with the requirements of IS 9.4.1.17 to incorporate mandatory service actions/ICA issued by the aircraft manufacturer and submit such for the approval of the Authority;
2. All Nigerian AOC holders operating foreign registered airplanes are required to ensure similar requirements are incorporated into the State of Registry approved maintenance programme.

Each AOC holder should liaise with their Authority assigned Principal Inspectors to ensure compliance with the action required by this AOL within Two (2) months of issue of this AOL.



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Director, Airworthiness Standards
For: Director General