



Date: 10/21/98

Page 1 of 1

SERVICE LETTER NO. 58

SUBJECT: Airworthiness Directive AD 98-15-18, Amendment 39-10669, Item (4)(b) re Wing Lift Struts.

AIRPLANES AFFECTED: All Maule Models

BACKGROUND: In the subject AD, Paragraph (4)(a) makes mention of possible unapproved holes drilled in wing struts. This Service Letter is only a notification that Maule vehemently discourages such practices and that under no circumstances is a hole of any kind acceptable or legal in a strut. Any hole in a strut could structurally weaken the strut or lead to corrosion damage either of which could cause failure of a strut.

NOTIFICATION:

Item (4)(a), AD 98-15-18 states, "If holes are drilled into the sealed wing lift strut assemblies installed as specified in paragraph (a)(4) of this AD in order to attach cuffs, door clips, or other hardware, inspect the wing lift struts at intervals not to exceed 24 calendar months using the procedures specified in either paragraph (a)(1) or (a) (2), including all subparagraphs of this AD." Maule considers this Paragraph very misleading and expresses the following: Be it known, that during manufacture, Maule never drills holes in struts to attach cuffs, door clips or any hardware and it is illegal to do so since there are no approved holes in the wing struts under the TC data. If owner has added a modification requiring a drilled hole in strut under a #337, refer to AD for inspection requirements at the 24 month intervals. Also, inspect the area around the hole(s) frequently for corrosion or cracking.

Note: Price of new Sealed Wing Lift Struts is \$244.44 until further notice.

Note: There is no Compliance Record Sheet required for this Service Letter.

ITS PERFORMANCE THAT COUNTS!
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