



Airworthiness Directive: 138

Date: February 27, 2019

Subject: Main gear wheel axle

Compliance: Mandatory

Models Affected: All S-6 series, S-7 series, and S-12 series with .625" and .75" hollow diameter steel axles. Please note this does NOT apply to the larger diameter aluminum axles that use 4 bolts to attach to a plate welded to the gear leg itself or a bolt on socket with a plate.

An operator had a main wheel axle fail during taxi. Upon inspection of the failed axle, fatigue was determined to be the cause. These axles are hollow and internal corrosion could be present accelerating reduction in strength, although this was not apparent on the failed axle.

It is mandatory to perform a magna flux inspection of both main wheel axles prior to the next flight.

A magna flux inspection is to be performed every 12 months.

Operators wanting to avoid the inspection protocol can upgrade the wheels, brakes, axles and landing gear legs to the most recent production version. Gear legs will vary, some models use a bolt on socket, others have the plate welded to the gear leg. Refer to on-line parts manuals for specific parts per model.

For operators who want to purchase brakes and wheels from other sources we can supply specific bolt pattern of the socket for a specific model. We apologize for any inconvenience this airworthiness directive may cause.