

Airworthiness Directive of The Netherlands

Bijzondere Luchtwaardigheids Aanwijzing - BLA

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Caution

In accordance with the Aviation Act 2001 (Wet Luchtvaart), Article 3.22, the following Airworthiness Directive (BLA) is issued by the Minister of Transport, Public Works and Water Management. Airworthiness Directives affect aviation safety. These are regulations which require immediate attention. You are cautioned that no person may operate an aircraft to which an Airworthiness Directive applies, except in accordance with the requirements thereof.

BLA nr. 2003-035

(A)

Date : March 31, 2003

FOKKER SERVICES B.V.
(formerly Fokker Aircraft B.V.)
F.27 Mk.050, Mk.0502

CAA-NL Type Certificate Nr.

T-050-87

Correction dated April 15, 2003

EQUIPMENT & FURNISHINGS - PASSENGER SERVICE UNITS - MODIFICATION

Description :

Over the years, Fokker 50 operators have reported incidents of smoke in the aft passenger compartment during flight, apparently due to overheating of a Passenger Service Unit (PSU). Investigation has shown the overheating to occur due to water leakage onto the PSU electrical connector. This water originated from the Air Conditioning ducts, dripping through a seal on the duct end. In 1994, then TC-holder Fokker Aircraft issued Service Bulletin (SB) F50-33-036 to address this problem, which recommends a one-time inspection of the PSU panels and, if leakage is detected, the cleaning of the connector and modification of the PSU panel. As the smoke problems appeared to be minor and were not considered hazardous at the time, the inspection and modification were not made MANDATORY. As a result, only few operators accomplished the inspection/modification on affected PSU panels. In addition, the referenced SB did not contain instructions to prevent water leakage from the Air Conditioning ducts. In view of the above, the CAA-NL have determined that overheating of PSU panels could still occur, due to water leakage. This condition, if not corrected, could lead to further incidents of cabin smoke, which is now regarded as a significant safety issue. Since an unsafe condition has been identified that is likely to exist or develop on other aircraft of the same type design, this BLA requires the modification of all PSU panels and the application of sealant on the aft Air Conditioning duct ends.

Applicability : Fokker Aircraft B.V. Model F.27 Mk.050 and F.27 Mk.0502 aircraft, all serial numbers, if Grimes Aerospace PSU Part Number (P/N) 10-1178-(series) are installed which have **not** been modified in accordance with Grimes SB 10-1178-33-0040; Aircraft serial numbers 20306, 20307, 20309, 20310 and 20312 have had the sealant modification (paragraph (b) of this directive) installed before delivery.

Effective date : May 1, 2003

Compliance : Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously.

Within the next three years after the effective date of this directive, accomplish the following :

- (a) Modify the affected Grimes Aerospace Passenger Service Units P/N 10-1178-(series) in accordance with Grimes Aerospace Company SB 10-1178-33-0040 Revision 1 dated March 25, 1996; and
- (b) Apply sealant on the aft Air Conditioning duct ends in accordance with Part 2.

Accomplishment Instructions of Fokker Services SB F50-25-055 dated March 17, 2003 or a later CAA-NL approved revision.

Remarks :

- Operators of the affected aircraft may obtain copies of the referenced service information upon request directly from Fokker Services B.V., Technical Services Dept., P.O.Box 231, 2150 AE Nieuw-Vennep, The Netherlands; telephone (31) 252-627-350; facsimile (31) 252-627-211; e-mail technicalservices.fokkerservices@stork.com; or from Grimes Aerospace Company (Honeywell Lighting & Electronics), Product Support Group, 240 Twain Avenue, Urbana, Ohio 43078, United States of America; telephone (1) 937-484-2000; facsimile (1) 937-484-2008; website www.grimesaero.com; e-mail urbana.ebiz@honeywell.com.
- Compliance with this directive must be recorded in the proper Aircraft Log Book(s).

Address inquiries concerning this AD to :

Aircraft Division, Section C&D; telephone +31-23-566-3155; facsimile +31-23-566-3006; e-mail Info.Register@ivw.nl.