May 29, 1978

SUBJECT: INSPECTING FOR FUEL LEAK SOURCES

AIRCRAFT APPLICABILITY: Single Engine Aircraft utilizing rubber fuel tanks -- Aircraft Models 180 thru 188 and 205 thru early 210

Service Letter SE78-10 (Goodyear construction BTC-39 fuel tank inspection) emphasized the importance of inspecting the aircraft fuel system for leaks during the walk around and routine 100 hour and annual inspections.

To protect against unnecessary replacement of fuel tanks suspected of leakage, it is important that the following items also be checked for leakage prior to fuel tank replacement.

1) Fuel Caps - check for dirty or deteriorated "O" Rings and vent valve seals as described in Service Letter SE76-8 and SE76-8 Supplement #1. Clean and replace as necessary.

2) Fuel Cap Adapter - Check for leakage at the bond line between the cap well and skin to which it attaches. This is especially important if fuel leaks persist around the cap and the cap has been checked as described above.

Refer to the fuel tank inspection instructions provided in SE78-10 for procedures in checking the aircraft fuel system for leaks.

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(Owner Notification System - No. 1)

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