



EASA Safety Information Bulletin

SIB No.: 2008-65
Issued: 11 July 2008

Subject: In-service Problems with Carbon Brushes installed on Unison Industries (Slick) Magnetos.

Ref. Publication: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Special Airworthiness Information Bulletin (SAIB) CE-08-33 dated 10 July 2008; and Unison Industries (Slick) Service Bulletin SB3-08 dated 13 May 2008.

Description: FAA has published the referenced advisory document (attached as pages 2 and 3 of this bulletin) to alert all aircraft manufacturers, distributors, dealers, engine overhaul facilities, owners and operators that have or use Slick Aircraft Products magnetos of a service problem with carbon brushes installed in these magnetos.

After reviewing the available information, EASA concurs with the advisory and fully supports the FAA recommendations contained therein. This SIB is published to ensure that all owners and operators of affected aircraft, registered in European Union Member States or associated countries, are aware of these recommendations.

Applicability: All Slick magnetos as identified in the referenced SB3-08.

These magnetos are known to be installed on, but not limited to, Lycoming (formerly Textron Lycoming) and Teledyne Continental reciprocating engines installed on, but not limited to, CS/JAR/FAR Part 23 certificated aircraft.

Contact: For further information contact the Airworthiness Directives, Safety Management & Research Section, Certification Directorate, EASA.
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FAA
Aircraft Certification Service

SPECIAL AIRWORTHINESS INFORMATION BULLETIN

SAIB: CE-08-33

Date: July 10, 2008

SUBJ: Magneto/Distributor - Ignition

This is information only. Recommendations aren't mandatory.

Introduction

This Special Airworthiness Information Bulletin is being issued to alert all aircraft manufacturers, distributors, dealers, engine overhaul facilities, owners and operators **that have or use Slick Aircraft Products aircraft magnetos** of service problems with carbon brushes installed in these magnetos.

Background

Unison Industries (Owners of Slick Aircraft Products) manufactures a series of magneto ignition systems that are widely used on the general aviation reciprocating engine fleet. It is known that Unison magnetos are installed on, but not limited to, Textron Lycoming and Teledyne Continental series engines. Numerous aircraft makes and models are potentially affected.

There have been field reports of premature wear of the carbon brushes in a certain serial number range of magnetos. Premature brush wear could lead to failure of the magneto to provide consistent spark, which could result in possible loss of engine power. The actions required by Unison Industries Service Bulletin SB3-08 do not provide a solution or terminating action. The actions specified in the service bulletin are intended to detect signs of wear before damage grows, which could result in magneto failure. The service bulletin will be updated when terminating action is implemented by Unison. Meanwhile, the service bulletin inspection requirements will remain in effect. In addition, there may be additional inspection requirements or other corrective actions defined by your respective engine and aircraft manufacturer's service information concerning this service difficulty issue.

At this time, this airworthiness concern is not considered an unsafe condition that would warrant an airworthiness directive (AD) action under Title 14 of the Code of Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR part 39).

Recommendations

The FAA recommends compliance with Unison Industries Service Bulletin SB3-08. We also recommend that aircraft owners and operators become familiar with the relevant engine or aircraft service information concerning this service issue. Pilots and mechanics should pay close attention to the results of a magneto ignition check before each flight or while performing aircraft maintenance.

For Further Information Contact

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For Related Service Information Contact

Unison Industries, 7575 Baymeadows Way, Jacksonville, Florida 32256; phone: (904) 739-4218; fax: (904) 739-4200; or Unison Industries, 530 Blackhawk Park Avenue, Rockford, Illinois 61104; phone: (815) 965-4700 ext 142; fax: (815) 965-2457.