



Piper PA-28 Series - Nose Landing Gear
Fork Failures

AWB 32-019 **Issue :** 1
Date : 16 April 2009

1. Applicability

All Piper PA28 Series aeroplanes.

2. Purpose

Alert operators and maintainers of Piper PA 28 Series aeroplanes to failures of the nose landing gear fork assembly.

3. Background

CASA continues to receive Service Difficulty Reports describing the catastrophic failure of the nose landing gear fork assembly. Investigations conducted by operators report one or more of the following as contributing factors.



1. Loose or broken bolts where the fork attaches to the steering block.
2. Cracking on the inside surface of the fork in the region of the attaching nuts and washers.
3. Unresolved shimmy dampener problems.
4. Corrosion in various locations between the steering block and the upper surface of the nose landing gear fork.
5. Heavy landings and / or high side loadings induced during cross wind operations
6. High time in service.

4. Recommendation

Operators and maintainers should consider inspecting the fork and steering block assembly for looseness and periodically unbolting the fork from the steering block to inspect the fork structure and attaching hardware, particularly after a heavy landing and if the aeroplane has been engaged in training operations.



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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:

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