

Aviation Safety Bulletin

ASB No: 90-022/M

OCT, 2001

Subject :

B747-400 uncommanded autopilot engagement.

Background :

During takeoff rolling, a B747-400 aircraft experienced uncommanded autopilot engagement and lift-off when aircraft speed was just passing V1.

The mode control panel (MCP) of the subject aircraft had been modified to prevent uncommanded autopilot engagement by component vendor's service bulletin (The part number of MCP was changed from 622-8780-102 to 622-8780-103 after modification). Regarding the subject event, the operator has invited component vendor and aircraft manufacturer in joining this investigation.

Recommendation :

Operator should remind flight crew to be aware of this abnormal situation and take appropriate action if autopilot uncommanded engagement.

Operator should ask vendor to solve the problem as soon as possible.