Federal Aviation Agency



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SUBJECT: IDENTIFICATION OF APPROVED AERONAUTICAL REPLACEMENT PARTS

- 1. <u>PURPOSE</u>. This circular is to advise of the FAA methods for identifying aeronautical replacement parts and how it may be determined that such parts are approved for installation on certificated aircraft.
- 2. REFERENCE. This advisory circular is a corollary to Federal Aviation Agency Advisory Circular AC 20-11, effective 8/18/63.
- BACKGROUND. The referenced circular advised the aircraft industry of 3. an increasing amount of replacement parts and supplies being offered for sale as aircraft products, but which may not meet acceptable aircraft standards. There has been a great deal of concern expressed by aircraft owners, operators, and FAA-approved manufacturers over the use of such unacceptable parts on certificated aircraft, engines, and propellers. The FAA is well aware of the problem and, as far back as 1955, sought correction through the promulgation of Civil Air Regulations, Part 1, Section 1.55, entitled Replacement and Modification Parts." This section provides a means for a parts manufacturer to obtain FAA approval of his parts design and quality control system. after which he may identify his parts with the symbol "FAA-PMA" (Federal Aviation Agency-Parts Manufacturer Approval). Almost 250 manufacturers are presently approved under this system. This has not completely solved the problem, however, since many replacement parts which may not meet the minimum airworthiness requirements are still being manufactured and sold by manufacturers who have not availed themselves of FAA approvals.
- 4. IDENTIFICATION OF APPROVED PARTS. Approved replacement parts are identified as follows:
 - a. An Airworthiness Approval Tag, Form FAA-186, identifies a part or group of parts which have been approved by authorized FAA representatives.

- b. An FAA Technical Standard Order (TSO) number and identification marks indicate that the part or appliance has been manufactured under the requirements of Regulations of the Administrator, Part 514.
- c. An FAA-PMA symbol, together with the manufacturer's name, trademark or symbol, part number, and name and model of the aircraft, engine or propeller, for which the part is eligible for installation, identifies a part which has been manufactured under Part 1 of the Civil Air Regulations, Section 1.55.
- d. A shipping ticket, invoice, or other document providing evidence that the part was produced by a manufacturer holding an FAA Production Certificate would serve to identify a part manufactured under Civil Air Regulations, Part 1, Section 1.46.
- e. A replacement part obtained from an FAA-approved repair station may be used on certificated aircraft as an approved part, provided it is accompanied by either a serviceable part's tag or invoice which bears a maintenance release attesting to the part's airworthiness, under Civil Air Regulations, Part 18, Section 18.22.

5. UNIDENTIFIED PARTS.

a. When a replacement part does not bear evidence of approval as described in paragraph 4, its use on an aircraft, engine or propeller may be approved under the provisions of Civil Air Regulations, Part 18, Section 18.30(a) or 18.30(b), provided that the agency or person responsible for its installation determines that the part meets the applicable requirements.

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