

Airworthiness Directive

AD No.: 2021-0110

Issued: 21 April 2021

Note: This Airworthiness Directive (AD) is issued by EASA, acting in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2018/1139 on behalf of the European Union, its Member States and of the European third countries that participate in the activities of EASA under Article 129 of that Regulation.

This AD is issued in accordance with Regulation (EU) 748/2012, Part 21.A.3B. In accordance with Regulation (EU) 1321/2014 Annex I, Part M.A.301, the continuing airworthiness of an aircraft shall be ensured by accomplishing any applicable ADs. Consequently, no person may operate an aircraft to which an AD applies, except in accordance with the requirements of that AD, unless otherwise specified by the Agency [Regulation (EU) 1321/2014 Annex I, Part M.A.303] or agreed with the Authority of the State of Registry [Regulation (EU) 2018/1139, Article 71 exemption].

Design Approval Holder's Name:

PILATUS AIRCRAFT Ltd

Type/Model designation(s):

PC-12 aeroplanes

Effective Date: 05 May 2021

TCDS Number(s): EASA.A.089

Foreign AD: Not applicable

Supersedure: None

ATA 32 – Landing Gear – Nose Landing Gear Fork Assembly – Inspection / Replacement

Manufacturer(s):

Pilatus Aircraft Ltd

Applicability:

PC-12, PC-12/45, PC-12/46 and PC-12/47E aeroplanes, all manufacturer serial numbers.

Definitions:

For the purpose of this AD, the following definitions apply:

The SB: Pilatus Aircraft PC-12 Service Bulletin (SB) 32-029.

Affected part: Nose landing gear (NLG) fork assembly Part Number (P/N) 532.20.12.112 and/or NLG strut assembly, P/N 532.20.12.044, with installed cylinder pipes having P/N 532.20.12.145 and having a serial number (s/n) as listed in section 1.A of the SB.

Serviceable part: Any NLG fork assembly or NLG strut assembly with cylinder pipes having P/N 532.20.12.145, which is not an affected part; or an affected part that, prior to installation, has passed an inspection (no exposed unprotected raw material detected) in accordance with the instructions of the SB.

Reason:

Occurrences were reported where corrosion was found on NLG strut assemblies installed on PC-12 aeroplanes. It was identified that the corrosion was due to a manufacturing non-conformity of the affected parts, which exposed unprotected raw material at the NLG fork interface.

This condition, if not detected and corrected, could lead to loss of the NLG damping, potential loss of the nose wheel fork and the nose wheel, with consequent loss of nose wheel directional control on ground, possibly resulting in damage to the aeroplane and injury to occupants.

To address this potential unsafe condition, Pilatus issued the SB, providing inspection instructions to identify the affected parts and to detect corrosion.

For the reason described above, this AD requires a one-time inspection of the NLG sliding tube at the NLG fork interface, and, depending on findings, replacement of the affected part. This AD also provides the conditions for (re)installation of an affected part on an aeroplane.

Required Action(s) and Compliance Time(s):

Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:

Inspection/Replacement:

- (1) Within 10 months or 500 flight hours, whichever occurs first after the effective date of this AD, inspect the NLG sliding tube at the interface with the NLG fork assembly and, if corrosion or untreated material is found, replace the affected part, in accordance with the instructions of the SB.

Part(s) Installation:

- (2) From the effective date of this AD, it is allowed to install on any aeroplane an affected part, provided it is a serviceable part as defined in this AD.

Ref. Publications:

Pilatus Aircraft PC-12 Service Bulletin issue dated 08 February 2021.

The use of later approved revisions of the above-mentioned document is acceptable for compliance with the requirements of this AD.

Remarks:

1. If requested and appropriately substantiated, EASA can approve Alternative Methods of Compliance for this AD.
2. This AD was posted on 23 March 2021 as PAD 21-045 for consultation until 20 April 2021. No comments were received during the consultation period.
3. Enquiries regarding this AD should be referred to the EASA Safety Information Section, Certification Directorate. E-mail: ADs@easa.europa.eu.
4. Information about any failures, malfunctions, defects or other occurrences, which may be similar to the unsafe condition addressed by this AD, and which may occur, or have occurred on



a product, part or appliance not affected by this AD, can be reported to the [EU aviation safety reporting system](#). This may include reporting on the same or similar components, other than those covered by the design to which this AD applies, if the same unsafe condition can exist or may develop on an aircraft with those components installed. Such components may be installed under an FAA Parts Manufacturer Approval (PMA), Supplemental Type Certificate (STC) or other modification.

5. For any question concerning the technical content of the requirements in this AD, please contact: Pilatus Aircraft Ltd, Customer Support PC-12, CH-6371 Stans, Switzerland, Telephone: +41 41 619 33 33, Fax: +41 41 619 73 11
E-mail: SupportPC12@pilatus-aircraft.com, Website: www.pilatus-aircraft.com.

CANCELLED

