

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

ISSUED: June 22, 1979

Forwarded to:

Honorable Langhorne M. Bond  
Administrator  
Federal Aviation Administration  
Washington, D.C. 20591

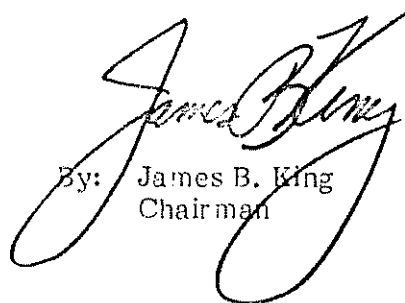
SAFETY RECOMMENDATION(S)

A-79-52

Data obtained during the investigation of service problems of all model DC-10 aircraft indicate that structural damage in the form of cracks and buckles may develop in engine pylon spar webs whenever an engine fails in a catastrophic manner. Failures involving significant imbalance conditions and severe side loads are especially suspected of precipitating such damage. Accordingly, the National Transportation Safety Board recommends that the Federal Aviation Administration:

Issue a Maintenance Alert Bulletin to U.S. certificated air carriers, and notify States that have regulatory responsibilities over foreign air carriers operating DC-10 aircraft, to require appropriate structural inspections of the engine pylons following engine failures involving significant imbalance conditions or severe side loads. (Class I, Urgent Action) (A-79-52)

KING, Chairman, DRIVER, Vice Chairman, McADAMS and GOLDMAN, Members all concurred with the above recommendation.

  
By: James B. King  
Chairman