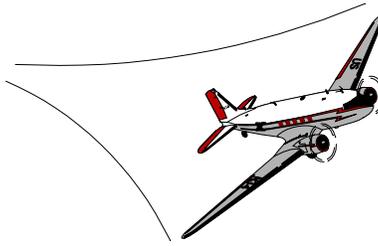


SPECIAL AIRWORTHINESS INFORMATION BULLETIN



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

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

No. ANE-96-01
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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 is to alert repair stations, mechanics holding Inspection Authorizations (IA), and Principal Maintenance Inspectors in the FAA Flight Standards District Offices (FSDO) of the issuance of an Airworthiness Directive (AD) applicable to Textron Lycoming reciprocating engines that may have defective piston pins installed.

BACKGROUND:

On December 26, 1996, the Engine & Propeller Directorate issued AD 97-01-03 which may be published in the **Federal Register** as early as the week of December 29th.

The FAA received a report of metal detected in an engine oil filter on a Textron Lycoming Model AEIO-540-L1B5 reciprocating engine. An investigation revealed that the metal in the oil filter was caused by a failed piston pin, Part Number (P/N) LW-14077, marked with Code 17328. Failure of the piston pin may cause puncturing of the engine crankcase by the piston rod resulting in the loss of oil leading to total power failure and possible fire. Failure of the piston pin may also cause jamming of the engine crankcase by the piston rod that may result in total power failure.

The FAA has determined that a quantity of piston pins marked with Code 17328 were produced that did not meet manufacturing specifications. The defects are grooves in the piston pin created during manufacturing that resulted in the fatigue failure of the pins. Textron Lycoming has issued Mandatory Service Bulletin No. 527B which lists serial numbers of engines manufactured, remanufactured, or overhauled by Textron Lycoming that could have defective piston pins installed. The service bulletin also specifies the time period that defective piston pins could have been installed on engines in the field and describes procedures for removal from service of defective piston pins and replacement with serviceable parts.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

By issuing this Special Airworthiness Information Bulletin, the FAA Engine and Propeller Directorate is alerting all repair stations, mechanics holding inspection authorizations, and principal maintenance inspectors in the FSDOs, of the publication of AD 97-01-03 that is applicable to Textron Lycoming Reciprocating engines which may have defective piston pins installed. This AD will require removal of defective piston pins from engines identified by serial number in Textron Lycoming Mandatory Service Bulletin No. 527B and replacement with serviceable parts.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

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