

TEXTRON Lycoming

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MANDATORY

SERVICE BULLETIN

DATE: June 30, 1976

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Engineering Aspects are
FAA (DEER) Approved

SUBJECT: Recommendations for Aircraft Struck by Lightning

MODELS AFFECTED: All aircraft powered by Avco Lycoming engines.

TIME OF COMPLIANCE: Anytime aircraft is struck by lightning.

Damage to an aircraft which has been struck by lightning is usually apparent and often confined to a specific area of the structure. In such instances where the engine and its accessories, controls, fuel or exhaust systems are involved it is necessary to evaluate and repair the damage before the aircraft is flown again.

Although the path of the lightning may appear to have been around the external housings of the engine components, it is nevertheless impossible to assess the internal damage that might have occurred by heat during the lightning discharge. Therefore, in the event the engine has been damaged by lightning, disassemble and inspect the component parts. Heat generated by the arcing effect of the electrical discharge can cause irreparable damage to the hardened surfaces of ball bearings, crankshaft bearing surfaces, camshaft lobes, gear teeth and other parts that are surface hardened; these should not be reused if discoloration, cracks or other indication of damage by lightning is evident.