



Unapproved Parts Notification - Pratt and
Whitney R-985 engines

AWB 01-032 **Issue** : 1
Date : 29 January 2016

1. Effectivity

Pratt & Whitney R-985-SB-3 radial engines.

2. Purpose

The purpose of this alert is to advise all owners, operators, maintenance entities, and manufacturers of the above model radial engine, that certain bearings, part number 12768, were produced without an FAA Production Approval.

3. Background

This information originally appeared in CASA Airworthiness Advisory Circular (AAC) 6-69. FAA Unapproved Parts Notification 94-196.

A recent investigation based on a suspected unapproved parts report has yielded concern that some operators may be using military surplus bearings for installation in R-985-SB-3 radial engines. The bearings in question may have contributed to the forced landing of a De Havilland DHC-2MK. These are packed in a United States Army olive drab can.

The can identifies its contents as Pratt & Whitney part number 12768 and the exterior label states that contents were packed and sealed in January 1964.

There is no reference to an FAA Production Approval. The outer race may contain the markings 'MRC 304R Gurney' and areas of the bearing assembly may be corroded. It is suspected that these bearings were intended for use in ground power units or tank engines.

4. Recommendations

Type certified products are required to conform to their Type Design. Owners, operators and maintenance organisations should inspect their affected aircraft and/or stock for the referenced part number(s). Parts which cannot be traced to an approved source should be considered suspect and appropriate action taken.

5. Reporting

All affected parts found installed in an aircraft or in existing aircraft stock intended for installation on an aircraft should be reported to CASA via the Service Difficulty reporting System (SDR).



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6. Enquiries

Enquiries with regard to the content of this Airworthiness Bulletin should be made via the direct link e-mail address:

AirworthinessBulletin@casa.gov.au

or in writing, to:

Airworthiness and Engineering Standards Branch
Standards Division
Civil Aviation Safety Authority
GPO Box 2005, Canberra, ACT, 2601