

Airworthiness Directive



Pacific Aerospace Limited Fletcher FU24 Series Aircraft

Issued by the Civil Aviation Authority of New Zealand in accordance with section 72I(3A) of the Civil Aviation Act. An Airworthiness Directive (AD) contains regulatory information which is mandatory. An operator of an aircraft must not operate the aircraft unless the operator complies with every applicable AD issued by the Director in accordance with section 72I(3A) of the Civil Aviation Act. An AD is issued where the Director believes on reasonable grounds that an unsafe condition exists in an aircraft or aeronautical product.

DCA/FU24/181 Horizontal Stabiliser Electric Trim System – Installation

Applicability: All turbine powered FU24 series aircraft with a Standard Category Airworthiness Certificate.

Requirement: Because of the wide trim range required during aircraft operation, an approved electric trim system must be installed. Accomplish the following:

1. Install an approved electrically operated pitch trim system.
2. If the electric trim system becomes inoperative, the aircraft may continue to be operated for a maximum of 3 days while it is repaired. The manual trim system must be serviceable and extra care must be taken to ensure correct trim is set before takeoff. Install a warning placard on the instrument panel while the electric trim is inoperative in clear view of the pilot with the following text:

Electric Trim Inoperative
CAUTION:
Before take-off ensure the trim is
in the TAKE-OFF POSITION.

(NZ occurrence 10/3403 refers)

Compliance:

1. By 26 August 2012 unless already accomplished.
2. From 26 August 2012.

Effective Date: 26 July 2012

Background: It has been found that large trim changes may be required on standard category turbine powered Fletcher FU24 series aircraft due to the different range of loading. The manual trim on the FU24 takes about 25 turns of the handle for full travel. With an electric trim the pilot can adjust the trim tab by simply moving the top hat style switch located at the top of the control stick. An electric trim is a safety enhancement, fast moving and instantly accessible to the pilot.

Owen Olls
Airworthiness Specialist
Delegate of the Civil Aviation Authority of New Zealand
26 July 2012