

Piper PA-23 (Apache and Aztec) Series Aeroplanes

**AD/PA-23/75
Amdt 1**

**Rudder Upper and Lower Hinge
Attachments - Inspection**

9/80

Applicability: All models PA-23 and PA-23-160 with S/Nos. 23-1 and subsequent.

- Requirement:
1. Remove the rudder upper hinge P/N 17063-03 and inspect the rudder upper hinge reinforcement bracket P/N 17067-18 or equivalent for cracks using a dye penetrant technique.
 2. Inspect the rudder lower hinge bracket assembly P/N 17289-00 in the bearing area for cracks using a dye penetrant technique.
 3. If cracks are found in the reinforcing bracket during the inspection of para. 1, remove the bracket and inspect the exposed spar web for cracks using a dye penetrant technique.

Note 1: A 10X glass may be used in lieu of a dye penetrant technique for recurring inspections.

Note 2: FAA AD 78-08-03 Amdt. 39-3339 refers to this inspection.

Compliance: 1 & 2 - Unless already accomplished, initially inspect within 100 hours time in service after 30 September 1980 and thereafter at intervals not exceeding 1000 hours time in service or 3 years whichever occurs first.

Background: This amendment reflects the current FAA inspection requirements as referenced in FAA AD 78-08-03 Amdt. 39-3339.