

DATE: March 17, 1971

SUBJECT: Muffler Inspection

SERIALS AFFECTED: AAL-0123, AAL-0140, AAL-0201, AAL-0291, AAL-0348, AAL-0420 through AAL-0447 and all aircraft AAL-0001 and up that have been modified by the installation of part no. 099001-137 muffler sub assembly or 099001-017 muffler assembly shipped from the factory prior to October 23, 1970.

TIME OF COMPLIANCE: Prior to, but no later than 30 hours of operation and thereafter at each 50 hour interval unless muffler has been modified or exchanged in accordance with item (3.) or (4.) below.

Wire Bulletin No. 122 (Muffler and Tail Pipe Weldment Failure) was issued as a result of two (2) premature failures of the muffler-tail pipe welded joint on aircraft within the above serial range. The mufflers on which failures occurred were fabricated with a .040" thick outer muffler core. Inspection of the failed units has revealed improper welding technique and mismatch between the tail pipe and muffler prior to welding. No further failure reports have been received.

Wire Bulletin No. 122 recommended that C.O. warning indicators be installed on all aircraft with the "straight down" tail pipe installation, and that C.O. indicators would be forwarded from the factory, as soon as available.

We are amending the requirements of Wire Bulletin No. 122 to recommend that C.O. indicators be installed in only the aircraft serials listed above, since they are the most suspect in the possibility of cracking in service. C.O. indicators for the above aircraft will be mailed from the factory at no charge, by March 29, 1971.

In addition to the use of C.O. indicators in the above listed aircraft, it is recommended that the muffler be inspected for cracks as outlined in (1.) below, prior to, but no later than 30 hours of operation and thereafter at each 50 interval, unless modification per item (3.) or exchange per item (4.) below has been accomplished.

1. Inspect muffler assembly for cracks in the areas adjacent to the weld inside the shroud at the joint between the muffler and tail pipe. If thorough visual inspection is not possible, pressure test for leaks in accordance with AC43.13-1, Chapter 14, Section 3, paragraph 387 B.
2. If cracks are found in the muffler or tail pipe, repairs must be accomplished in accordance with AC43.13-1, Chapter 14, Section 3, paragraph 388.
3. At the owners discretion, cracked mufflers removed from the above serial no. aircraft, within the 150 hour warranty period, may be returned to the Elano Corporation, 24555 Dayton - Xenia Road, Xenia, Ohio, shipping charges prepaid, for repair. Repairs will be made by the Elano Corp. at no charge to the owner. In addition, the Elano Corp. will add external reinforcing patches to the muffler-tail pipe joint at no charge. Reinforcement patches will not be available from the Elano Corp. for field installation on mufflers that are repaired in the field.

4. At the owners discretion, any muffler cracked or not cracked removed from the above serial no. aircraft with less than 30 hours total time in service, can be exchanged at no charge to the owner. Exchange must be accomplished in accordance with our normal procedures of ordering replacement muffler assemblies (part no. 099001-017) and returning the defective parts with Warranty Claim Form No. AA-740. Mufflers supplied from the factory for this exchange, will be of current production design and will not require 50 hour inspections.
5. Complete attached Service Reply Card, showing aircraft hours and repair required and mail card.

A labor allowance of 1.0 hours at the Dealer's Prevailing Shop Rate will be credited for performance of the initial inspection only, providing the work is performed or authorized by an authorized American Aviation Corporation Dealer or representative. Work must be completed and Warranty Claim Form No. AA-740 submitted to the factory prior to July 16, 1971 for credit allowance.

Mufflers installed on aircraft serial no. AAL-0448 and up and AAL-0001 and up and mufflers supplied after October 23, 1970, are fabricated with an outer core of .050" thick material and are not affected by this Service Letter No. 71-3.

Prices are subject to change without notice.

Very truly yours,

AMERICAN AVIATION CORPORATION



Paul H. Seibert
Customer Service Manager

PHS:pjr

Enclosure: Service Reply Card

Distribution (B)