



EASA Safety Information Bulletin

SIB No.: 2008-61
Issued: 08 July 2008

Subject: **Flight Controls – Flap Operating Mechanism Leaf Springs – Inspection / Replacement**

Ref. Publication: Federal Office of Civil Aviation (FOCA) Switzerland Emergency Airworthiness Directive HB-2008-242, dated 04 July 2008.

Description: The FOCA of Switzerland has published the referenced Emergency AD (attached as pages 2 and 3 of this bulletin) to require the inspection and, depending on findings, the replacement of certain flap leaf springs.

According to Article 205(1) of Regulation (EC) No 216/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 February 2008 on common rules in the field of civil aviation and establishing a European Aviation Safety Agency, EASA has only taken over Member States obligations that are related to design approval. As a consequence, EASA is only authorised to issue ADs related to design approval. EASA has determined that the above referenced unsafe condition is not related to design approval, as it is likely to be the result of manufacturing non-conformity and that the type design is therefore not affected. However, this is a serious safety issue and this Safety Information has been issued accordingly. National Aviation Authorities of the EU member states may adopt the referenced AD under their State of Registry responsibility.

Applicability: Pilatus PC-6 aircraft, all Models, all serial numbers, that have the affected parts installed as identified in the attached FOCA Emergency AD.

Contact: For further information contact the Airworthiness Directives, Safety Management & Research Section, Certification Directorate, EASA.
E-mail: ADs@easa.europa.eu.



Lufttüchtigkeitsanweisung (LTA) Consigne de Navigabilité (CN) Prescrizione di Aeronavigabilità (PA) Airworthiness Directive (AD)		FOCA AD HB-2008-242 EMERGENCY
Inkraftsetzung Mise en vigueur Entrata in vigore Effective Date	*04 July 2008	Pilatus – PC-6 FOCA TC/TCDS No: F56-10 ATA 27 – FLIGHT CONTROLS

Issue date: 04 July 2008

Subject: FLAP OPERATING MECHANISM – LEAF SPRINGS – Inspection, Replacement

*FOCA Emergency AD HB-2008-242, issued 04 July 2008, becomes effective upon receipt

Superseded / Revised ADs: Not applicable

1. APPLICABILITY:

PILATUS AIRCRAFT LTD.

All Model PC-6 series aircraft, from Manufacturer Serial Number (MSN) 101 thru MSN 999 inclusive and all Model PC-6 series aircraft, manufactured by Fairchild Industries, MSN 2001 thru MSN 2092 inclusive with mechanically operated flaps and leaf springs Part Number (P/N) 6232.0175.01 installed in the overhead flap-operating mechanism.

2. REASON:

This Airworthiness Directive (AD) is prompted due to the discovery of cracked or broken leaf springs P/N 6232.0175.01 installed in the overhead flap-operating mechanism of some PC-6 aircraft. A broken leaf spring could lead to an uncommanded flap retraction which could lead to hazardous situations and subsequent loss of control of the aircraft.

This AD is published by Federal Office of Civil Aviation (FOCA) Switzerland, as State of production and because it is possible that the leaf springs were not manufactured properly.

In order to correct and control the situation, this AD requires the initial and repetitive inspections of the leaf springs in the flap operating mechanism and the replacement of broken parts.

3. COMPLIANCE / ACTION:

Required as indicated below, unless already accomplished:

Before the next flight after the effective date of this AD:

3.1. INITIAL AND REPETITIVE INSPECTIONS / REPLACEMENT OF CRACKED PARTS

- 3.1.1. Perform a visual inspection of the radius of the leaf springs P/N 6232.0175.01 for sign of cracks required by paragraph (§) 3. B. of PILATUS PC-6 Service Bulletin No. 27-002. No cracks are permitted.

3.1.2. Thereafter every 25 Flight Hours (FH) repeat the inspection mandated by § 3.1.1. of this AD. No cracks are permitted.

3.1.3. If during the inspection required by § 3.1.1. or § 3.1.2. of this AD any crack is found, prior to further flight, replace the leaf springs in accordance with paragraph 3. A. to D. of PILATUS PC-6 Service Bulletin No. 27-002.

Note 1:

The accomplishment of PILATUS PC-6 Service Bulletin No. 27-003 terminates the requirement for the repetitive inspections of this AD.

3.1.4. As of the effective date of this AD, no person shall install on any PC-6 series aircraft any leaf spring P/N 6232.0175.01 unless the mandatory action of § 3.1.1. of this AD is accomplished.

4. REF. PUBLICATIONS:

The actions required by this AD shall be done in accordance with the manufacturer's documentation listed in this paragraph, and/or later revisions approved by the Swiss Federal Office of Civil Aviation (FOCA):

Manufacturer's Documentation

- PILATUS PC-6 Service Bulletin No. 27-002, initial issue or later approved revisions.
 - PILATUS PC-6 Service Bulletin No. 27-003, initial issue or later approved revisions.
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The applicable manufacturer's documentation may be obtained directly from:

PILATUS AIRCRAFT LTD.
CUSTOMER LIASON MANAGER
CH-6371 STANS, Switzerland

TEL No.: +41 41 619 6580
FAX No.: +41 41 619 6576
Email: fodermatt@pilatus-aircraft.com

5. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

FEDERAL OFFICE OF CIVIL AVIATION (FOCA)

Design and Production (STEH)
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