Pilatus Aircraft Ltd, Pilatusstrasse 1, 6371 Stans, Switzerland

SUBJECT: PILATUS RECOMMENDATION TO PREVENT CONTAMINATION OF THE AIRCRAFT FUEL TANKS WITH WATER AND BIOLOGICAL CONTAMINATION (SUPERSEDES SL 220)

To all Customers, Operators and Service Centers:

Date: Dec 06/23

Effectivity: All PC-12/47E Series Aircraft MSN 1720, 2001 and Up.

This Service Letter is issued to draw attention to precautions which may prevent contamination of the aircraft fuel tanks with water. Water in fuel can potentially reduce safety of flight and additional measures may assist in eliminating this risk.

Pilatus advises that operators follow these recommendations:

- If feasible, avoid low fuel contents in the aircraft fuel tanks for overnight parking. Keep the aircraft fuel tanks nearly full if the aircraft is in storage for a longer period. Leave some room for fuel expansion due to possible temperature increase. This prevents condensation of water in the fuel tanks and removes favorable conditions for microbiological growth in the fuel tanks.
- Drain water contamination in the fuel tanks in accordance with the preflight inspection in the Pilot Operating Handbook (POH) Section 4.
- Make sure that adequate procedures are in place to prevent biological contamination of the aircraft fuel tanks. Regular aircraft fuel tank inspections should be done in accordance with the scheduled maintenance requirements defined in the Aircraft Maintenance Manual (AMM) Chapter 5. For any other refuel tank or storage facility, regular inspections should be defined.
- If biological contamination is detected in the airport fuel facilities or the aircraft fuel tanks, Pilatus recommends the operators to implement procedures to make sure that fuel from these contaminated fuel tanks is not used before the tanks are cleaned.
- It is recommended to use anti-icing additives (use of pre-mixed additives is recommended when available) at least every 30 days to inhibit biological contamination as they reduce the free water content in the fuel system and prevent the formation and development of contamination in the fuel tanks. The POH defines fuel additives that may be used to inhibit biological contamination of the fuel. If these additives are used, make sure that the maximum concentration levels defined in the POH are not exceeded. Failure to use anti-icing additives leads to a high risk of contamination. Contamination must be prevented for a correct operation of the aircraft. If biological contamination is found, a more frequent use of anti-icing additives will be necessary.
- For the procedure to analyze the aircraft fuel tank contamination refer to AMM 12-C-28-00-00-00A-377A-A.
- For the procedure to remove contamination from the aircraft fuel tank, refer to AMM 12-C-28-00-00-01A-901A-A.

Biocide fuel additives may also be used to prevent biological contamination of fuel. They are optional and not required at each refueling. Regardless of whether these additives are used, Pilatus recommends that the actions stated in this Service Letter are applied as good practice to help prevent fuel containing biological contaminants from being used in the PC-12/47E aircraft.

Operators that require additional information should contact their authorized Pilatus Service Center, or Pilatus Customer Support on www.pilatus-aircraft.com → contact us.

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