

Continued Airworthiness Notification to the International Community

To: Civil Aviation Authorities

Date: October 23, 2019

From: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)
Engine and Propeller Standards Branch, AIR-6A0
1200 District Avenue
Burlington, MA 01803

Subject: This message provides information regarding the FAA's continued operational safety activities related to the GE90-115B uncontained engine failure that occurred on October 20, 2019.

Accident/Incident Description: A Thai Airways Boeing 777-300ER, registration HS-TKL, flight TG970, powered by GE GE90-115B model turbofan engines experienced an uncontained engine failure. During takeoff roll, the flight crew heard a bang from the left-hand side of the aircraft, and the aircraft veered to the left. The flight crew aborted the takeoff and returned to the airport terminal.

Preliminary ground inspections revealed a large circumferential hole in the high-pressure turbine case. In addition, damage was found on the other engine and the aircraft fuselage.

The incident is under investigation by the Aircraft Accident Investigation Committee of Thailand, assisted by the U.S. National Transportation Safety Board, and the FAA.

Aircraft/engine make, model, and series: GE GE90-115B model turbofan engines

Worldwide fleet: 8 affected engines on 7 aircraft

Operators: Thai Airways International (4 engines); Korean Air Lines (1 engine); Ethiopian Airlines (1 engine); EVA Air (1 engine), Qatar Airways (1 engine).

Ongoing activities: As an interim measure, the FAA is issuing an airworthiness directive (AD) to remove the Interstage Seal from eight GE GE90-115B model turbofan engines. The affected engines are identified by serial number in the AD.

Next update, if any: As needed.

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