



**SAIB:** NE-09-51R1

**Date:** October 29, 2009

**SUBJ:** Propeller Blade Section

*This is information only. Recommendations aren't mandatory.*

## Introduction

This **Revised** Special Airworthiness Information Bulletin (SAIB) alerts you, owners, operators, and certificated repair facilities of **Avia Propeller Ltd. V410, V500A, V503, V503A, V503AP, V503P, V506, and V520 propellers**, that Avia Propeller Ltd. has issued Service Bulletin (SB) Number 6, Issue F, copy attached. This SB specifies inspection of the blades of these propellers for fatigue cracks that may be initiated by an impact on the blade surface.

This revision provides information about the related U.S. type certificates and current installations of these propellers. All other information remains the same. These propellers are known to be installed on, but not limited to, Zlin Z-42M, Z-42MU, Z-142, Z-43, Z-50M, Let Kunovice Ae 45, Ae-145, Z-37, Z-37A, L-200A, L-200D, and Orličan L-40 aircraft. At this time, the airworthiness concern is not an unsafe condition that would warrant airworthiness directive (AD) action under Title 14 of the Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR) part 39.

At this time, V500A and V503AP propellers are the only Avia propellers with a U.S. type certificate. All current installations of the above propellers are on experimental aircraft, with the exception of a V503AP propeller installed on a Cessna 172, for which the owner has confirmed compliance with the Avia service bulletins. Future installations of these propellers are not subject to the Avia inspection requirements, since they would be required to be new or newly overhauled propellers.

## Background

A V500A propeller blade, while operating on an aircraft on the ground, failed due to a fatigue crack initiated by a blade impact by an unknown object. In response to this event, the European Aviation Safety Agency issued AD 2009-0059, copy attached. That AD mandates a visual inspection before further flight for cracks of Avia Propeller Ltd. V410, V500A, V503, V503A, V503AP, V503P, V506, and V520 propeller blades, using Avia SB Number 6. That AD also mandates repetitive visual inspections of the propeller blades for cracks until the propeller is overhauled.

## Recommendations

Due to the potential consequences, we strongly recommend that you:

- Initially inspect before further flight all Avia Propeller Ltd. V410, V500A, V503, V503A, V503AP, V503P, V506, and V520 propeller blades, using Avia Propeller Ltd. SB Number 6, Issue F, unless already done within the last 10 flight hours.
- Repetitively inspect Avia Propeller Ltd. V410, V500A, V503, V503A, V503AP, V503P, V506, and V520 propeller blades within every additional 10 flight hours or 6 months from the last inspection, whichever occurs first, using Avia Propeller Ltd. SB Number 6, Issue F, until the propeller is overhauled.
- Replace any propeller blade found cracked, before further flight.

### **For Further Information Contact**

Terry Fahr, Aerospace Engineer, FAA, Boston Aircraft Certification Office, 12 New England Executive Park, Burlington, MA 01803; telephone: 781-238-7155; fax: 781-238-7170; e-mail: [terry.fahr@faa.gov](mailto:terry.fahr@faa.gov).

### **For Related Service Information Contact**

Avia Propeller Ltd., Beranových 65/666, 199 00 Praha 9-Letňany, Czech Republic; telephone: 42 0296 336 550; fax: 42 0296 336 533; e-mail: [zbynek.tvrdik@aviapropeller.cz](mailto:zbynek.tvrdik@aviapropeller.cz).