

Continued Airworthiness Notification to the International Community

To: Civil Aviation Authorities

Date: February 13, 2020

From: Federal Aviation Administration
Policy and Innovation Division 901 Locust, Room 301
Kansas City, MO 64106

Subject: This message is to advise you of the FAA's ongoing activities related to the headset amplifier and microphone interface circuit card assemblies on Cirrus Design Corporation (Cirrus) Model SF50 airplanes.

Accident/ Incident Description:

On December 27, 2019, Cirrus reported that a Cirrus Model SF50 airplane (serial number 0010) experienced a ground fire in Santa Monica, California (KSMO). There were no injuries, but the aircraft was destroyed. During pre-flight, the pilot noted a very light burning smell and smoke inside the cabin after engine start. The pilot shut down the engine and electrical power, alerted ground personnel, and exited the aircraft. Smoke was observed near the right side panel behind the copilot seat. The pilot recorded several videos of the smoke and resulting fire. Cirrus used videos of the incident, along with several ground tests, to determine that failure of the circuit cards for either the 3.5 (mm) audio or microphone jacks can result in a propagating fire without tripping the circuit protection. Cirrus further determined that failure of these circuit cards was the root cause of the incident in Santa Monica. Cirrus has released an alert service bulletin for operators to remove the suspect circuit cards before further flight.

Aircraft/ Engine Make, Model and Series: Cirrus Model SF50 airplanes, serial numbers 0005 through 0176 and 0178

U.S.-registered fleet/ Worldwide fleet: 173 U.S. registered airplanes; 185 airplanes worldwide.

Operators: General aviation

Ongoing activities: The FAA is in the process of issuing an emergency airworthiness directive (AD). The AD will require disconnecting and removing the affected headset amplifier audio and microphone interface circuit cards.

Next update, if any: The FAA will provide updates as required to inform the international community.

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