

# AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVE

released by DIRECTION GENERALE DE L'AVIATION CIVILE

*Inspection and/or modifications described below are mandatory. No person may operate a product to which this Airworthiness Directive applies except in accordance with the requirements of this Airworthiness Directive.*

Translation of 'Consigne de Navigabilité' ref. : 2000-307(A)  
In case of any difficulty, reference should be made to the French original issue.

## SOCATA

### TBM 700 aircraft

Horizontal stabiliser outboard fittings (ATA 55)

#### 1. APPLICABILITY:

The present Airworthiness Directive is applicable to all SOCATA TBM 700 aeroplanes on which SOCATA modification No. MOD. 70-120-55 "Horizontal stabiliser outboard fittings" has not already been installed at the factory, except aeroplanes S/N 99, 157, 162 through 164, 166 through 173 and 175 (already corrected at the factory at the date of issue of the present Airworthiness Directive).

#### 2. REASONS:

Several occurrences of cracks of the outboard hinge fittings of the horizontal stabiliser have been reported.

On February 24, 1999, the DGAC issued the Airworthiness Directive No. 1999-060(A), requiring a periodical inspection of the fittings.

SOCATA has since established that the probable cause of the cracks was a wrong installation of the fittings, inducing stress. The present Airworthiness Directive requires that the installation of the fittings of the aeroplanes in service be rectified by introduction of adjusting shims. The periodical inspection of the fittings for cracks is still required until a better confidence in the cause of the cracks is obtained.

#### 3. ACTIONS AND COMPLIANCE TIME:

The following measures are rendered mandatory from the effective date of this Airworthiness Directive:

3.1. TBM 700 aeroplanes S/N 1 through 98, 100 through 156 and 158 through 161: at the latest during the next scheduled maintenance check or in 110 flight hours (first of the two time limits reached), check and if necessary rectify the installation of the outboard hinge fittings of the horizontal stabiliser according to the instructions of SOCATA Service Bulletin TBM 700 No. 70-080-55.

3.2. All TBM 700 aeroplanes: every 100 flight hours, visually inspect the outboard hinge fittings of the horizontal stabiliser for cracks according to the instructions of SOCATA Service Bulletin TBM 700 No. 70-077-55 dated February 1999. An allowance of 10 flight hours is acceptable to perform the inspection during a scheduled maintenance check.

Record the application of this Airworthiness Directive in the aircraft logbook.

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REF. : SB SOCATA TBM 700 No. 70-080-55 dated July 2000 (or any further approved revision)  
SB SOCATA TBM 700 No. 70-077-55 dated February 1999.

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This Airworthiness Directive replaces the AD No. 1999-060(A) which is cancelled.

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**EFFECTIVE DATE : AUGUST 19, 2000**

SUPERSEDED