

5/28/2024

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

2024-103/2-1

2111960

To: Northrop Grumman, FAA (AFS-100)

Info: FAA (AVP-1, AVP-200, AFS-260, AFS-800, AFS-200, AIR-360, AIR-780, MKC-AEG, ANM-100), AMFA, AOPA, ASAP, ATSG, GAMA, IAM, IBT, ICASS, NBAA, NTSB, PAMA, TWU

From: Becky L. Hooey, Director
NASA Aviation Safety Reporting System

Re: AA5 Engine Air Filter Deterioration

We recently received ASRS reports describing a safety concern that may involve your area of operational responsibility. We do not have sufficient details to assess either the factual accuracy or possible gravity of the report. It is our policy to relay the reported information to the appropriate authority for evaluation and any necessary follow-up. We feel you should be aware of the enclosed deidentified report.

To properly assess the usefulness of our alert message service, we would appreciate it if you would take the time to give us your feedback on the value of the information that we have provided. Please contact Dr. Becky Hooey at (408) 541-2854 or email at becky.l.hooey@nasa.gov.



Aviation Safety Reporting System
P.O. Box 189 | Moffett Field, CA | 94035-0189



ACN 2111960

DATE / TIME

Date of Occurrence	202404
Local Time Of Day	No Local Time Of Day Stated

PLACE

Locale	ZZZ.Airport
State	US
Altitude - AGL	0

AIRCRAFT / EQUIPMENT X

Make Model Name	Cheetah, Tiger, Traveler AA5 Series
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COMPONENT 1

Aircraft Component	Intake Assembly
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PERSON 1

Function - Maintenance	Inspector
Function - Maintenance	Technician
ASRS Report Number	2111960

EVENTS

Anomaly	Aircraft Equipment Problem - Critical
Detector - Person	Maintenance
Result - General	Maintenance Action

NARRATIVE 1

During inspection I determined the air filter was in good shape and did not replace it. April 2023 aircraft had not been flown much since the annual. April 2024 owner student pilot had to land because of reduced power shortly after takeoff because the filter had deteriorated and partially blocked the intake.

No damage to aircraft and no injures to CFI or Student. The filter was two years old and in appeared as new during the inspection.

Many of the aircraft I work on are flown very little and I have deferred this type of filter before because the shelf life was 4 years. I am concerned about the rate of deterioration and the ability of this to block the air intake. I will never defer another one. In the past 4 months I have removed three of these filters that have just crumbled, unknown times on two of them 28 months on the third but aircraft not flown last 6 months.

SYNOPSIS

Aircraft maintenance technician reported multiple aircraft engine air filters deteriorated prematurely.