SERVICE NEWSLETTER

August 5, 1988

SNL88-12

Title

Importance of Pilot Seat Security, Inspection & Maintenance

To

Cessna Distributors, Single Engine Dealers, AG Service Stations, Multi Engine Service Stations, CPC's, and Affected Owners

Models Affected

Cessna and Reims/Cessna Single and Multi Engine Piston Airplanes, Models 150A thru P210N, T303, 336, 337 and P337; includes Normally Aspirated and Turbocharged Models

Discussion

Cessna believes it is important that every pilot assure his seat is properly latched before starting the airplane. The careful pilot should visually check his seat for security on the seat tracks, visually ascertain positive latching pin engagement, and physically attempt to move the seat fore and aft to assure seat latching pin engagement.

In Service Bulletins SEB86-5 and MEB86-15 dated July 11, 1986, Cessna issued a placard which stated:

Warning

Assure that seat is locked in position prior to taxi, takeoff, and landing. Failure to properly latch seat and heed all safety instructions can result in bodily injury or death.
These placards, part number 0705097-1, are still available thru the Cessna Distribution organization for anyone who wishes to incorporate them in the airplanes listed above. Cessna strongly recommends their incorporation.

Incidents of manually-adjustable seats slipping rearward or forward during acceleration or deceleration are reported occasionally. The investigations following these incidents have revealed discrepancies such as gouged lockpin holes, bent lockpins, excessive clearance between seat rollers and tracks, and missing seat stops, to name a few. Also, dust, dirt, and debris accumulations on seat tracks and in the intermediate adjustment holes have been found to contribute to some incidents.

A close check of each seat during preflight, improved cabin cleanliness, and replacement of parts when necessary will help prevent accidents involving seat slips. Cessna recommends immediate repair and/or replacement of damaged, worn, or defective components as called for in the airplane's service and/or maintenance publications.

Airworthiness Directive 87-20-03 Revision 1 calls for inspection and replacement of seat tracks, seat rollers, and seat latching parts, where necessary. Cessna supports the FAA on this program and feels that proper inspection and replacement of worn parts, where necessary, will result in safer airplanes. Please comply with the Airworthiness Directive and any subsequent revision as soon as possible and continue to use good piloting technique during preflight inspection to assure that your seat is properly latched before every flight.

OWNER NOTIFICATION

On August 5, 1988 a copy of this Service Newsletter will be sent to applicable airplane owners of record affected by Airworthiness Directive 87-20-03 Revision 1.

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