

Soft Brakes?

Vance Atkinson (TX) - When I first started flying the Cozy, brake pads were cheap so I changed them every year. Then the price went up and now I change them only when necessary, usually 2 - 2.5 years between changes.

A couple years ago I noticed I was having to push the pedal further to get the same stopping power results. Examination of the brake pads and system showed nothing amiss including at least 50% brake pad left. A year later I was changing pads even though they didn't warrant it. This would get me back some of the pedal I lost. In short time I was back to pushing my foot through the floor again and only 10% wear on the pads. Pumping did help some. So I reasoned we must have air in the system! More purging. Brakes were a little better, but still not right.

Finally after putting in new brake pads, bleeding the system for the umpteenth time and still having sagging brakes I jerked out the master brake cylinders. What a glorious feeling when you tear something apart to find all matters of crud and corroding parts. *YES!* We hit the jackpot! There was a nice deposit of water in one cylinder, a good supply of mud or dirt (that's what it looked like) in both and a fair amount of crud evenly distributed between both.

It cost me 5 bucks for new O rings (4 each cylinder) about 2 hours of disassembly, cleaning, honing, and reassembly plus 30 minutes to re-pump up the system with DOT-5 silicon based fluid.

VIOLA! you guessed it! They work as brand new now. It is amazing what a little preventive maintenance can do. As far as when to overhaul your cylinders, I don't know. Based on mine I'd say around 600 hours or 5 or 6 years.

These units are very simple and take

no time to overhaul. The 5606 fluid or the DOT 5 fluid has an affinity for moisture so I suspect that our planes, parked nose down in the rain, will grab some water when your nose fills from the normal leaks.

If you are not getting braking like you should, check'em. It could make a difference!

NEF EZs at Outdoor Wedding

Frank Nowak (MA) - While Dianne, the most beautiful bride in the world, came down the aisle, the Northeast EZ Flyers airplanes waited at Newport State airport.

At an appropriate moment during the ceremony, Bett Midler's "The Wind Beneath My Wings" was played on a tape recorder. There was not a dry eye in the crowd as the EZs made a beautiful low pass with smoke on, just as Bett reached the most poignant moment of the song, "THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!"

That's what she sang then and that's what we are saying now: THANK YOU PAUL & BARB, BILL & LINDA, BOB & DOT, and DON. We will never forget that perfect moment in our lives which has been enriched by our fellow EZ friends.

