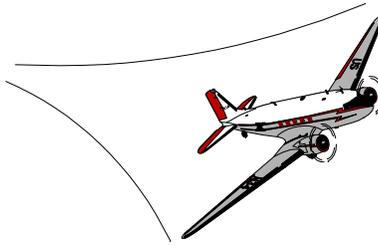


SPECIAL AIRWORTHINESS INFORMATION BULLETIN



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Aviation
Administration**

AIRCRAFT CERTIFICATION SERVICE
800 INDEPENDENCE AVENUE, S.W.
WASHINGTON, DC 20591

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This is issued for informational purposes only and any recommendation for corrective action is not mandatory.

Introduction:

The purpose of this Special Airworthiness Information Bulletin (SAIB) is to alert owners/operators of Piper PA-46-310P Malibu and PA-46-350P Malibu Mirage Airplanes of possible problems with interference of the control column stop with the forward pressure bulkhead. The affected models and serial numbers (S/N) are the PA-46-310P; S/N 46-8408001 through 46-8608067 and S/N 4608001 through 4608140, and the PA-46-350P; S/N 4622001 through 4622200 and S/N 4636001 through 4636110. This information is advisory in nature and not mandated by regulation.

Background:

This SAIB is a result of interference problems discovered on some of the subject airplanes. The pilot's and copilot's control column quadrant travel limit stop may chafe against the forward pressure bulkhead, causing conditions of minor scratching to deep scarring. Analysis of the damage indicates that safety of flight is not compromised, however, the chafing condition may lead to aircraft pressurization leaks and/or cracks in the pressure bulkhead. Aircraft in production have been modified to correct the problem. Piper has also issued Service Bulletin (SB) number 1021 which specifies an inspection and repair for aircraft which are found to have interference and damage. This Service Bulletin pertains to earlier airplanes not modified in production.

Recommendation:

The FAA is recommending that owners/operators of the affected aircraft perform the inspections and repairs in accordance with the instructions of Piper Service Bulletin 1021. Copies of Piper S/B 1021 may be obtained from The New Piper Aircraft, Inc., Customer Service, 2926 Piper Drive, Vero Beach, Florida 32960.

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