

and

This Airworthiness Directive (AD) is prompted by reports of several in-service cracked torque tubes. A reduced wall thickness produced during the manufacturing process has been determined to be the initial cause. Additionally, all the involved torque tubes have been found to show fatigue cracking problems.

Such a condition, if left uncorrected, could lead to failure of the torque tube and result in loss of the steering control on ground and consequent unsafe condition.

For the reason described above, this new AD mandates the replacement of certain torque tubes by new ones of an improved design and the latest revision of chapter 4 'limitations' of the PC-12 Aircraft Maintenance Manual (AMM) which introduces the new life limit for torque tubes with Part Number (P/N) 532.50.12.047.

Actions and Compliance

(f) Unless already done, do the following actions:

(1) *Limitations Section Actions:* For all airplanes, before further flight after the effective date of this AD, insert Structural and Component Limitations—Airworthiness Limitations, document 12-A-04-00-00-00A-000T-A, dated January 28, 2009 (for PC-12, PC-12/45, PC-12/47), and Structural and Component Limitations—Airworthiness Limitations, document 12-B-04-00-00-00A-000A-A, dated January 27, 2009 (for PC-12/47E), into the Limitations section of the FAA-approved maintenance program (e.g., maintenance manual). The owner/operator holding at least a private pilot certificate as authorized by 14 CFR 43.7 may do this action. Make an entry in the aircraft records showing compliance with this portion of the AD following 14 CFR 43.9. The limitations section revision does the following:

(i) Establishes a life limit for torque tube P/N 532.50.12.047 and does not impose a life limit on torque tube P/N 532.50.12.064;

(ii) Requires doing initial and repetitive inspections of nose landing gear right hand upper drag link P/N 532.20.12.140 (for PC-12 and PC-12/45 airplanes) or P/N 532.20.12.289 (for all airplanes) in accordance with the time limits specified in the revision. The previous limitations did not allow installation of the upper drag link P/N 532.20.12.140 on PC-12/47 and PC-12/47E. The 4,000 landing limit for the upper drag link P/N 532.20.12.140 installed on the PC-12 and PC-12/45 is retained from AD 2003-14-07 through this limitation requirement; and

(iii) Does not require doing initial and repetitive inspections of nose landing gear right hand upper drag link P/N 532.20.12.296; therefore, installation of upper drag link P/N 532.20.12.296 terminates the inspection requirement referenced in paragraph (f)(1)(ii) of this AD.

(2) *Additional Torque Tube Actions:*

(i) For PC-12 and PC-12/45, S/N 101 through 299, airplanes: Within the next 100 hours time-in-service (TIS) after the effective date of this AD or 1 year after the effective date of this AD, whichever occurs first, replace the torque tube P/N 532.50.12.047

with torque tube P/N 532.50.12.064 following PILATUS AIRCRAFT LTD. Service Bulletin No: 32-021, dated November 21, 2008.

(ii) For all airplanes: As of the effective date of this AD, do not install torque tube P/N 532.50.12.047.

FAA AD Differences

Note: This AD differs from the MCAI and/or service information as follows: No differences.

Other FAA AD Provisions

(h) The following provisions also apply to this AD:

(1) *Alternative Methods of Compliance (AMOCs):* The Manager, Standards Office, FAA, has the authority to approve AMOCs for this AD, if requested using the procedures found in 14 CFR 39.19. Send information to *Attn:* Doug Rudolph, Aerospace Engineer, FAA, Small Airplane Directorate, 901 Locust, Room 301, Kansas City, Missouri 64106; *telephone:* (816) 329-4059; *fax:* (816) 329-4090. Before using any approved AMOC on any airplane to which the AMOC applies, notify your appropriate principal inspector (PI) in the FAA Flight Standards District Office (FSDO), or lacking a PI, your local FSDO.

(2) *Airworthy Product:* For any requirement in this AD to obtain corrective actions from a manufacturer or other source, use these actions if they are FAA-approved. Corrective actions are considered FAA-approved if they are approved by the State of Design Authority (or their delegated agent). You are required to assure the product is airworthy before it is returned to service.

(3) *Reporting Requirements:* For any reporting requirement in this AD, under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has approved the information collection requirements and has assigned OMB Control Number 2120-0056.

Special Flight Permit

(i) We are limiting the special flight permits for this AD by requiring you to fly with the landing gear extended in order to reach the nearest maintenance facility where the inspection or replacement is done.

Related Information

(j) Refer to MCAI (two different MCAI) AD No.: 2009-0086 dated April 14, 2009, and AD No.: 2009-0060 dated March 11, 2009; PILATUS AIRCRAFT LTD. Service Bulletin No: 32-021, dated November 21, 2008; Structural and Component Limitations—Airworthiness Limitations, document 12-A-04-00-00-00A-000T-A, dated January 28, 2009; and Structural and Component Limitations—Airworthiness Limitations, document 12-B-04-00-00-00A-000A-A, dated January 27, 2009, for related information.

Issued in Kansas City, Missouri, on May 1, 2009.

Scott A. Horn,

Acting Manager, Small Airplane Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service.

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SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

20 CFR Parts 404 and 416

[Docket No. SSA 2006-0182]

RIN 0960-AG29

Age as a Factor in Evaluating Disability

AGENCY: Social Security Administration.

ACTION: Proposed rules; withdrawal.

SUMMARY: We are withdrawing the proposed rules entitled "Age as a Factor in Evaluating Disability" that we published in the **Federal Register** on November 4, 2005.

DATES: The proposed rules published on November 4, 2005 at 70 FR 67101 are withdrawn as of May 8, 2009.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Richard Bresnick, Social Insurance Specialist, Office of Regulations, Social Security Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401. Call (410) 965-1758 for information about this notice. For information on eligibility or filing for benefits, call our national toll-free number 1-(800) 772-1213 or TTY 1-(800) 325-0778. You may also contact Social Security Online at <http://www.socialsecurity.gov>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Electronic Version

The electronic file of this document is available on the date of publication in the **Federal Register** at <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/fr/index.html>.

Background

In the notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) we published in the **Federal Register** on November 4, 2005, we proposed to revise by 2 years the age categories we use as one of the criteria in determining disability under titles II and XVI of the Social Security Act. The proposed rules reflected our adjudicative experience, advances in medical treatment and healthcare, changes in the workforce since we originally published our rules for considering age in 1978, and current and future increases in the full retirement age under Social Security law. (70 FR at 67101.) We received almost 900 public comments on the NPRM. We have decided to withdraw the proposal while we continue to consider public comments and other relevant data sources.

Dated: May 1, 2009.

Michael J. Astrue,

Commissioner of Social Security.

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