

# **UNAPPROVED PARTS NOTIFICATION**

NO. 96-186  
June 18, 1997

**AFFECTED AIRCRAFT:** Boeing, Lockheed and McDonnell-Douglas aircraft, as well as certain corporate aircraft.

## **PURPOSE:**

The purpose of this Unapproved Parts Notification is to advise all aircraft owners, operators and maintenance organizations that a large number of nickel cadmium battery cells used in Saft, Marathon, and other manufacturers' batteries, have been improperly repaired and/or altered.

## **BACKGROUND:**

During the course of a suspected unapproved parts investigation, it was revealed that many nickel cadmium battery cells had been improperly repaired and/or altered by D&C Airparts Corporation, Repair Station MJ4R364M, 485 West 27th Street, Hialeah, Florida 33010. The repairs and/or alterations did not return the cells to their original or properly altered condition, and, in fact, caused leaking battery cells, internal plate trimming, high internal cell resistance, and low cell capacity. These conditions may lead to uncontrollable thermal runaway of a battery. D&C Airparts also approved for return to service emergency light battery pack assemblies. No authority was ever granted to D&C Airparts to perform maintenance on those assemblies.

## **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 battery cells or complete batteries or emergency light battery pack assemblies repaired and/or altered by D&C Airparts Corporation. If these items are installed in an aircraft, it is recommended that they be removed. If found in existing aircraft parts stock, it is recommended they be quarantined to prevent installation in aircraft.

## **FURTHER INFORMATION:**

Further information may be obtained from the FAA Flight Standards District Office (FSDO) shown below. The FAA would appreciate any information concerning 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 aircraft or stock.

This notice originated from the Miami FSDO, P.O. Box 592015, Miami, FL 33159, telephone (305) 526-2568, fax (305) 526-2698 and was published through the Suspected Unapproved Parts Program Office, AVR-20, telephone (703) 661-0581, fax (703) 661-0113.