

UNAPPROVED PARTS NOTIFICATION

NO. 96-130
May 5, 1997

AFFECTED AIRCRAFT: Fokker F-27

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this notification is to advise all owners, operators, and maintenance entities of an unapproved procedure that was accomplished on certain parts of the nose wheel steering assemblies of F-27 aircraft.

BACKGROUND:

During an FAA suspected unapproved parts safety investigation, it was revealed that certain nosewheel steering assemblies indicated a staking procedure was used to aid in retention of the planetary gear pins and the dowel pins contained in the housing assembly. It appeared that this staking procedure was utilized during the repair or overhaul of the housing assemblies. The housing assembly is contained within the nosewheel steering assembly. This is an unauthorized procedure and contributed to a nosegear-up landing by a foreign operator. The component overhaul manual calls for oversizing the holes and installing larger pins, not this staking procedure.

The steering assemblies that could incorporate this procedure are identified by part numbers 893477 and 893477-01, and the housing assemblies are identified by part numbers 891808 and 893970-01. There are indications that more than one company utilized this unauthorized procedure.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Aircraft owners, operators, maintenance entities, parts distributors, suppliers, and manufacturers should determine if they have received or installed the above housing assemblies. If stake marks are apparent around the gear pin and dowel pin holes, further inspection or review of the maintenance records is recommended to ascertain that the approved oversizing procedure had been accomplished subsequent to the unapproved staking procedure.

Regulations require that type certificated products conform to their type design. In instances where this unauthorized procedure has been utilized, appropriate action should be taken.

FURTHER INFORMATION:

The FAA Flight Standards District Office (FSDO), listed below, would appreciate any information that you could provide concerning the discovery of these assemblies from any source, the means used to identify the source, and the actions taken to remove them from aircraft and/or stock.

This notice originated from the St. Louis FSDO, 10801 Pear Tree Lane, Suite 200, St. Ann, MO 63074, telephone (314) 429-0209, fax (314) 429-6367, and was published through the

Suspected Unapproved Parts Program Office, AVR-20, telephone (703) 661-0581, fax (703) 661-0113.