

UNAPPROVED PARTS NOTIFICATION



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Aviation
Administration**

SUSPECTED UNAPPROVED PARTS PROGRAM OFFICE, AVR-20
13873 PARK CENTER ROAD, SUITE 165
HERNDON, VA 20171

No. 2002-00146
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UPNs are posted on the Internet at <http://www.faa.gov/avr/sups/upn.cfm>

Mailed by: FAA, AIR-140, P.O. Box 26460, Oklahoma City, OK 73125

AFFECTED PARTS

Aluminum parts heat-treated by Temperform USA.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this notification is to advise all aircraft owners or operators, maintenance organizations, manufacturers, and parts distributors and suppliers regarding aluminum parts that have been improperly heat-treated.

BACKGROUND

Information received during a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) suspected unapproved parts investigation indicated that Temperform USA (Temperform), formerly located at 14425 Macaw Street, La Mirada, CA 90638, had improperly heat-treated numerous aluminum parts having aviation applications. Temperform was approved to perform heat-treating for many production approval holders. The investigation disclosed that from May 1998 to September 2001, Temperform improperly heat-treated and falsified quality testing on parts that are used in various type-certificated aircraft. The listing of the affected part numbers (**4,148 distinct parts**) can be viewed at the following Internet URL:

<http://www.faa.gov/aircraft/safety/programs/sups/upn/media/temperform.xls>

RECOMMENDATION

Regulations require that type-certificated products conform to their type design. Aircraft owners and operators, manufacturers, maintenance organizations, and parts suppliers and distributors should inspect their aircraft, aircraft records, and/or parts inventories for the referenced part numbers. If any are found in existing stock, it is recommended that the parts be quarantined to prevent installation until a determination can be made regarding their eligibility for installation. The parts in question do not display any readily identifiable external features or markings to distinguish them from properly heat-treated parts; therefore, documentation associated with the parts should be reviewed to determine the source of heat-treating. Parts heat-treated by Temperform may require hardness and/or conductivity testing.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Further information concerning this investigation and guidance regarding the above-referenced parts can be obtained from the FAA Manufacturing Inspection District Office (MIDO) given below. The FAA would appreciate any information concerning the discovery of these parts, the means used to identify the source, and the action taken to remove any part from service.

This notice originated from the FAA Los Angeles MIDO, 3960 Paramount Blvd., Lakewood, CA 90712-4137, telephone (562) 627-5291, fax (562) 627-5319; and was published through the FAA Suspected Unapproved Parts Program Office, AVR-20, telephone (703) 668-3720, fax (703) 481-3002.