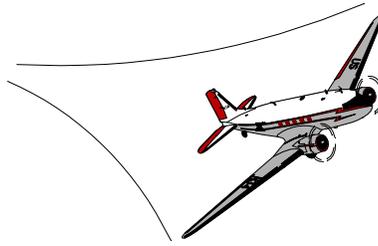


# SPECIAL AIRWORTHINESS INFORMATION BULLETIN



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 the owners/operators of Pilatus Britten-Norman (Britten-Norman) BN2, BN2A, BN2B, and BN2T Islander aircraft that there have been reports from the field of damage to the lower rudder hinge bracket side plates.

## **Background:**

Britten-Norman Ltd. reports that the lower rudder hinge bracket side plates of some aircraft have sustained operational damage in the form of cracks or bends. Damage to the side plates of the lower rudder hinge brackets may result in the binding or loss of control of the rudder and the subsequent degradation of control of the airplane.

Consequently, Britten-Norman Ltd. has issued Service Bulletin BN2/SB.240, Issue 1, dated March 1, 1999, which requires each lower rudder hinge bracket side plate to be inspected and replaced if found damaged. A reinforcing doubler is then installed.

## **Recommendation:**

The FAA is recommending, but not requiring, that owners/operators of Britten-Norman BN2T Islanders inspect the rudder hinge bracket for damage and install the side plate doublers per the instructions provided by Britten-Norman Ltd. Service Bulletin SB.240.

Copies of Britten-Norman Service Bulletin BN2/SB.240 Issue 1, dated March 1, 1999, can be obtained from Britten-Norman, Ltd., Bembridge, Isle of Wight, United Kingdom, PO35 5PR.

## **For Further Information, Contact:**

FAA, Small Airplane Directorate, Attention: Mr. Roger P. Chudy, ACE 112, 1201 Walnut, Suite 900, Kansas City, MO 64106, telephone (816) 426-6934, fax (816) 426-2169.