PART 39—AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVES

1. The authority citation for part 39 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 49 USC 106(g), 40113, 44701.

§ 39.13 [Amended]

2. Section 39.13 is amended by adding a new airworthiness directive (AD) to read as follows:

I.A.M. Rinaldo Piaggio: Docket No. 96–CE– 56–AD

Applicability: Model P180 airplanes (all serial numbers), certificated in any category.

Note 1: This AD applies to each airplane identified in the preceding applicability provision, regardless of whether it has been modified, altered, or repaired in the area subject to the requirements of this AD. For airplanes that have been modified, altered, or repaired so that the performance of the requirements of this AD is affected, the owner/operator must request approval for an alternative method of compliance in accordance with paragraph (f) of this AD. The request should include an assessment of the effect of the modification, alteration, or repair on the unsafe condition addressed by this AD; and, if the unsafe condition has not been eliminated, the request should include specific proposed actions to address it.

Compliance: Required within the next 100 hours time-in-service (TIS) after the effective date of this AD, and thereafter as indicated in the body of this AD, unless already accomplished.

To prevent fatigue cracks in the rudder torque tube bottom flange which could result in loss of rudder control and possible loss of the airplane, accomplish the following:

(a) Inspect the area around the torque tube, bottom flange, and vertical support pin of the rudder for cracks (using a dye penetrant method) and visually inspect for cracks in the fasteners that connect the torque tube to the bottom flange.

Note 2: The inspection in Part A of the Compliance section of Piaggio Service Bulletin (SB) 80–0076, ORIGINAL ISSUE: May 30, 1995, uses different criteria than the inspection required in paragraph (a) of this AD. This AD takes precedence over Piaggio SB 80–0076.

- (b) If cracks are found, prior to further flight, modify the rudder torque tube bottom flange by replacing any cracked part with a part of improved design in accordance with Part B and Attachment #1 of the ACCOMPLISHMENT INSTRUCTIONS of Piaggio SB 80–0076, ORIGINAL ISSUE: May 30, 1995.
- (c) If no cracks are found, continue to inspect at intervals not to exceed 100 hours TIS thereafter until cracks appear. If cracks appear during any inspection required by this AD, prior to further flight, modify the rudder torque tube bottom flange by the replacing cracked part with a part of improved design in accordance with Part B and Attachment #1 of the ACCOMPLISHMENT INSTRUCTIONS of Piaggio SB 80–0076, ORIGINAL ISSUE: May

30, 1995.

- (d) Modifying the rudder torque tube flange by replacing a cracked torque tube bottom flange, part number (P/N) 80-373108-103, with an improved torque tube bottom flange (P/N 80-373201-001) is considered a terminating action for the repetitive inspections required in paragraph (c) of this AD
- (e) Special flight permits may be issued in accordance with sections 21.197 and 21.199 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR 21.197 and 21.199) to operate the airplane to a location where the requirements of this AD can be accomplished.
- (f) An alternative method of compliance or adjustment of the initial or repetitive compliance times that provides an equivalent level of safety may be approved by the Manager, Brussels Aircraft Certification Division, FAA, Europe, Africa, and Middle East Office, c/o American Embassy, B-1000 Brussels, Belgium; or the Manager, Small Airplane Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service, FAA, 1201 Walnut, suite 900, Kansas City, Missouri 64106. The request shall be forwarded through an appropriate FAA Maintenance Inspector, who may add comments and then send it to the Manager, Brussels Aircraft Certification Division or Manager, Small Airplane Directorate.

Note 3: Information concerning the existence of approved alternative methods of compliance with this AD, if any, may be obtained from the Brussels Aircraft Certification Division or the Small Airplane Directorate.

(g) All persons affected by this directive may obtain copies of the documents referred to herein upon request to I. A. M. Rinaldo Piaggio, S.p.A., Via Cibrario, 4 16154 Genoa, Italy; or may examine these documents at the FAA, Central Region, Office of the Assistant Chief Counsel, Room 1558, 601 E. 12th Street, Kansas City, Missouri 64106.

Issued in Kansas City, Missouri, on February 14, 1997.

James E. Jackson,

Acting Manager, Small Airplane Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. 97–4371 Filed 2–21–97; 8:45 am] BILLING CODE 4910–13–U

14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. 97-ANE-08]

RIN 2120-AA64

Airworthiness Directives; Pratt & Whitney JT8D-200 Series Turbofan Engines

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM).

SUMMARY: This document proposes the supersedure of an existing airworthiness directive (AD), applicable to Pratt & Whitney JT8D–200 series turbofan engines, that currently requires for front compressor front hubs (fan hubs),

cleaning; initial and repetitive eddy current (ECI) and fluorescent penetrant inspections (FPI) of tierod and counterweight holes for cracks; removal of bushings; the cleaning and ECI and FPI of bushed holes for cracks; and, if necessary, replacement with serviceable parts. In addition, the current AD requires reporting the findings of cracked fan hubs. This action will not change the current AD's inspection procedures, or the effectivity date that starts the cycle count for the initial inspection schedules. This AD will, however, add an additional inspection schedule that requires the initial inspection of certain fan hubs with standard drilled holes and coolant channel drilled (CCD) holes to occur earlier than the existing AD requires. This proposal is prompted by additional investigation since publication of the current AD that reveals that certain fan hubs with standard drilled holes and CCD holes may be more susceptible to cracking. This proposal also requires reporting the results of the initial fan hub inspections. The actions specified by the proposed AD are intended to prevent fan hub failure due to tierod. counterweight, or bushed hole cracking, which could result in an uncontained engine failure and damage to the aircraft.

DATES: Comments must be received by April 25, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments in triplicate to the Federal

Aviation Administration (FAA), New England Region, Office of the Assistant Chief Counsel, Attention: Rules Docket No. 97–ANE–08, 12 New England Executive Park, Burlington, MA 01803–5299. Comments may also be sent via the Internet using the following address: "9-ad-engineprop@faa.dot.gov". Comments sent via the Internet must contain the docket number in the subject line. Comments may be inspected at this location between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

The service information referenced in the proposed rule may be obtained from Pratt & Whitney, 400 Main St., East Hartford, CT 06108; telephone (860) 565–6600, fax (860) 565–4503. This information may be examined at the FAA, New England Region, Office of the Assistant Chief Counsel, 12 New England Executive Park, Burlington, MA.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Diane Cook, Aerospace Engineer, Engine Certification Office, FAA, Engine and Propeller Directorate, 12 New England Executive Park, Burlington, MA 01803– 5299; telephone (617) 238–7134, fax (617) 238–7199.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Comments Invited

Interested persons are invited to participate in the making of the proposed rule by submitting such written data, views, or arguments as they may desire. Communications should identify the Rules Docket number and be submitted in triplicate to the address specified above. All communications received on or before the closing date for comments, specified above, will be considered before taking action on the proposed rule. The proposals contained in this notice may be changed in light of the comments received.

Comments are specifically invited on the overall regulatory, economic, environmental, and energy aspects of the proposed rule. All comments submitted will be available, both before and after the closing date for comments, in the Rules Docket for examination by interested persons. A report summarizing each FAA-public contact concerned with the substance of this proposal will be filed in the Rules Docket.

Commenters wishing the FAA to acknowledge receipt of their comments submitted in response to this notice must submit a self-addressed, stamped postcard on which the following statement is made: "Comments to Docket Number 97–ANE–08." The postcard will be date stamped and returned to the commenter.

Availability of NPRMs

Any person may obtain a copy of this NPRM by submitting a request to the FAA, New England Region, Office of the Assistant Chief Counsel, Attention: Rules Docket No. 97–ANE–08, 12 New England Executive Park, Burlington, MA 01803–5299.

Discussion

On January 13, 1997, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) issued airworthiness directive AD 97–02–11. Amendment 39-9896 (62 FR 4902, February 3, 1997), applicable to Pratt & Whitney (PW) JT8D-200 series turbofan engines, to require cleaning, initial and repetitive eddy current inspections (ECI) and fluorescent penetrant inspections (FPI) for cracks of tierod and counterweight holes; removal of bushings; the cleaning and initial and repetitive ECI and FPI of bushed holes for cracks; and, if necessary, replacing with serviceable parts. The compliance requirements allow selection of inspection schedules depending on

front compressor front hub (fan hub) Serial Numbers (S/Ns) listed in PW Alert Service Bulletin (ASB) No. A6272, dated September 24, 1996, and includes an inspection schedule for those fan hubs whose S/Ns are not listed in the ASB. In addition, the AD requires reporting findings of cracked fan hubs. That action was prompted by a report of an uncontained failure of a fan hub. That condition, if not corrected, could result in fan hub failure due to tierod, counterweight, or bushed hole cracking, which could result in an uncontained engine failure and damage to the aircraft.

Since the issuance of that AD, the FAA has conducted additional investigation of fan hub cracking and has determined it necessary to include an additional inspection schedule for certain fan hubs with standard drilled holes and coolant channel drilled (CCD) holes. The FAA reviewed the manufacturing records of all fan hubs, a total of 253 which had notations related to the tierod or counterweight holes. Notations are made in the manufacturing records if an event occurred during manufacture of the hole such as a tool break, which can result in work hardened material, which is more susceptible to cracking. Of the 253 fan hubs with such notations, 113 were manufactured with a CCD and the remaining 140 were manufactured with a standard drill. Although CCD fan hubs are more prone to a work hardened layer, a standard drill, under certain circumstances, may also cause a work hardened layer and subsequent cracking.

The FAA has reviewed and approved the technical contents of PW ASB No. A6272, dated September 24, 1996, that describes procedures for cleaning and ECI and FPI of tierod and counterweight holes for cracks; removal of bushings; and the cleaning, FPI, and ECI of bushed holes for cracks. Even though the ASB contains three of the S/Ns of the fan hubs that were removed from service in accordance with AD 96–15–06, the manufacturer has informed the FAA that these fan hubs have been destroyed during the investigation to confirm the failure mode.

Since an unsafe condition has been identified that is likely to exist or develop on other products of this same type design, the proposed AD would supersede AD 97–02–11 to include an additional inspection schedule for certain fan hubs with standard drilled holes and CCD holes without changing inspection procedures, the existing inspection schedules, or the current effectivity date of March 5, 1997.

There are approximately 2,624 engines of the affected design in the worldwide fleet. The FAA estimates that 1,279 engines installed on aircraft of U.S. registry would be affected by this proposed AD, that it would take 20 work hours per engine for 360 engines to disassemble, remove, inspect, and reassemble engines, and 4 work hours per engine for 919 engines to inspect at piece-part exposure, and that the average labor rate is \$60 per work hour. Based on these figures, the total cost impact of the proposed AD on U.S. operators is estimated to be \$862,560.

The regulations proposed herein would not have substantial direct effects on the States, on the relationship between the national government and the States, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government. Therefore, in accordance with Executive Order 12612, it is determined that this proposal would not have sufficient federalism implications to warrant the preparation of a Federalism Assessment.

For the reasons discussed above, I certify that this proposed regulation (1) is not a "significant regulatory action" under Executive Order 12866; (2) is not a "significant rule" under the DOT Regulatory Policies and Procedures (44 FR 11034, February 26, 1979); and (3) if promulgated, will not have a significant economic impact, positive or negative, on a substantial number of small entities under the criteria of the Regulatory Flexibility Act. A copy of the draft regulatory evaluation prepared for this action is contained in the Rules Docket. A copy of it may be obtained by contacting the Rules Docket at the location provided under the caption ADDRESSES.

List of Subjects in 14 CFR Part 39

Air transportation, Aircraft, Aviation safety, Safety.

The Proposed Amendment

Accordingly, pursuant to the authority delegated to me by the Administrator, the Federal Aviation Administration proposes to amend part 39 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR part 39) as follows:

PART 39—AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVES

1. The authority citation for part 39 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 49 USC 106(g), 40113, 44701.

§ 39.13 [Amended]

2. Section 39.13 is amended by removing amendment 39–9896 (62 FR 4902, February 3, 1997) and by adding a new airworthiness directive to read as follows:

Pratt & Whitney: Docket No. 97-ANE-08. Supersedes AD 97-02-11, Amendment 39 - 9896

Applicability: Pratt & Whitney JT8D-209, -217, -217C, and -219 series turbofan engines with front compressor front hub (fan hub), Part Number (P/N) 5000501-01, installed. These engines are installed on but not limited to McDonnell Douglas MD-80 series aircraft.

Note 1: This airworthiness directive (AD) applies to each engine identified in the preceding applicability provision, regardless of whether it has been modified, altered, or repaired in the area subject to the requirements of this AD. For engines that have been modified, altered, or repaired so that the performance of the requirements of

this AD is affected, the owner/operator must request approval for an alternative method of compliance in accordance with paragraph (c) of this AD. The request should include an assessment of the effect of the modification, alteration, or repair on the unsafe condition addressed by this AD; and, if the unsafe condition has not been eliminated, the request should include specific proposed actions to address it.

Compliance: Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously.

To prevent fan hub failure due to tierod, counterweight, or bushed hole cracking, which could result in an uncontained engine failure and damage to the aircraft, accomplish the following:

(a) Inspect fan hubs for cracks in accordance with the Accomplishment Instructions, Paragraph A, Part 1, and, if

applicable, Paragraph B, of PW ASB No. A6272, dated September 24, 1996, as follows:

- (1) For fan hubs identified by Serial Numbers (S/Ns) in Table 2 of this AD, after the fan hub has accumulated more than 4,000 cycles since new (CSN), as follows:
- (i) Initially inspect within 790 cycles in service after March 5, 1997 (the effective date of AD 97-02-11), or 4,790 CSN, whichever occurs later.
- (ii) Thereafter, reinspect after accumulating 2,500 CIS since last inspection, but not to exceed 10,000 CIS since last inspection.
- (2) For fan hubs identified by S/Ns in Appendix A of PW ASB No. A6272, dated September 24, 1996, after the fan hub has accumulated more than 4,000 CSN, as follows:
- (i) Select an initial inspection interval from Table 1 of this AD, and inspect accordingly.

TABLE 1

Initial inspection Reinspection

or

- 1. Within 1,050 cycles in service (CIS) after the effective date of AD 97-02-11, March 5, 1997, or prior to accumulating 5,050 CSN, whichever occurs later;
- 2. Within 990 CIS after the effective date of AD 97-02-11, March 5, 1997, or prior to accumulating 4,990 CSN, whichever occurs later;
- 3. Within 965 CIS after the effective date of AD 97-02-11, March 5, 1997, or prior to accumulating 4,965 CSN, whichever occurs later.

After accumulating 2,500 CIS since last inspection, but not to exceed 6,000 CIS since last inspection.

After accumulating 2,500 CIS since last inspection, but not to exceed 8,000 CIS since last inspection.

After accumulating 2,500 CIS since last inspection, but not to exceed 10,000 CIS since last inspection.

TABLE 2

M67746

M67751

M67753

M67764

M67765

M67784

M67791

M67792

M67793

M67794

M67795

N71921

N71965

N72062

N72126

N72152

N72162

N72207

N72216

N72219

N72242

P66693

S25497

S25498

S25499

S25500

S25501

S25502

S25505

S25506

S25507

S25508

S25509

TABLE 2—Continued

TABLE 2—Continued

I ADLL Z				TABLE 2 CONTINUES				TABLE 2 CONTINUES			
[Hubs with traveler notations]				[Hubs with traveler notations]				[Hubs with traveler notations]			
Non CCD	Non CCD	Non CCD	Non CCD	Non CCD	Non CCD	Non CCD	Non CCD	Non CCD	Non CCD	Non CCD	Non CCD
M67663 M67671 M67675 M67681 M67685 M67686 M67687 M67700 M67706 M67710 M677112 M67713 M67714 M67715	M67802 M67812 M67826 M67829 M67830 M67831 M67832 M67834 M67849 M67858 M67866 M67868 M67869 M67872	P66880 P66885 R32732 R32733 R32735 R32740 R32741 R32810 R32849 R32850 S25222 S25464 S25481 S25483 S25484	\$25545 \$25558 \$25558 \$25564 \$25598 \$25618 \$25621 \$25637 \$25640 T50693 T50752 T50785 T50791 T50792 T50819 T50823	M67796 M67797 M67798 M67799 M67800 M67801 CCD Hub P66747 P66756 P66800 P66814 P66819 P66831	P66695 P66696 P66698 P66699 P66737 P66753 CCD Hub R33099 R33107 R33113 R33124 R33131 R33132	S25514 S25529 S25532 S25541 S25543 S25544 CCD Hub S25292 S25299 S25301 S25302 S25308 S25312		R32981 R32990 R32994 R33000 R33004 R33055 R33055 R33057 R33080 R33082 R33086 R33087 R33089	\$25207 \$25208 \$25221 \$25229 \$25238 \$25246 \$25248 \$25250 \$25256 \$25262 \$25262 \$25268 \$25278 \$25287 \$25288	S25419 S25421 S25422 S25430 S25437 S25439 S25449	
M67716 M67717 M67722 M67723 M67725 M67726 M67730 M67731	M67888 N71771 N71804 N71806 N71810 N71811 N71875 N71876	\$25486 \$25488 \$25489 \$25490 \$25491 \$25492 \$25494 \$25495	T50827 T50874 T50874 T50875 T51058 T51104 R33186 S25528	R32767 R32787 R32792 R32795 R32796 R32800 R32807 R32856	R33133 R33136 R33152 R33157 R33163 R33165 R33168 R33171	S25316 S25323 S25334 S25335 S25337 S25344 S25369 S25377		(ii) Thereafter, reinspect at intervals that correspond to the selected inspection interval. (3) If a fan hub is identified in both Table 2 of this AD and Appendix A of PW ASB No. A6272, dated September 24, 1996, inspect in			

S25378

S25381

S25394

S25399

S25402

S25406

S25411

S25413

S25414

S25415

S25418

R33173

R33180

R33181

R33189

R33194

R33198

R33201

R33202

R33207

S25193

S25195

R32860

R32870

R32883

R32905

R32926

R32930

R32952

R32964

R32966

R32971

R32976

- accordance with paragraph (a)(1) of this AD.
- (4) For fan hubs with S/Ns not listed in Table 2 of this AD or in Appendix A of PW ASB No. A6272, dated September 24, 1996, after the fan hub has accumulated more than 4,000 CSN, inspect the next time the fan hub is in the shop at piece-part level, but not to exceed 10,000 CIS after March 5, 1997.
- (5) Prior to further flight, remove from service fan hubs found cracked or that exceed the bushed hole acceptance criteria described

in PW ASB No. A6272, dated September 24, 1996.

(b) Report the number of completed inspections on a monthly basis and report findings of cracked fan hubs in accordance with Accomplishment Instructions, Paragraph F, of Attachment 1 to PW ASB No. A6272, dated September 24, 1996, within 48 hours after inspection to Robert Guyotte. Manager, Engine Certification Branch, Engine Certification Office, FAA, Engine and Propeller Directorate, 12 New England Executive Park, Burlington, MA 01803-5299; telephone (617) 238-7142, fax (617) 238-7199; Internet: Robert.Guyotte@faa.dot.gov. Reporting requirements have been approved by the Office of Management and Budget and assigned OMB control number 2120-0056.

(c) An alternative method of compliance or adjustment of the compliance time that provides an acceptable level of safety may be used if approved by the Manager, Engine Certification Office. The request should be forwarded through an appropriate FAA Principal Maintenance Inspector, who may add comments and then send it to the Manager, Engine Certification Office.

Note 2: Information concerning the existence of approved alternative methods of compliance with this airworthiness directive, if any, may be obtained from the Engine Certification Office.

(d) Special flight permits may be issued in accordance with sections 21.197 and 21.199 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR 21.197 and 21.199) to operate the aircraft to a location where the inspection requirements of this AD can be accomplished.

Issued in Burlington, Massachusetts, on February 14, 1997.

James C. Jones,

Acting Manager, Engine and Propeller Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service. [FR Doc. 97–4370 Filed 2–21–97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-P

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employment Standards Administration

20 CFR Parts 718, 722, 725, 726 and 727

RIN 1215-AA99

Regulations Implementing the Federal Coal Mine Health and Safety Act of 1969, as Amended; Extension of Comment Period

AGENCY: Employment Standards Administration, Labor.

ACTION: Proposed rule; extension of comment period.

SUMMARY: This document extends the period for filing comments regarding the proposed rule to amend and revise the regulations implementing the Black Lung Benefits Act. This action is taken to permit additional comment from interested persons.

DATE: Comments must be received on or before May 23, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments on the proposed rule to James L. DeMarce, Director, Division of Coal Mine Workers' Compensation, Room C–3520, Frances Perkins Building, 200 Constitution Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20210.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: James L. DeMarce, (202) 219–6692.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In the Federal Register of the January 22, 1997 (62 FR 3338–3435), the Department of Labor published a proposed rule intended to amend and revise the regulations implementing the Black Lung Benefits Act, subchapter IV of the Federal Coal Mine Health and Safety Act of 1969, as amended. Interested persons were requested to submit comments on or before March 24, 1997.

The Department has received requests for an extension of the comment period from groups representing coal mine operators, coal mine construction companies, the insurance industry, organized labor, and black lung claimants. Because of the interest in this proposal, the Department believes that it is desirable to extend the comment period for all interested persons. Therefore, the comment period for the proposed rule, amending and revising 20 CFR parts 718, 722, 725, 726 and 727, is extended through May 23, 1997.

Signed at Washington, DC, this 18 day of February, 1997.

Bernard E. Anderson,

Assistant Secretary for Employment Standards.

[FR Doc. 97–4467 Filed 2–21–97; 8:45 am] BILLING CODE 4510–27–M

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

38 CFR Parts 3 and 4 RIN 2900-AH41

Service Connection of Dental Conditions for Treatment Purposes

AGENCY: Department of Veterans Affairs. **ACTION:** Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: The Department of Veterans Affairs is proposing to amend its adjudication regulations for determining service connection of dental conditions for purposes of eligibility for outpatient dental treatment. Current regulations contain overlapping provisions which do not clearly state requirements for service connection, and provide that service connection will be granted for certain dental conditions shown after a

"reasonable period of service" without defining what constitutes such a period. We intend to consolidate the information, and replace the term "reasonable period of service" with a precise period of 180 days. We also propose to eliminate redundant material, and to clearly state requirements for service connection for purposes of eligibility for outpatient dental treatment.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before April 25, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Mail or hand deliver written comments to: Director, Office of Regulations Management (02D), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Ave., NW, Room 1154, Washington, DC 20420. Comments should indicate that they are submitted in response to "RIN 2900–AH41." All written comments will be made available for public inspection at the above address in the Office of Regulations Management, Room 1158, between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday (except holidays).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Lorna Fox, Consultant, Regulations Staff, Compensation and Pension Service (213), Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20420, (202) 273-7223. SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The provisions of 38 U.S.C. 1712 (restated in 38 CFR 17.123) set forth eligibility requirements for VA outpatient treatment of dental conditions and disabilities. This section provides that veterans with non-compensable serviceconnected dental conditions are entitled to a one-time correction of the dental condition provided that certain requirements are met, including application for dental treatment made within 90 days of service discharge. Following completion of this initial care, subsequent additional treatment may be provided in certain other cases, i.e., if the veteran was a prisoner of war, if the dental condition or disability is due to combat or other in-service trauma, or if the veteran has serviceconnected disabilities rated at 100

38 CFR part 4, the Schedule for Rating Disabilities, provides evaluations for dental conditions considered disabling in nature. (See § 4.150, Schedule of ratings—dental and oral conditions.) There are other dental conditions, however, which are not considered disabling and thus do not generally fall under the purview of § 4.150. The issue of service connection arises for these conditions only for the purpose of