



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

SAFO

Safety Alert for Operators

SAFO 18002
DATE: 3/12/18

Flight Standards Service
Washington, DC

http://www.faa.gov/other_visit/aviation_industry/airline_operators/airline_safety/safo

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: Improper Overhaul Performed on Aircraft Accessories/Articles by Aircraft Technical Support, Inc. (ATS) Repair Station

Purpose: This SAFO alerts aircraft owners, operators, air agencies, and maintenance technicians of improper overhaul performed by Aircraft Technical Support, Inc. (ATS) Repair Station, which previously held Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Certificate No. UX7R295Y. The improper overhaul includes aircraft ejection jacks (part numbers 114160005 and 114160004A), aircraft shaft assembly (part number CHA704-786), and aircraft ball screw assembly (part number 554265-1).

Background: On November 16, 2017, a National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) affirmed the FAA's revocation of ATS's repair station certificate number UX7R295Y (Docket No. SE-30435). The ALJ found that ATS violated several FAA regulations, including 14 CFR §§ 43.2 and 43.13. The FAA investigation and subsequent NTSB hearing revealed that ATS overhauled several articles/parts in violation of part 43 and the Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) Component Maintenance Manuals (CMM). Finally, ATS failed to use the testing equipment required by the CMM and part 43, or an equivalent acceptable to the Administrator, while performing operational tests of certain articles/parts. ATS overhauled or repaired the articles/parts affected by these violations beginning in April 2009.

Recommended Action: Aircraft owners, operators, manufacturers, maintenance organizations, parts suppliers, and parts distributors should inspect their aircraft, aircraft records, and parts inventories for any articles/parts approved for return to service as overhauled or repaired by ATS after April 21, 2009. Any articles/parts installed on an aircraft should be removed, and an appropriate return to service inspection/action should be accomplished. Any articles/parts in existing aircraft stock should be quarantined to prevent installation until eligibility for installation is determined.

Contact: Questions or comments regarding this SAFO should be directed to the South Florida Flight Standards District Office, Daniel Sullivan, Aviation Safety Inspector at 2895 S.W. 145th Avenue, Suite 120, Miramar, FL 33027, or via telephone at (954) 641-6116.