

EMERGENCY AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVE

OFFICE OF AVIATION SYSTEM STANDARDS
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U.S. Department
of Transportation
Federal Aviation
Administration

July 9, 1992
92-15-16

This priority letter Airworthiness Directive (AD) is prompted by reports of engine power loss incidents and service difficulties on Precision Airmotive (formerly Facet Aerospace Products (formerly Marvel Schebler)) carburetors fitted with floats that were manufactured by Consolidated Fuel Systems, Incorporated (CFS). Facet Aerospace Products acquired the Marvel-Schebler carburetor product line, and subsequently Precision Airmotive acquired the product line from Facet Aerospace Products. Investigation of these incidents revealed that engine power losses may occur due to cracks in certain CFS produced carburetor floats. In October 1991, CFS manufactured metal carburetor floats, Part Number (P/N) CF30-766, with thin walled pontoons which may crack at or near the pontoon kidney half solder joint. These defective CFS carburetor floats can be identified by the date "10 91" stamped on the float lever arm. All Precision Airmotive carburetor floats P/N 30-766 with any date stamped on the float lever arm, and CFS carburetor floats P/N CF30-766 with any date stamped other than "10 91" are not affected by this AD. This condition, if not corrected, can result in a disruption of fuel flow to the engine, resulting in engine power loss, engine failure and damage to the aircraft.

The FAA has reviewed and approved the technical contents of CFS Mandatory Service Bulletin Number CF 1-92, Revision 1, dated July 6, 1992, that identifies the affected carburetors and floats.

Since an unsafe condition has been identified that is likely to exist or develop on other carburetors of this same type design, this AD requires, prior to further flight, inspection of those carburetors for CFS P/N CF 30-766 floats with the date stamp "10 91," and removal and replacement of these floats with a serviceable float. The actions are required to be accomplished in accordance with the service bulletin described previously.

Pursuant to the authority of the Federal Aviation Act of 1958, delegated to me by the Administrator, the following priority letter AD 92-15-16, applicable to Precision Airmotive (formerly Facet Aerospace Products (formerly Marvel-Schebler)) Model MA3, MA3A, MA3PA, MA3SPA, and MA4SPA series carburetors, is issued and is effective immediately upon receipt.

92-15-16 Precision Airmotive (formerly Facet Aerospace Products (formerly Marvel-Schebler)): Priority Letter issued on July 9, 1992. Docket No. 92-ANE-31.

Applicability: Precision Airmotive (formerly Facet Aerospace Products (formerly Marvel-Schebler)) Model MA3, MA3A, MA3PA, MA3SPA, and MA4SPA carburetors installed on but not limited to Textron Lycoming Model O-235, O-290, and O-320 series engines, and Teledyne Continental A-65, A-75, C-75, C-85, C-90, C-115, C-125, C-145, O-200, and O-300 series engines installed on but not limited to normally aspirated piston engine powered aircraft manufactured by Cessna, Piper, Beechcraft, and Mooney.

Compliance: Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously.

EMERGENCY AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVE

To prevent a disruption of fuel flow to the engine, resulting in engine power loss, engine failure, and damage to the aircraft, accomplish the following:

(a) Prior to further flight, for carburetors repaired or rebuilt from November 1, 1991, through July 15, 1992, or for carburetors with code numbers or serial numbers listed in Consolidated Fuel Systems, Incorporated (CFS) Mandatory Service Bulletin CF-1-92, Revision 1, dated July 6, 1992, accomplish the following:

(1) Visually inspect the float for CFS P/N CF30-766 and remove the float if the date "10 91" is stamped on the top of the float lever arm, and replace with a serviceable float.

NOTE: Guidance on replacing floats is contained in either Precision Airmotive (Facet) Aircraft Carburetor Service Manual, dated September 1984, or CFS Carburetor Float Kit Installation Instructions, CF 666-915.

(2) Floats identified with Precision Airmotive P/N 30-766 with any date stamped on the float lever arm, or CFS P/N CF30-766 with dates 8 89, 12 89, 1 90, 2 90, 8 90, 10 90, 1 91, 2 91, 4 91, 4 92, or 7 92 stamped on the float lever arm do not need to be removed.

(b) An alternative method of compliance or adjustment of the compliance time that provides an acceptable level of safety may be used if approved by the Manager, Engine Certification Office. The request should be forwarded through an appropriate FAA Principal Maintenance Inspector, who may add comments and then send it to the Manager, Engine Certification Office.

NOTE: Information concerning the existence of approved alternative methods of compliance with this airworthiness directive, if any, may be obtained from the Engine Certification Office.

(c) Special flight permits may be issued in accordance with FAR 21.197 and 21.199 to operate the airplane to a location where the requirements of this AD can be accomplished.

(d) Copies of the applicable service information may be obtained from Consolidated Fuel Systems, Incorporated, 1400 East South Blvd., Montgomery, Alabama 36116. This information may be examined at the FAA, New England Region, Office of the Assistant Chief Counsel, 12 New England Executive Park, Burlington, Massachusetts.

(e) Priority Letter AD 92-15-16, issued July 9, 1992, becomes effective upon receipt.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

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