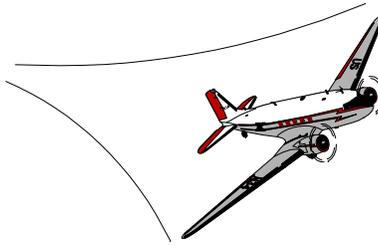


SPECIAL AIRWORTHINESS INFORMATION BULLETIN



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

AIRCRAFT CERTIFICATION SERVICE
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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 advise registered owners/operators of Russian Sukhoi SU-29 and SU-31 model aircraft of the need to review the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), Safety Recommendation, dated May 31, 1996.

BACKGROUND:

The Small Airplane Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service, of the Federal Aviation Administration, has recently received a Safety Recommendation from the NTSB for the Russian Sukhoi SU-29 and SU-31 acrobatic aircraft. This information may already have been provided to you per Manufacturer's and Pompano Air Center's service information.

As noted, the Recommendation was the result of a recent fatal accident in a Sukhoi SU-29 aircraft in which it is suspected that a bolt migrated out during flight in the elevator/aileron control system. Loss of a cotter pin, if it had not been properly installed in the castellated nut, would possibly have allowed the nut to back off the bolt, allowing the bolt to fall out.

Due to the certification of these aircraft in the Experimental Category, the FAA currently does not plan to issue an Airworthiness Directive.

RECOMMENDATION:

The NTSB Safety Recommendation is enclosed for your information as a result of the accident. This information concerns a complete inspection of the flight control system to be accomplished in accordance with the instructions contained in the enclosed Safety Recommendation by a qualified aircraft mechanic holding the appropriate FAA Designation. The inspection is to insure that the flight control system is properly assembled and that all cotter pins are properly installed.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

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