

Vans RV-12 – Factory Service Bulletin

Fuel Tank Attach Modification



SERVICE BULLETIN 13-12-19

Date Released: December 19th, 2013
Date Effective: December 19th, 2013
Subject: Fuel Tank Attach Modification
Affected Models: All RV-12 Fuel Tanks shipped prior to December 19, 2013
 All SLSA RV-12 serial numbers 12019 and below.
Required Action: Install T-01220 Doublers and Upgrade T-1205 attach hardware.
Time of Compliance: At or before next annual condition inspection.
Labor Required / SLSA Warranty Allowance: 5.5 Hours / \$440 US

Synopsis:

Although the RV-12 tank meets or exceeds all testing required by ASTM-2254 a recent accident in which the main landing gear failed aft causing rotation of the center section resulted in a breach of the fuel tank. Adding more robust hardware in conjunction with doublers inside the tank will help the frangible head of BOLT-00002 to fail before significant distortion of the tank and make the tank more resistant to a breach.

Method of Compliance:

Note: Van's Aircraft will supply, at no charge, the necessary parts and hardware to comply with this Service Bulletin. (A small amount of tank sealant will be required but will not be supplied due to its limited shelf life.) Owners do not need to contact Van's to obtain the parts. Van's will ship the parts to all known owners of RV-12 Fuel Tanks. Shipments will begin the last week in December, 2013 and should be completed within two weeks.

Step 1: Go to the RV-12 Service Information and Revisions web page at www.vansaircraft.com. Download the latest copy of the Maintenance Manual and KAI Section 37.

Step 2: Remove the Fuel Tank Assembly from the aircraft using instructions in the Maintenance Manual.

Discard the old BOLT-00002 bolts (Rev 1 with head drilled to ~ .150 depth)

Step 3: Remove the T-1209 Sender Plate from the Fuel Tank Assembly. See KAI Section 37. Clean the cured sealant from the mating surfaces of the sender plate and the T-1202 Fwd Tank Bulkhead.

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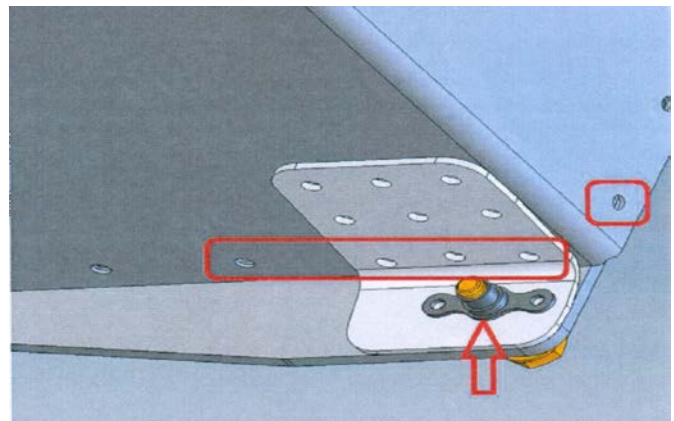
LAA Engineering has recently received notification that Vans Aircraft have published a Service Bulletin requiring Vans RV-12 owners to modify the fuel tanks. The modification strengthens the fuel tank attachment by adding more robust hardware in conjunction with adding doublers to the inside of the tank.

Vans Aircraft are supplying all the necessary parts and hardware required for the completion of this modification free to all affected owners.

Vans state that, 'although the RV-12 tank meets or exceeds all testing required by ASTM – 2254 a recent accident in which the main landing gear failed aft, causing rotation of the centre section resulted in a breach of the fuel tank.'

LAA is not, at this time, mandating this Service Bulletin and has written to owners accordingly.

Should you wish to download this Bulletin you will find it [HERE](#).



RV-12. Fuel Tank Doubler