



SERVICE BULLETIN

No. 430

Piper Aircraft Corporation

Lock Haven, Pennsylvania, U.S.A.

"FAA DOA EA-1 Approved"

August 7, 1974

Subject:

Inspection of Exhaust System Couplings

Models Affected:

PA-31P Navajo

Serial Numbers Affected:

31P-1 and up.

Compliance Time:

Within the next 50 hours of operation and at every 100 hours of operation thereafter.

Purpose:

A report has recently been received from a Piper Field Service Center describing failure of Exhaust System Couplings (Piper) Part No. 555 366 and (Lycoming) Part No. LW-12125-3. It is believed that these failures may be due to improper torque values being applied during installation and/or improper handling procedures during inspection of the exhaust system and turbine wheel. At present, Piper Aircraft is conducting an evaluation of the couplings; however, until this investigation is completed, it is recommended that the above couplings be visually inspected in accordance with Compliance Time, above and replaced if the inspection reveals evidence of cracks and/or distortion (Ref. the attached sketch for an illustration of the affected area). Also, until further notice, it is recommended that whenever coupling (Piper) Part No. 555 366 is removed for inspection or maintenance purposes, that it be replaced with a new like part.

Instructions:

1. Gain access to the area described on the attached sketch.
2. Using a flashlight and mirror, inspect the subject couplings for evidence of cracks and distortion.
3. If either of the subject couplings is found unserviceable per #2 above, replace. NOTE: Be sure to tighten clamp to proper torque value -- Reference Piper Pressurized Navajo Service Manual, Section VIII, Table VIII-II.
4. If no evidence of cracks and/or distortion is apparent, no further action is required at this time; return aircraft to service.
5. Make appropriate log book entry.

Material Required:

Exhaust System Coupling(s) Piper Part No. 555 366 and Lycoming Part No. LW-12125-3, as required per the inspection described above.

Availability of Parts:

Your Piper Field Service Facility.

Effectivity Date:

This Service Bulletin is effective upon receipt.

Summary:

Please contact your Piper Field Service Facility to make arrangements for compliance with the provisions of this service release in accordance with Compliance Time.

