



SAIB: CE-17-22
Date: August 22, 2017

SUBJ: Flight Controls, Aileron Control System

This is information only. Recommendations aren't mandatory.

Introduction

This Special Airworthiness Information Bulletin (SAIB) informs registered owners/operators of an airworthiness concern for **Air Tractor, Inc. Models AT-802 and AT-802A** airplanes (under Type Certificate Data Sheet A19SW), serial numbers -0550 through -0600 and -4026 through -4029, of an airworthiness concern. Specifically, this SAIB provides inspection procedures and on-condition maintenance actions for the aileron bell crank attach plates for affected airplanes.

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

Background

Air Tractor, Inc. recently issued Snow Engineering Co. Service Letter (SL) #366 for Air Tractor, Inc. Models AT-802 and AT-802A airplanes. The SL was issued after in-flight failure of the aileron bell crank attach plates due to an incomplete weld on a Model AT-802 airplane. Failure of the welds mounting the attach plate to the bell crank support led to loss of control of the aileron. The SL provides owners and operators instructions for inspecting welds attaching the right and left wing aileron bell crank attach plates and requires contacting the Air Tractor Customer Service Department using the contact information provided in the event suspect welds are found.

Recommendations

The FAA recommends affected Air Tractor, Inc. airplane owners inspect their aileron bell crank attach plates to the bell crank support assembly using the procedures in SL #366 and report any suspect welds to the Air Tractor Service Department.

A federal agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, nor shall a person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with a collection of information subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act unless that collection of information displays a current valid OMB Control Number. The OMB Control Number for this information collection is 2120-0731. Public reporting for this collection of information is estimated to be approximately 5 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, completing and reviewing the collection of information. All responses to this collection of information are voluntary. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to the FAA at: 800 Independence Ave. SW, Washington, DC 20591, Attn: Information Collection Clearance Officer, ASP-110.

For Further Information Contact

Kristi Bradley, Aerospace Engineer, AIR-7F2, Fort Worth ACO Branch, 10101 Hillwood Pkwy, Fort Worth, TX 76177; phone: (817) 222-5485; email: kristin.bradley@faa.gov

Kenneth Cook, Aerospace Engineer, AIR-7F1, Fort Worth ACO Branch, 10101 Hillwood Pkwy, Fort Worth, TX 76177; phone: (817) 222-5475; e-mail: kenneth.a.cook@faa.gov

For Related Service Information or to Report Inspection Findings Contact

Air Tractor, Inc., P.O. Box 485, Olney, Texas, 76374; phone: (940) 564-5616; fax: (940) 564-5612; email: jdobbs@airtractor.com.