

Boeing 737 Series Aeroplanes

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**AD/B737/97                      Fwd Galley Service Door Lower Gate Hinge                      9/96**

**Applicability:** Model 737 series aircraft, as listed in Boeing Service Bulletin 737-52A1124; on which the actions specified in Boeing Service Bulletin 737-52-1097, Revision 1, or Revision 2, have not been accomplished.

**Requirement:** Perform a detailed visual inspection to detect cracks of the lower gate hinge of the forward galley service door, in accordance with Boeing Alert Service Bulletin 737-52A1124.

*Note 1: Replacement of the lower gate hinge of the lower galley service door with an improved hinge, in accordance with Boeing Alert Service Bulletin 737-52A1124, constitutes terminating action for the requirements of this Directive.*

*Note 2: FAA AD 96-10-06 Amdt 39-9611 refers.*

**Compliance:** Within 400 flight cycles after 15 August 1996, and thereafter at intervals not to exceed 4500 flight cycles; until replacement with an improved hinge.

**Background:** The FAA received reports of fatigue cracks in the lower gate hinge on the forward galley service door. If the hinge fails, the hinge and its associated parts and the emergency escape slide could separate from the aircraft and be ingested into the engine, or could strike and damage the flight control surfaces.