



EASA Safety Information Bulletin

SIB No.: 2012-11
Issued: 27 June 2012

Subject: Tyre Specification(s) and Installation

Ref. Publication: None

Applicability: All aeroplanes with retractable landing gears, certified or validated by EASA in accordance with certification specification (CS) CS-23, CS-VLA, CS-22, or CS-LSA, or certified or validated prior to 28 September 2003 by a European National authority in accordance with an equivalent certification specification.

Description: A Diamond DA 42 aeroplane made a gear-up landing due to a landing gear leg being lodged in the wheel well.

The investigation results showed that one of the main causes of the occurrence was that a tyre outer diameter, fitted to the left landing gear, slightly deviated from that specified by the aeroplane manufacturer. The tyre size was correct, but the brand was different from that specified in the manufacturer documentation. The Diamond DA 42 Maintenance Manual (MM) and Illustrated Part Catalogue (IPC) specify properly the tyre size and a tyre manufacturer brand.

This specific problem may also exist on other aeroplane types with a retractable landing gear. It is important to follow the Type Certificate (TC) holder instructions in detail during maintenance. Tyre size and European Technical Standard Order specification alone is not an approval for interchangeability of components such as the tyre. Due to the fact that the tyre specification has tolerances, which allows different sizes in production, tyres of the same size but from different manufacturers may have different diameters. This can also have an influence on the landing performance of the aeroplane.

At this time, the safety concern described in this SIB is not considered to be an unsafe condition that would warrant Airworthiness Directive (AD) action under EC 1702/2003, Part 21A.3B.

Recommendation(s): To ensure installation of appropriate tyres, EASA recommends all operators and maintenance organizations to take the following actions:

This is information only. Recommendations are not mandatory.

- When choosing the tyres to install, all available TC holder instructions should be checked: MM, IPC and Aircraft Flight Manual.
- Only tyres approved by the TC holder should be installed.
- In case of doubt, or unclear indication of the tyres (for example: if only the size is indicated), contact the TC Holder for clarification.

Contact(s):

For further information contact the Safety Information Section, Executive Directorate, EASA. E-mail: ADs@easa.europa.eu.

This is information only. Recommendations are not mandatory.