



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

# SAFO

Safety Alert for Operators

SAFO 08022  
DATE: 11/10/08

Flight Standards Service  
Washington, DC

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*A SAFO contains important safety information and may include recommended action. SAFO content should be especially valuable to air carriers in meeting their statutory duty to provide service with the highest possible degree of safety in the public interest. Besides the specific action recommended in a SAFO, an alternative action may be as effective in addressing the safety issue named in the SAFO.*

**Subject:** Required installation of the ventral fin for DeHavilland DHC-2 (Beaver) airplanes configured with EDO Model 679-4930 floats and the Kenmore Harbor Inc., Sea Fins.

**Purpose:** This SAFO emphasizes the requirement for operators to ensure that the ventral fin be installed on the DeHavilland DHC-2 (Beaver) configured with EDO Model 679-4930 floats (Supplemental Type Certificate (STC) SA1913WE), and Kenmore Harbor Inc., Sea Fins (STC SA456NW). Transport Canada (TC) issued Airworthiness Directive (AD) CF-83-09R2, which requires that when on floats the airplane be equipped with a ventral fin to improve directional stability.

**Background:** After investigating a DeHavilland DHC-2 airplane accident, it was noted that the ventral fin was not installed. It was determined that the language of the installation instructions was misleading and implied that the ventral fin on the underside of the empennage was optional.

**Discussion:** Viking Air Ltd., is correcting the language for the installation of the ventral fin. Viking noted that the installation of the ventral fin provides additional lateral stability when operating at low speeds. In addition to the TC issued AD, Viking Ltd., issued service letter DHC2-SL-01-001 to advise operators of the approved configuration for the 5,600 lbs gross weight DHC-2 MK.I aircraft (STC SA92-63 or SA00299NY), when equipped with EDO Model 679-4930 or 58-4580 (modified to STA SA92-1) floats that incorporates the required installation of the ventral fin.

**Recommended Action:** Operators should review the TC AD and referenced Viking service letter to determine compliance and ensure that all DHC-2 MK.I (Beaver) in their fleet modified to STC SA92-63/SA00299NY and fitted with EDO Model 679-4930 or 58-4580 (modified to STA SA92-1) floats, have both a ventral fin and auxiliary fins installed.

**Questions:** Any questions regarding the content of this SAFO should be directed to the Aircraft Maintenance Division, AFS-300, at (202) 267-8734.