

Bundesamt für Zivilluftfahrt (BAZL) Office fédéral de l'aviation civile (OFAC) Ufficio federale dell'aviazione civile (UFAC) Federal Office for Civil Aviation (FOCA) Maulbeerstrasse 9 CH-3003 Berne Switzerland	Lufttüchtigkeitsanweisung (LTA) Consigne de Navigabilité (CN) Prescrizione di Aeronavigabilità (PA) Airworthiness Directive (AD)	FOCA AD HB 2003-522
Inkraftsetzung Mise en vigueur Entrata in vigore Effective Date	PILATUS - PC-12 FOCA TC/TCDS No.: F56-30 ATA 32 LANDING GEAR	

**TITLE: PILATUS AIRCRAFT LTD. – PC-12
MAIN LANDING GEAR – SHOCK-ABSORBER ATTACHMENT BOLTS**

APPLICABILITY:

PILATUS AIRCRAFT LTD.

All PC-12 and PC-12/45 airplanes, Manufacturer Serial Numbers (MSN) 101 thru MSN 482.

REASON:

It has been found that on PC-12/45 airplanes, the shock-absorber attachment bolts in some of the Main Landing Gear assemblies (MLG-assemblies) have the potential to fail during operation. This could result in collapse of the MLG-assembly.

Investigations revealed that the problem is caused by an improper cadmium plating process applied to the high strength steel part, which can cause hydrogen embrittlement. Affected are only bolts that are installed on MLG-assemblies P/Ns 532.10.12.049 or 532.10.12.050, with serial numbers that start with the letters AM.

In order to correct the condition described, this Airworthiness Directive (AD) requires an inspection to determine the Serial Number of the MLG-assemblies and replacement of the shock-absorber attachment bolts, if necessary.

COMPLIANCE:

Required as indicated below, unless already accomplished:

(a) INSPECTION / BOLT REPLACEMENT

Within the next 100 hours time-in-service (TIS) or 30 days, whichever occurs first, after the effective date of this AD:


- (1) Perform an inspection of the left and right MLG-assemblies Part Numbers (P/Ns) 532.10.12.049 and 532.10.12.050 to determine if the Serial Numbers (S/N) start with the letters AM. If both main landing gear assembly S/Ns **do not** start with the letter AM; no further action is required.
- (2) If during the inspection required by paragraph (a)(1), a MLG-assembly has a S/N which starts with the letter AM, prior to further flight; replace the applicable shock-absorber attachment bolts P/N 532.10.12.110 with new bolts.

(b) SPARE PARTS:

As of the effective date of this AD, no person shall install any MLG-assembly P/N 532.10.12.049 or 532.10.12.050 held as spare with a S/N that starts with the letters AM, on any Model Pilatus PC-12 Series airplane, unless the MLG-assembly has been inspected and the shock-absorber attachment bolts P/N 532.10.12.110 have been replaced in accordance with the Accomplishment Instructions of PILATUS PC-12 Service Bulletin No. 32-015, dated 12 September 2003 or later revisions approved by the Swiss Federal Office for Civil Aviation (FOCA).

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(c) REF. PUBLICATIONS:

The actions required by this AD shall be done in accordance with the manufacturer's documentation listed in this paragraph, and/or later revisions approved by the Swiss Federal Office for Civil Aviation (FOCA):

- PILATUS PC-12 Service Bulletin No. 32-015, dated 12 September 2003.

The applicable manufacturer's documentation may be obtained directly from:

PILATUS AIRCRAFT LTD

CUSTOMER LIAISON MANAGER
CH-6371 STANS, Switzerland

TEL No.: +41 41 619 6319

FAX No.: +41 41 619 6224

Email: pilga@pilatus-aircraft.com

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

FEDERAL OFFICE FOR CIVIL AVIATION (FOCA)
Type Certification (MZ)
Maulbeerstrasse 9
CH-3003 Berne, Switzerland

FAX No.: +41 31 325 9324 (or)

FAX No.: +41 31 322 5918

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