

## **AIRWORTHINESS BULLETIN**

Piper PA-31 Series Aircraft - Inspections

**AWB** 02-033 **Issue**: 1 **Date**: 29 September 2008

## 1. Applicability

All models Piper PA-31, PA-31-300, PA-31-325, PA-31-350 (including model T1020), PA-31P-350 and any other aircraft fitted with emergency fuel pumps with Piper Part Nos. 42113-02, 42113-05 or 42113-06.

#### 2. Purpose

To provide a record of a cancelled Australian-unique Airworthiness Directive (AD) that specified periodic maintenance for PA-31 aircraft.

## 3. Background

In 2008 CASA conducted a review of all Australian-unique ADs applicable to PA-31 aircraft. Many of these ADs were cancelled. Most of the cancelled ADs were based on Piper service documents so the information remains accessible to maintainers, owners and operators.

One of the cancelled ADs was not based on Piper service documents but was based on Australian maintenance experience. This cancelled AD contained periodic maintenance. Its contents are reproduced below for information.

#### 4. Maintenance

At intervals of 2000 hours aircraft time in service replace the emergency fuel pumps' blade retaining rings in accordance with the aircraft manufacturer's Maintenance Manual. (Previously AD/PA-31/110 Amdt 3)

## 5. Background

In 1983 and 1985 three major defect reports were received about loss of engine power initiated by failure of the emergency fuel pump's blade retaining ring. Pieces of the ring had travelled through the fuel system and lodged in the engine-driven fuel pump, causing it to fail. In 1986 AD/PA-31/110 was published specifying action at intervals not exceeding 1000 hours. In 1990 the compliance time was doubled to 2000 hours.

#### 5. Recommendation

It is recommended that owners and maintainers of PA-31 aircraft, and any other aircraft equipped with electric fuel pump Piper Part Nos. 42113-02, 42113-05 or 42113-06, remain aware of this maintenance task and consider it carefully when planning maintenance of affected aircraft.



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## 6. Enquiries

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