

AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVE 2002-16-04
ERCOUPE 415 SERIES AND FORNEY FUEL LINE FITTINGS AND BRACES
INSPECTION

2002-16-04 Univair Aircraft Corporation: Amendment 39-12843; Docket No. 2000-CE-79-AD; Supersedes AD 46-38-03 and AD 86-22-09, Amendment 39-5457.

(a) *What airplanes are affected by this AD?* This AD affects all serial numbers of Models (ERCO) 415-C, (ERCO) 415-CD, (ERCO) 415-D, (ERCO) 415-E, (ERCO) 415-G, (Forney) F-1, and (Forney) F-1A airplanes that:

(1) are certificated in any category; and

(2) have the gascolator connected to the side of the carburetor. This AD does not affect those airplanes with the gascolator mounted on the firewall.

(b) *Who must comply with this AD?* Anyone who wishes to operate any of the airplanes identified in paragraph (a) of this AD must comply with this AD.

(c) *What problem does this AD address?* The actions specified by this AD are intended to prevent failure of the fuel line fittings or the gascolator because of the current airplane design configuration (aluminum fuel line nipples, aluminum fuel line elbows, and/or no double support tubes on the gascolator). Such failure could result in a lack of fuel to the engine with consequent loss of control of the airplane.

(d) *What actions must I accomplish to address this problem?* To address this problem, you must accomplish the following:

Actions	Compliance	Procedures
(1) Visually inspect the fuel line nipple and elbow located between the carburetor and gascolator for cracks or misalignment, and replace as necessary.	Inspect within the next 25 hours time-in-service (TIS) after September 13, 2002 (the effective date of this AD) and replace prior to further flight after the inspection. You must inspect even if you have inspected previously.	In accordance with Univair Service Bulletin No. 24B, dated January 29, 2002.
(2) Replace any aluminum fuel line nipple with one made of brass or steel.	Within the next 25 hrs. TIS after September 13, 2002 (the effective date of this AD), unless already accomplished (compliance with AD 86-22-09 and/or Univair Service Bulletin No. 24A, dated August 22, 1986).	In accordance with Univair Service Bulletin No. 24B, dated January 29, 2002.

Actions	Compliance	Procedures
(3) Replace any aluminum fuel elbow fitting with one made of brass or steel. Manufacturer replacement parts numbers are referenced in the service information.	Within the next 25 hours TIS after September 13, 2002 (the effective date of this AD), unless already accomplished (compliance with AD 46-38-03).	In accordance with Univair Service Bulletin No. 24B, dated January 29, 2002.
(4) Inspect for the existence of double support tubes on the gascolator and install these tubes if they do not exist, as follows: (i) For all affected airplanes except for (Forney F-1 and (Forney F-1A airplanes, install part numbers 48076 and 48096 (or FAA-approved equivalent part numbers) double support tubes; and (ii) For all affected (Forney) F-1 and (Forney) F1-A airplanes, install part numbers 48098 and 48099 (or FAA-approved equivalent part numbers) double support tubes.	Inspect within the next 25 hours TIS after September 13, 2002 (the effective date of this AD) and install the double support tubes prior to further flight after the inspection, unless already accomplished (compliance with Univair Service Bulletin No. 24A, dated August 22, 1986).	In accordance with Univair Service Bulletin No. 24B, dated January 29, 2002.
(5) Do not install, on any affected airplane, an aluminum fuel line nipple or aluminum elbow.	As of September 13, 2002 (the effective date of this AD).	Not Applicable
(6) Do not install a gascolator on the side of the carburetor on any affected airplane, unless the double support tubes specified in paragraph (d)(4)(i) or (d)(4)(ii) of this AD are installed.	As of September 13, 2002 (the effective date of this AD).	Not Applicable

(e) *Can I comply with this AD in any other way?*

(1) You may use an alternative method of compliance or adjust the compliance time if:

(i) Your alternative method of compliance provides an equivalent level of safety; and

(ii) The Manager, Denver Aircraft Certification Office (ACO), approves your alternative. Submit your request through an FAA Principal Maintenance Inspector, who may add comments and then send it to the Manager, Denver ACO.

(2) Alternative methods of compliance approved in accordance with AD 46-38-03 and/or AD 86-22-09, which are superseded by this AD, are not approved as alternative methods of compliance with this AD.

Note: This AD applies to each airplane identified in paragraph (a) of this AD, regardless of whether it has been modified, altered, or repaired in the area subject to the requirements of this AD. For airplanes that have been modified, altered, or repaired so that the performance of the requirements of this AD is affected, the owner/operator must request approval for an alternative method of compliance in accordance with paragraph (e) of this AD. The request should include an assessment of the effect of the modification, alteration, or repair on the unsafe condition addressed by this AD; and, if you have not eliminated the unsafe condition, specific actions you propose to address it.

(f) *Where can I get information about any already-approved alternative methods of compliance?* Contact Elizabeth Bumann, Aerospace Engineer, FAA, Denver Aircraft Certification Office, 26805 East 68th Avenue, Room 214, Denver, Colorado 80249; telephone: (303) 342-1083; facsimile: (303) 342-1088.

(g) *What if I need to fly the airplane to another location to comply with this AD?* The FAA can issue a special flight permit under Secs. 21.197 and 21.199 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR 21.197 and 21.199) to operate your airplane to a location where you can accomplish the requirements of this AD.

(h) *Are any service bulletins incorporated into this AD by reference?* Actions required by this AD must be done in accordance with Univair Service Bulletin No 24B, dated January 29, 2002. The Director of the Federal Register approved this incorporation by reference under 5 U.S.C. 522(a) and 1 CFR part 51. You can get copies from Univair Aircraft Corporation, 2500 Himalaya Rd, Aurora, Colorado 80011. You can look at copies at the FAA, Central Region, Office of the Regional of the Regional Counsel, 901 Locust, Room 506, Kansas City, Missouri, or at the Office of the Federal Register, 800 North Capitol Street, NW Suite 700, Washington, DC.

(i) *Does this AD action affect any existing AD actions?* This amendment supersedes AD 46-38-03 and AD 86-22-09, Amendment 39-5457.

(j) *When does this amendment become effective?* This amendment becomes effective on September 13, 2002.

Footer Information

Issued in Kansas City, Missouri, on July 30, 2002

Michael Gallagher,

Manager, Small Airplane Directorate,

Aircraft Certification Service

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