

Proposed Equivalent Safety Finding to CS 25.811(e)(4): “Emergency Exit Marking”

Revision 1

Applicable to Boeing 787

Introductory note:

The hereby presented Equivalent Safety Finding has been classified as important and as such shall be subject to public consultation, in accordance with EASA Management Board decision 02/04 dated 30 March 2004, Article 3 (2.) of which states:

"2. Deviations from the applicable airworthiness codes, environmental protection certification specifications and/or acceptable means of compliance with Part 21, as well as important special conditions and equivalent safety findings, shall be submitted to the panel of experts and be subject to a public consultation of at least 3 weeks, except if they have been previously agreed and published in the Official Publication of the Agency. The final decision shall be published in the Official Publication of the Agency."

Statement of issue

CS 25.811(e)(4) requires, among other, the emergency exit doors be marked with an arrow that is red in colour and requires the word “OPEN” in red letters horizontally adjacent to the head of the arrow.

Boeing proposes to have on B787 emergency exit door opening instructions (arrow and word “OPEN”) be green in colour in lieu of the red colour required by CS 25.811(e)(4).

Boeing sent a similar request to the FAA via letter BDCO-07-04245, dated November 5, 2007. FAA granted an ESF as recorded in the IP CS-18 stage 4 closed on November 14, 2007.

Boeing 787 - Equivalent Safety Finding to CS 25.811(e)(4)

Applicant Proposal:

The use of a green arrow and green “OPEN” text on the doors will provide an adequate contrast to the background and will allow the B787 emergency exit doors to provide a consistent and coherent message for the flight attendants and anyone else operating the door in normal and emergency situations.

Applicant Safety Equivalency Demonstration

1. Industry standard SAE ARP 577D documents the improved contrast of green over red, thus the green marking meet the intent of the rule by providing a clear and readily visible indication of direction of rotation and how far the exit handle should rotate when opening the door.

2. Consistency of design in the standardization of green as the ready/go message on the B787.