

UNAPPROVED PARTS NOTIFICATION

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



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

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AFFECTED PRODUCTS

All propellers maintained, altered, or approved for return to service by T and W Propellers, Inc. (Chino, CA).

PURPOSE

The purpose of this notification is to advise all aircraft owners, operators, manufacturers, maintenance organizations, and parts distributors regarding propellers maintained by T and W Propellers, Inc. (T and W), 7000 Merrill Avenue, Building E3, #50, Chino, CA 91710. T and W previously held Air Agency Certificate No. T6WR776N.

BACKGROUND

Information received during a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) accident investigation revealed that T and W had failed to accomplish maintenance in accordance with the manufacturers' maintenance manuals (such as Hartzell Manual 133C, Hartzell Manual 202A, and Hartzell Service Bulletin 136H) or FAA-approved procedures. Improper procedures included failure to perform nondestructive inspections in accordance with FAA-approved procedures. Evidence indicated that T and W installed incorrect hardware and may have falsified work orders and other documentation associated with approving the propellers for return to service. The FAA has been unable to determine the exact time span during which the improper maintenance occurred. Therefore, all propellers that T and W maintained or approved for return to service from approximately 1997 until 2003 are suspect.

RECOMMENDATION

Regulations require that type-certificated products conform to their type design and be properly maintained using current data, required equipment, and appropriately trained personnel. Aircraft owners, operators, maintenance organizations, and parts distributors should inspect their aircraft, aircraft records, and/or parts inventories for any propeller work accomplished by T and W. If any propellers are installed on aircraft, appropriate action should be taken. If any propellers are found in existing inventory, it is recommended that the propellers be quarantined to prevent installation until a determination can be made regarding each propeller's eligibility for installation.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Further information concerning this investigation may be obtained from the FAA Flight Standards District Office (FSDO) given below. The FAA would appreciate any information concerning the discovery of the above-referenced propellers from any source, the means used to identify the source, and the action taken to remove the propellers from service.

This notice originated from the Riverside FSDO, 6961 Flight Road, Riverside, CA 92504, telephone (909) 276-6701, fax (909) 689-4309; and was published through the FAA Suspected Unapproved Parts Program Office, AVR-20, telephone (703) 668-3720, fax (703) 481-3002.