

SERVICE LETTER NO. 449A - PIPER AIRCRAFT CORPORATION

SERVICE LETTER No. 449A
(Supersedes Service Letter No. 449)

Piper Aircraft Corporation
Lock Haven, Pennsylvania, U.S.A.

DATE:
February 18, 1969

SUBJECT:
Fuel Cells

MODELS AFFECTED:

PA-23-235 Apaches, Serial Nos. 27-563 to 27-607 incl.

PA-23-250 (six place) Aztecs, Serial Nos. 27-2348 to 27-2771 incl.

PA-24, PA-250 Comanches, Serial Nos. 24-2882 to 24-3687 incl.

PA-24-400 Comanches, Serial Nos. 26-1 to 26-69 incl., 26-71 to 26-79 incl., 26-81 to 26-96 incl., 26-98, 26-99, 26-101 to 26-103 incl., 26-106, 26-108, 26-108, 26-109, 26-112 to 26-114 incl., 26-116, 26-119 to 26-121 incl., 26-123 to 26-125 incl., 26-147

PA-30 Twin Comanches, Serial Nos. 30-1 to 30-612 incl.

A number of reports have been received indicating that the fuel cells originally installed in the aircraft indicated by the above serial numbers have shown evidence of a service life less than is normally anticipated. Seepage of fuel through the upper panels of the cells has been observed.

In performing the usual pre-flight inspection, examine the lower surfaces of the wings in the area of the fuel cells for fuel stains. If fuel stains are observed, inspect the fuel lines and fittings for any indication of leaks. If no leaks are observed then the upper panels of the cells should be carefully inspected and if evidence of seepage is noted, the cells must be replaced.

It has become evident that, in some instances, the recommended fuel cell inspection procedures outlined above are not being observed, particularly regarding the PA-23-250 (six place) Aztec series. This communication has been revised in an effort to reiterate the information contained in the above paragraph.