

# UNAPPROVED PARTS NOTIFICATION

Aircraft Certification Service



**FAA**  
Aviation Safety

No.: 2012-20120119012

Date: September 17, 2012

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

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## **AFFECTED PRODUCTS:**

Boeing aircraft utilizing any Boeing designed bearings manufactured by Schatz Bearing Corporation and purchased directly from Schatz Bearing Corporation, National Precision Bearing Group (a division of Mechatronics, Inc), or another one of their distributors without proof of FAA production approval status.

## **PURPOSE:**

This notification advises all aircraft owners, operators, manufacturers, maintenance organizations, and parts suppliers and distributors of any Boeing designed bearings produced without Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) production approval.

## **BACKGROUND:**

During a FAA Suspected Unapproved Parts (SUP) investigation it was determined that National Precision Bearing, a division of Mechatronics, Inc. and a distributor for Schatz Bearing Corporation, sold Boeing designed bearings manufactured by Schatz Bearing Corporation as suitable for installation on a type certificated products without FAA manufacturer approval. Schatz Bearing and National Precision Bearing have been identified by Boeing as approved sources for Boeing to purchase bearings. This approval is through Boeing's internal supplier control procedures under Production Certificate (PC) 700, but does not extend beyond Boeing, Boeing subcontractors and suppliers for subsequent sale to Boeing. These bearings were advertised for sale and sold by National Precision Bearing to the aviation public.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Regulations require that type-certificated articles conform to their type design. Aircraft owners, operators, maintenance organizations, and parts suppliers and distributors are encouraged to inspect their aircraft and/or aircraft parts inventory for Boeing designed bearings purchased from Schatz Bearing Corporation, National Precision Bearing, or another one of their distributors. If these parts are found in existing inventory, it is recommended that they be quarantined to prevent installation.

## **FURTHER INFORMATION:**

Further information concerning this investigation can be obtained from the FAA Manufacturing Inspection District Office (MIDO) given below. In addition to the above recommendations, the FAA would appreciate any information concerning the discovery of the referenced parts from any source, the means used to identify the source, and the actions taken to remove the parts from aircraft and/or parts inventories.

This notice originated from the FAA Seattle MIDO, 1601 Lind Avenue SW, Renton, WA, 98057, Telephone (425) 917-6661.