

AIRWORTHINESS BULLETIN

Cessna 208 Caravan Engine Mount Inspection

AWB 71-001 Issue : 1 Date : 17 January 2013

1. Effectivity

Cessna 208 Caravan all models.

2. Purpose

Recommend that operators and maintainers undertake an inspection of the engine mounts in accordance with Cessna Maintenance Manual 71-20-00 whenever shimmy of the nose landing gear occurs.

3. Background

A recent CASA investigation into Cessna 208 Caravan engine mount cracking, has established a link between reports of nose wheel shimmy and cracking of the engine mount rings.

If allowed to develop the loss of mount stiffness may result in cracking or flutter of the propeller/powerplant system. Either the cracking or the flutter could cause the engine to separate from the airframe.

Cessna have over the years introduced modified hydraulic shimmy dampers, which claim to have reduced the high rate of shimmy damper failures. However, they do not stop the occurrence of wheel shimmy due to wheel issues or imbalances, and as a result regulatory authorities are still receiving a number of Service Difficulty Reports in relation to engine mount cracking.

4. Recommendations

As a precautionary measure, it is recommended that all operators of the affected aircraft accomplish the following inspection whenever nose wheel shimmy of the nose landing gear occurs:

Carry out an inspection of the engine mounts in accordance with the latest approved revision of the Cessna 208 maintenance manual 71-20-00.

5. Reporting

Report all findings of engine mount cracking to CASA through the Service Difficulty Reporting system.



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6. Enquiries

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