

Safety Recommendation A-67-10

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) issued Safety Recommendation A-67-10 to the Federal Aviation Administration on March 10, 1967, as a result of the NTSB's investigation of the February 3, 1967 violent dutch roll experienced immediately after take-off from O'Hare Airport in Chicago, Illinois by American Airlines flight 344, a Boeing 720B, N7548. The captain of the aircraft described the dutch roll maneuvers as increasing in amplitude as the airspeed and altitude increased, but stopped when the yaw damper was selected to off. The aircraft returned to O'Hare without further incident. Our investigation of this incident disclosed several conditions that we believe to be unsatisfactory. The text of Safety Recommendation A-67-10 is as follows:

To the Federal Aviation Administration: It is recommended that the manufacturer's production, repair and inspection procedures be examined for discrepancies that permitted the above situation to occur. In addition, it is recommended that a mechanical directional sensing test be included in the production and overhaul testing procedure to detect a condition of this nature and that all units presently in user's stock be tested for this fault. It is recommended that the use of built-in test features be re-evaluated and supplemented where necessary with independent test means to preclude the recurrence of incidents such as happened in this instance.

Further information about this accident can be found below.

