



NTSB National Transportation Safety Board

Office of Aviation Safety

Aging Aircraft Safety Regulations

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Aerospace Engineer (Structures)

Chalk's Investigation

- Accident airplane: 58 years old
- FAA requirements
- Loopholes applicable to accident

History

- Aloha Airlines investigation:
21 safety recommendations
- Aging Aircraft Safety Act (1991)
- FAA to ensure that air carriers
maintain “highest degree of safety”

FAA Rulemaking

- Aging Airplane Safety - Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (1999)
- All multi-engine air carrier airplanes
- Inspections and records reviews
- Damage-tolerance based inspections and procedures

FAA Rulemaking

- Aging Airplane Safety Final Rule (2005)
- Delays and exemptions
 - Certificated before January 1, 1958
 - Fewer than 30 seats
 - Compliance delayed until December 20, 2010
 - Other exemptions

Safety Issues

- Exemptions included accident airplane
- Contrary to one-level-of-safety concept
- Contrary to Aging Aircraft Safety Act
- Delayed inspection implementation

Safety Recommendation A-06-52

- Remove exemptions
- FAA response in November 2006
 - Cost is prohibitive
 - Fewer than 80 airplanes in service
- Open – Unacceptable Response



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