

Service Letter

Subject:

Airframe cleaning.

Applicability:

GA200 series aircraft, all serial numbers.

Background:

A number of operators appear to be using high pressure water jets to clean their aircraft. Whereas this procedure certainly removes the dirt and chemical residue it has, unfortunately, a number of down sides.

- 1) High pressure water can strip dope from the fabric.
- 2) Certain caustic additives to the cleaner can remove cad/nickel plating and galvanizing on bolts, component covers, control cables, etc, allowing rapid advance of rust on the now unprotected parts.
- 3) The above additives and detergents, when blown with high pressure between skins and dissimilar metals, can promote rapid corrosion.
- 4) Such chemicals can remove anodizing from prop blades.

Recommendation:

The aircraft should be washed externally by hand, using warm water and wax based detergents as used by the automotive industry, and washed internally with clean water allowed to dry and then lightly sprayed with de-watering fluid.

Weight and Balance

Not affected.