

<b>Bundesamt für Zivilluftfahrt (BAZL)</b> <b>Office fédéral de l'aviation civile (OFAC)</b> <b>Ufficio federale dell'aviazione civile (UFAC)</b> <b>Federal Office for Civil Aviation (FOCA)</b> Maulbeerstrasse 9 CH-3003 Berne Switzerland	<b>Lufttüchtigkeitsanweisung (LTA)</b> <b>Consigne de Navigabilité (CN)</b> <b>Prescrizione di Aeronavigabilità (PA)</b> <b>Airworthiness Directive (AD)</b>	FOCA AD  <b>HB 2003-044</b>
Inkraftsetzung Mise en vigueur Entrata in vigore Effective Date	<b>PILATUS - PC-9</b>  FOCA TC/TCDS No.: F 56-22 ATA 55	

**TITLE:                   PILATUS AIRCRAFT LTD. – PC-9**  
**ELEVATOR SKIN DISTORTION - Inspection / Repair**

**APPLICABILITY:**

**PILATUS AIRCRAFT LTD.**

Model PC-9, PC-9/A, PC-9/B, PC-9/F airplanes.

Manufacturers Serial Numbers (MSN) 119 and MSN 120, MSN 178 and MSN 179, MSN 213 thru MSN 216 and MSN 221 thru MSN 224.

**REASON:**

It is possible for damage to occur in the bottom skin panels of the elevator during some flight conditions. The areas at risk of damage are adjacent to the trailing edges, immediately inboard of left and right rib 10.

There are no fasteners (rivets) to hold the top and bottom skin panels in the areas between the last rivets at the rear ends of ribs 10 and the trailing edges of elevator. Thus, during unusually high aerodynamic loads, unwanted movement and separation of the skin from the internal structure can occur.

To prevent unwanted movement and separation of the skin this Airworthiness Directive (AD) requires inspection of the elevator, installation of rivets to attach the top and bottom skin panels to the internal structure of the elevator (hood skin) and replacement of the elevator assembly, if necessary.

**COMPLIANCE:**

Required as indicated below, unless already accomplished.


**(a)** Within the next 30 hours time-in-service (TIS) after the effective date of this AD accomplish the following:

- (1) Inspect the elevator for signs of buckling and crack damage in the top and bottom skin panels. Do this in the areas immediately inboard of Rib 10 (left and right) and adjacent to the trailing edges. Inspect the elevator trailing edges for signs of distortion and crack damage. (Ref. AMM, 27-30-01, Page Block 401).
- (2) If during the inspection required by paragraph (a)(1) of this AD no damage has been found; install rivets to attach the top and bottom skin panels to the internal structure of the elevator (hood skin).
- (3) If during the inspection required by paragraph (a)(1) of this AD buckling, distortion or crack damage in the inspection areas has been found; replace the elevator assembly.

**(b) SPARE PARTS:**

As of the effective date of this AD, no person shall install any elevator assembly, on any Model PILATUS PC-9, PC-9/A, PC-9/B, PC-9/F airplane, unless the elevator assembly has been inspected and modified in accordance with the Accomplishment Instructions specified in PILATUS PC-9 Service Bulletin No. 55-004, dated 29 January 2002, or later revisions approved by the Swiss Federal Office for Civil Aviation (FOCA).

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FOCA AD <b>HB 2003-044</b>	<b>Lufttüchtigkeitsanweisung (LTA)</b> <b>Consigne de Navigabilité (CN)</b> <b>Prescrizione di Aeronavigabilità (PA)</b> <b>Airworthiness Directive (AD)</b>		<b>BAZL Schweiz</b> <b>OFAC Suisse</b> <b>UFAC Svizzera</b> <b>FOCA Switzerland</b>
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**(c) PUBLICATIONS:**

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

- PILATUS PC-9 Service Bulletin No. 55-004, dated 29 January 2002.

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 6509 (Government)  
FAX No.: +41 41 619 6170  
E-Mail : [rpaterson@pilatus-aircraft.com](mailto:rpaterson@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 8051 (or)  
FAX No.: +41 31 322 5918

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