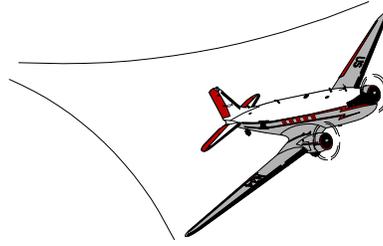


# SPECIAL AIRWORTHINESS INFORMATION BULLETIN



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 inform the owners/operators of Cameron and Thunder & Colt balloons of maintenance procedures for relief valves used on fuel cylinders supplied by Cameron Balloons Ltd./Thunder & Colt and Thunder & Colt Ltd..

## **Background**

The fuel cylinder pressure relief valve serves to vent off excessive propane pressure in the event the fuel cylinder is overfilled or is heated excessively after filling. The function of the relief valve is therefore critical to the safe handling and storage of filled propane cylinders prior to their use in flight.

Cameron Balloons Ltd. (Thunder & Colt) has issued Mandatory Service Bulletin SB4, Revision C, dated June 26, 1997, which details maintenance instructions for the inspection and replacement of fuel cylinder relief valves. The service bulletin calls for the relief valve to be removed from the cylinder and inspected for contamination and corrosion at each annual inspection. The service bulletin also calls for the replacement of the relief valve every 10 years.

## **Recommendation**

The FAA is recommending, but not requiring, that owners/operators of Cameron Balloons (Thunder & Colt) balloons follow the inspection procedures and replacement criteria for the fuel cylinder relief valves as detailed in Service Bulletin SB4, Revision C.

## **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.

Copies of Cameron Balloons Ltd. (Thunder & Colt) Service Bulletin SB4, Revision C, dated June 26, 1997, may be obtained from Cameron Balloons Ltd./Thunder and Colt, St. John's Street, Bedminster, Bristol, BS3 4NH.