

SERVICE BULLETIN

PITTS SPECIAL

DATE: February 1994 SERVICE BULLETIN - No. 22
REV. 3/96 Engineering Aspects are FAA approved.

SUBJECT: A) Fuel Flop Tube Hose Assembly
 B) Fuel Sight Gauge Tube

MODELS AFFECTED: All Pitts S-1 and S-2 series aircraft

TIME OF COMPLIANCE: At owner's earliest convenience

A.) On Pitts aircraft the Fuel Flop Tube Hose Assembly (S-2B P/N 1-6502-003; S-2A, S-2, P/N 2-6502-003; S-1, S-1T, P/N 1-603-10; S-2S P/N 1-603-10 and P/N 2-6502-013 Aux Tank), is fabricated from Aeroquip 601 hose which is the subject of Aeroquip Service Bulletin No. AA135. Aeroquip states that they have seen degradation of the elastomeric inner tube in hoses used in fuel systems that carry aviation gasoline which has resulted in tube cracking. Aeroquip is recommending that any 601 hose which is approaching, or has more than two years in an aviation gasoline application, be replaced. Based on the Aeroquip Service Bulletin, Aviat has changed the material used to fabricate the flop tube assemblies and no longer uses 601 hose.

While few service difficulty reports have been received by Aviat concerning the fuel pickup tube, owner/operators may, in light of Aeroquip's recommendations, wish to inspect this assembly for degradation and cracking. Care should be taken in removing the flop tube assembly from the tank to avoid damaging the threads. When reassembling use appropriate sealing and anti-seize compound. Contact Aviat Parts Department for replacement assembly availability and cost.

B.) While most operators are aware of the need to inspect fluid lines under the cowl it is not as obvious that the fuel quantity sight tube also needs to be inspected and if needed, replaced.

Therefore, Aviat is recommending that all owner/operators of the Pitts aircraft four (4) years old or older, inspect the fuel quantity sight tube for condition. Accomplish inspection by indenting the tube with a fingernail. The tube should feel soft and resilient. Should the tube feel hard and dry or if it is discolored a yellowish-brown to black, the tube should be replaced. Contact the Parts Department for availability and price.

Aviat stresses that inspection of these hose assemblies should be included as part of the aircraft maintenance cycle regardless of age.