



Piper Aircraft, Inc.
2926 Piper Drive
Vero Beach, FL, U.S.A. 32960

SERVICE NO. 1354 BULLETIN

PIPER CONSIDERS COMPLIANCE MANDATORY

Date: October 16, 2023

(M)

SUBJECT:

**FUSELAGE STATION 247 BULKHEAD
INSPECTION**

MODELS AFFECTED:

PA-44-180 Seminole

PA-44-180T Turbo Seminole

SERIAL NUMBERS AFFECTED:

44-7995001 through 44-8195026;

4495001 through 4495013; 4496001 through 4496561

44-8107001 through 44-8207020

COMPLIANCE TIME:

Part I. Inspection

For affected aircraft with 2,400 or more hours time in service (TIS), initial compliance is to occur within the next 100 hours. Thereafter, a recurring inspection shall occur every 500 hours TIS, until compliance with Part II has been accomplished.

NOTE: Installation of the Kit – Frame Assy Replacement – Aft Fuselage, Piper part number (P/N) 88686-701, in accordance with Part II, will relieve the recurring inspection requirement in Part I.

Part II. Modification

Compliance with Part II will relieve the recurring inspection requirements described in Part I.

APPROVAL:

The engineering aspects of this service document have been shown to comply with the applicable Federal Aviation Regulations and are FAA approved.

PURPOSE:

Cracks may develop in the bulkhead assembly Piper P/N 86462-002, located at fuselage station (FS) 247, on the affected aircraft.

This service bulletin provides instructions to inspect the affected bulkhead for cracks. If cracks are discovered, a kit is available to replace the frame assembly.

NOTE: Installation of the kit will eliminate the recurring inspection requirement in Part I of this service bulletin.

INSTRUCTIONS:

NOTE: Temporary removal of some interior components and/or access panels may be required in order to accomplish the instructions described in this service bulletin.

Part I. Inspection

WARNING: FLIGHT WITH KNOWN CRACKS IN THE AIRCRAFT STRUCTURE IS NOT ALLOWED.

WARNING: AN AIRPLANE WITH A CRACK IN ITS STRUCTURE DOES NOT MEET ITS TYPE DESIGN NOR POSSESS ITS TYPE DESIGN STRENGTH. ANY CRACKS DISCOVERED IN THE AIRCRAFT STRUCTURE MUST BE REPAIRED PRIOR TO THE NEXT FLIGHT.

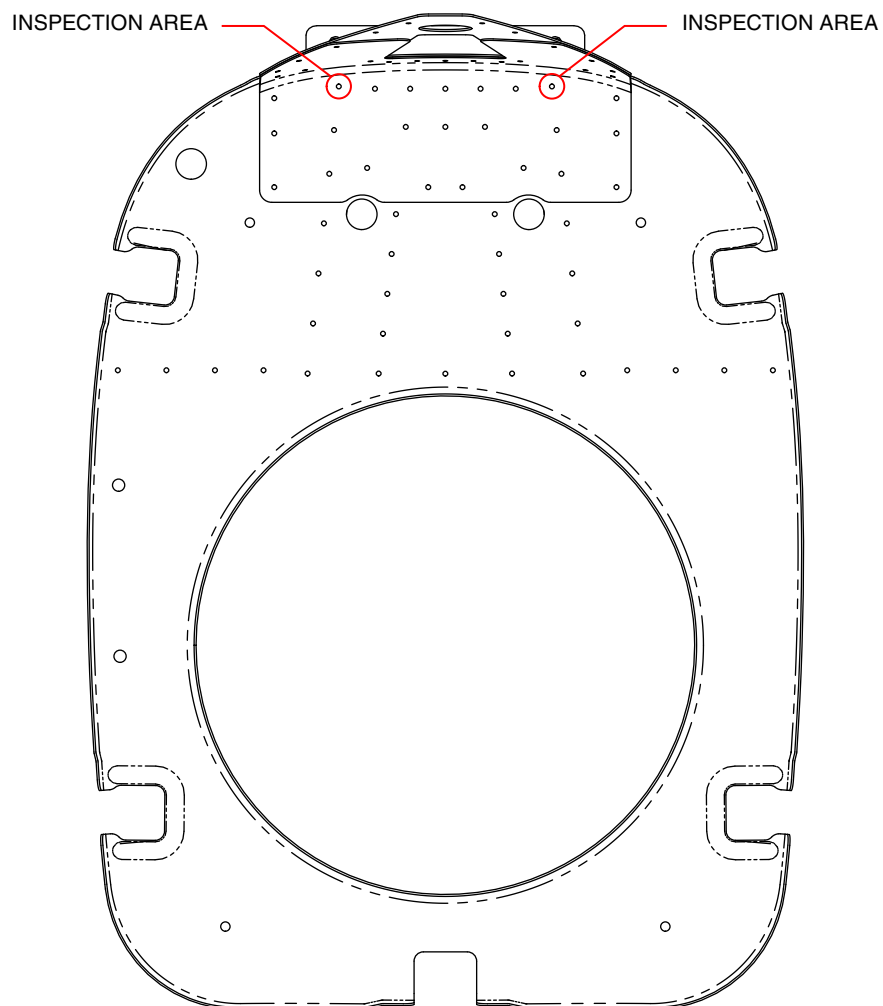
NOTE: Before inspecting, wipe inspection surfaces clean using a soft cloth dampened with isopropyl alcohol, mineral spirits, naphtha, or other suitable cleaning agent.

NOTE: Perform the inspections described in this service bulletin using a 10X magnifier, a mirror and a suitable light source, or other equipment capable of providing equal or better resolution.

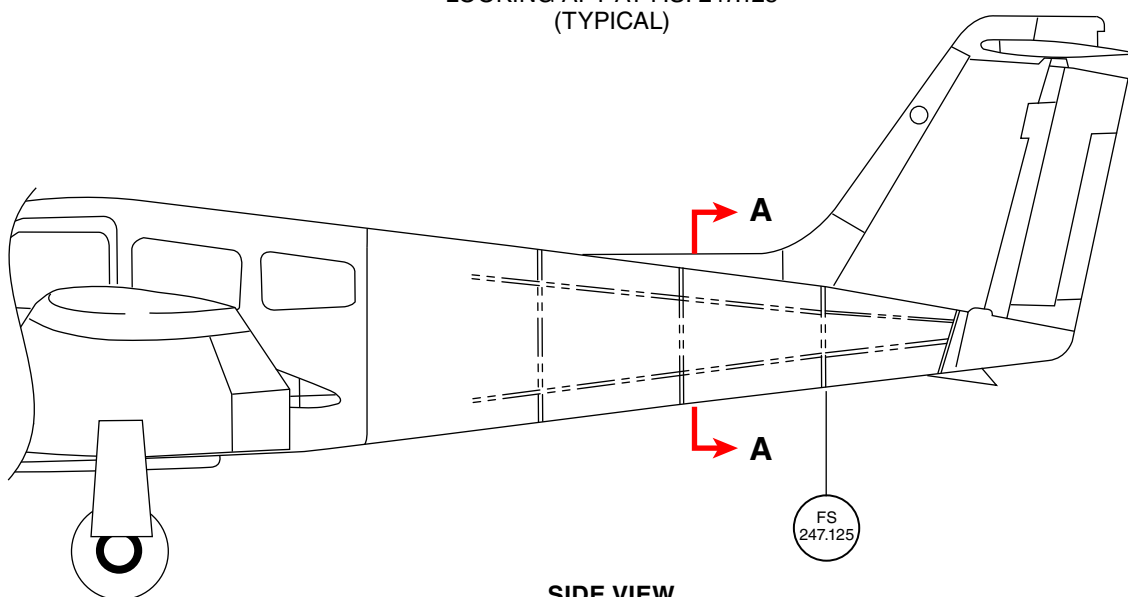
1. Gain visual access to the forward face of the FS 247 bulkhead, as shown in Figure 1. Carefully examine the area identified as the “inspection area,” with emphasis on the two rivet locations specifically identified. Inspect for cracks near rivet heads. Additionally, inspect the formed radius of the bulkhead directly above these rivets for cracks.
 - If **no cracks** are found, proceed to Step 2.
 - If **cracks are found**, then comply with Part II prior to next flight.
2. Make a logbook entry documenting compliance with Part I of this service bulletin.

Part II. Modification

1. Order and install Kit – Frame Assy Replacement – Aft Fuselage, Piper P/N 88686-701.
2. Make a logbook entry documenting compliance with Part II this service bulletin.



VIEW A-A
LOOKING AFT AT F.S. 247.125
(TYPICAL)



SIDE VIEW
PA-44-180 (TYPICAL)

Figure 1
PA-44-180/T Seminole Aft Fuselage Frame Inspection

MATERIAL REQUIRED: One (1) each, as required, Kit – Frame Assy Replacement – Aft Fuselage, Piper P/N 88686-701, per aircraft.

AVAILABILITY OF PARTS: Your Piper Approved Service Center

EFFECTIVITY DATE: This service bulletin is effective on October 18, 2023.

SUMMARY: Please contact your Piper Approved Service Center to make arrangements for compliance with this service bulletin in accordance with the compliance time indicated.

NOTE: Please notify the factory of any address/ownership corrections. Changes should include aircraft model, serial number, and current owner's name and address.

Corrections and/or changes should be directed to:

PIPER AIRCRAFT, INC.

Attn: Customer Service

2926 Piper Drive

Vero Beach, FL 32960

or:

CustomerService@piper.com

Please include in subject line: "Aircraft ownership update"