

UNAPPROVED PARTS NOTIFICATION

NO. 97-272

January 20, 1998

AFFECTED ENGINE: Pratt & Whitney model JT8D, series -1 through -17.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this Unapproved Parts Notification is to advise all owners, operators and maintenance entities that a large number of combustion chambers have been improperly repaired.

BACKGROUND:

During a receiving inspection by a major international operator, it was discovered that improper repairs were accomplished on 18 JT8D engine combustion chambers. The accompanying documents stated that the mount lug positioning pin hole bushings, P&W part number 787409, were replaced with new bushings when in fact the bushings showed signs of wear on the inside diameter. The subsequent suspected unapproved parts investigation revealed that International Jet Repairs, Inc. (IJR), Repair Station XQ4R657M, located at 2358 West 8th Lane, Hialeah, Florida 33010, accomplished the unapproved repairs. The investigation further determined that IJR obtained a total of over 2,000 new bushings from an unapproved source since February 1994. These bushings may have been installed in combustion chambers during overhaul; however, some or all lacked a hardcoat process on the inside surface which was stated to have been accomplished on the accompanying documentation. The hardcoat process is detailed in P&W Service Bulletin number 4421. This hardcoat process was also lacking on some of the used, reinstalled bushings and was difficult to detect due to a covering of a "molycoat" lubricant. Dimensional inspections were also conducted on five combustion chambers overhauled by IJR. All were out of Pratt & Whitney limitations in one or more dimensions.

RECOMMENDATION:

Regulations require that type certificated products conform to their type design. Aircraft owners, operators, maintenance organizations, manufacturers, and parts suppliers should inspect their aircraft and/or aircraft parts inventory for combustion chambers approved for return to service or overhauled by International Jet Repairs, Inc. If these items are installed in an engine, appropriate action should be taken. If found in existing aircraft parts stock, it is recommended they be quarantined to prevent installation in aircraft until such time they can be inspected for conformity and/or approved for return to service.

FURTHER INFORMATION:

Further information may be obtained from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Flight Standards District Office (FSDO) shown below. The FAA would appreciate any information, the discovery of the above referenced unapproved parts from any source, the means used to identify the source, and the action taken to remove them from service or stock. Also, the FAA would appreciate information concerning premature engine failures attributed to the above referenced repairs.

This notice originated from the Dallas FSDO, 3300 Love Field Drive, Dallas, Texas 75235, telephone (214) 902-1800, fax (214) 902-1862 and was published through the Suspected Unapproved Parts Program Office, AVR-20, telephone (703) 661-0581, fax (703) 661-0113.