



Cessna 400 Series External Doors –  
Emergency Exit Provisions.

**AWB** 52-003 **Issue :** 1  
**Date :** 29 January 2016

## 1. Effectivity

Cessna 414, 421A and 421B all Serial Numbers and 421C up to Serial Number 421C0400.

## 2. Purpose

To alert owners, operators and maintainers to the possibility that there may be some pressurised small aeroplanes which have emergency exit door (s) that cannot be opened from the outside and the inside and hence, do not meet with Type Design and CASA regulatory requirements.

## 3. Background

CASR regulation 90.130 External Doors requires that an external door in the aircraft must be of a kind that can be opened from both inside and outside the aircraft, unless the aircraft is an unpressurised small aeroplane; and the aircraft's Type Design allows the door can be opened from the inside only.

This means that if the aircraft is a pressurised small aeroplane, the emergency exit door must be openable from both the inside and the outside of the aircraft hull.

A defect report and subsequent investigation revealed that that exits on Cessna aircraft models subsequent to the Cessna 414 may not be able to be opened from the outside in the case of an emergency or an accident. CASA issued AD/CESSNA 400/31 Placards and Cabin Fittings (Cancelled) to overcome the design deficiency.

This AD required the operator to:

1. Install placards and modify the exit door safety chain and install partition door latch as detailed in Rex Aviation Drawing RAC-1012.
2. Install a placard on the outside lower half of the exit door indicating the location of the door handle.
3. Provide index marks indicating the open and locked position of the upper exit door half external release handle.
4. Install stops to the cabin seat rails to establish the rear-most position of the left and right row seats and the forward-most position of the left and right third row seats.

## 4. Recommendations

CASA strongly recommends that operators and maintenance organisations inspect affected aircraft and take action to ensure the aircraft exits, and access to the exits, comply with Type Design and CASA regulatory requirements.



# AIRWORTHINESS BULLETIN

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## 5. Reporting

All instances of noncompliant exits should be reported to CASA via the Service Difficulty Report (SDR) system.

## 6. Enquiries

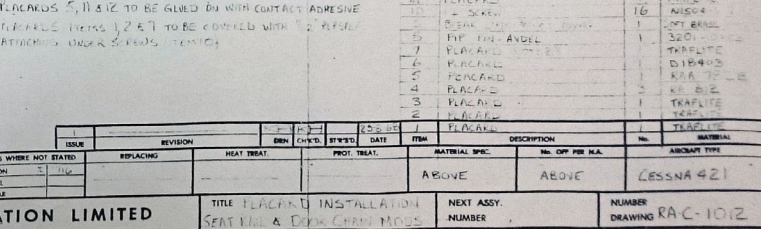
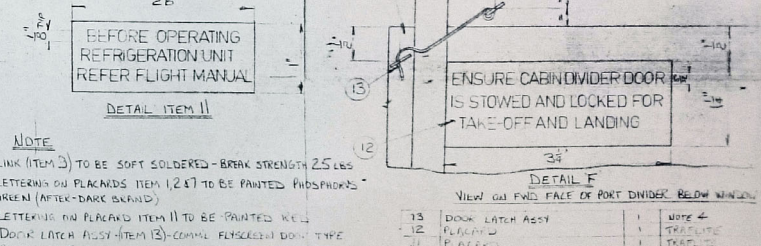
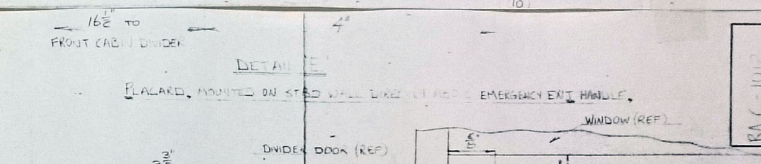
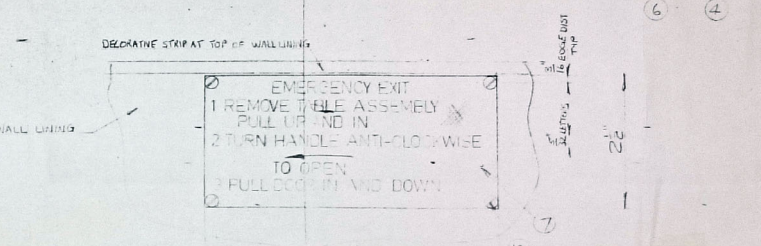
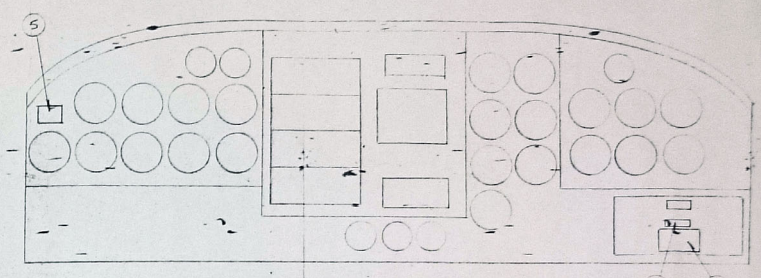
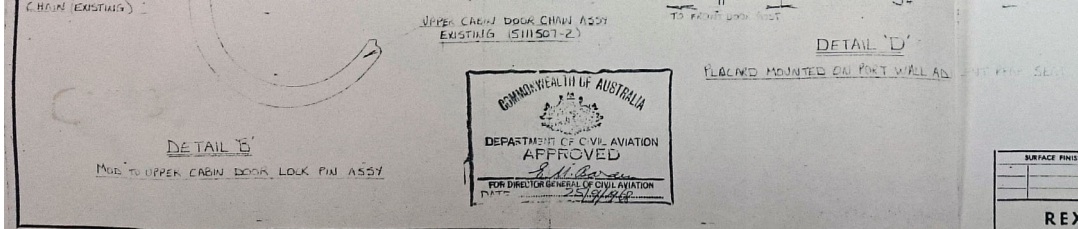
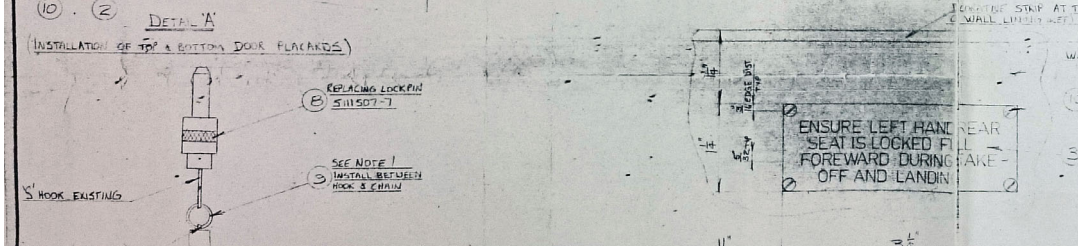
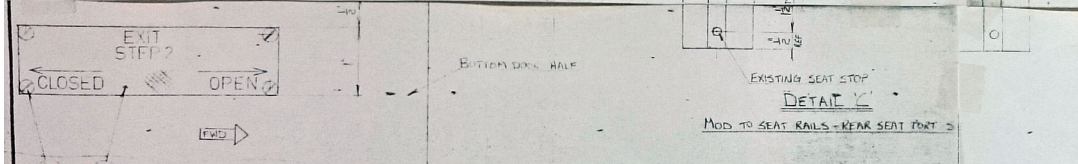
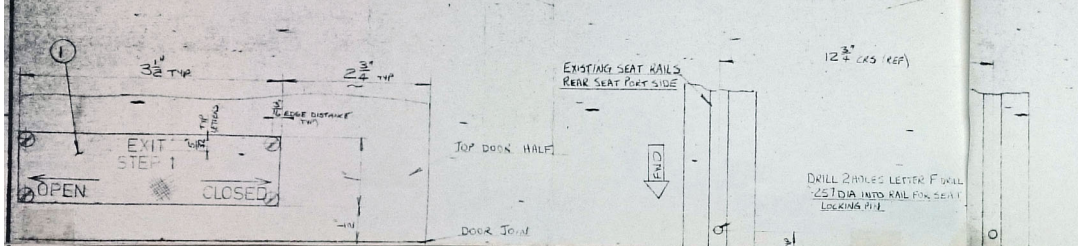
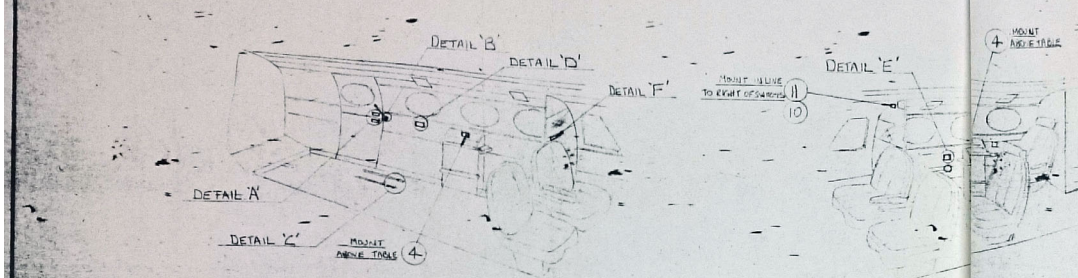
Enquiries with regard to the content of this Airworthiness Bulletin should be made via the direct link e-mail address:

[AirworthinessBulletin@casa.gov.au](mailto: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

FILE 16/26/175



- NOTE**
- 1 LINK (ITEM 3) TO BE SOFT SOLDERED - BREAK STRENGTH 25 LBS
  - 2 LETTERING ON PLACARDS ITEM 1, 2 & 7 TO BE PAINTED PHOSPHORS GREEN (AFTER DARK BRAND)
  - 3 LETTERING ON PLACARD ITEM 11 TO BE PAINTED RED
  - 4 DOOR LATCH ASSY (ITEM 13) - COMM. FLUORESCENT DOWN TYPE
  - 5 PLACARDS 5, 11 & 12 TO BE GLED ON WITH CONTACT ADHESIVE
  - 6 PLACARDS ITEMS 1, 2 & 7 TO BE COVERED WITH 1/2\"/>

VIEW ON FWD FACE OF PORT DIVIDER, BELOW WINDOW

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	QTY	MATERIAL
13	DOOR LATCH ASSY	1	UTG 4
12	PLACARD	1	TRAFITE
11	PLACARD	1	TRAFITE
10	PLACARD	1	TRAFITE
9	PLACARD	1	TRAFITE
8	PLACARD	1	TRAFITE
7	PLACARD	1	TRAFITE
6	PLACARD	1	TRAFITE
5	PLACARD	1	TRAFITE
4	PLACARD	1	TRAFITE
3	PLACARD	1	TRAFITE
2	PLACARD	1	TRAFITE
1	PLACARD	1	TRAFITE

SURFACE FINISH		LIMITS WHERE NOT STATED		REPLACING		HEAT TREAT		PROT. TREAT.		MATERIAL SPEC.		NO. OF PIR. R.A.		ASSEMBLY TYPE	
FRACTION	DECIMAL	FRACTION	DECIMAL	FRACTION	DECIMAL	FRACTION	DECIMAL	FRACTION	DECIMAL	FRACTION	DECIMAL	FRACTION	DECIMAL	FRACTION	DECIMAL

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA  
DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION  
APPROVED  
FOR DIRECTOR GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION  
DATE 25/11/75

REX AVIATION LIMITED

TITLE PLACARD INSTALLATION  
SEAT 11L & DOOR CHAIN MODS

NEXT ASSY.  
NUMBER

NUMBER  
DRAWING RAC-1012