

LAA/AWA/17 06  
16<sup>th</sup> August 2017

## All Lycoming Engines

### Identification of Connecting rods with Non-Conforming Small End Bushes

Lycoming Engines have recently issued a Mandatory Service Bulletin (MSB No.632B) requiring owners to check the serial number of their engine to see whether the engine might have been affected by a recent parts manufacturing error that has led to the failure of a number of engines.

The part affected is the small end bearing and the problem appears to be that either a batch of bearings or the connecting rods themselves were manufactured incorrectly. The 'off-specification' bearings allow the connecting rods to move from side to side; some 1300 factory supplied engines have been affected though many more may need to be checked if they've been recently overhauled or repaired.

Lycoming engine owners are required to check their engine within the next 10 hours of engine operation. Initially, this check requires owners to check the serial numbers of their engine against an 'affected engine' list published in the MSB. If the engine is on the list then further checks, possibly requiring cylinder removal, are necessary.

If your engine has been recently repaired or overhauled our advice is that you should contact your overhauler for further advice; Lycoming have published the shipping dates of the affected parts which include both the individual bearings and complete connecting rod assemblies, dates range from November 2015 through to February 2017.

Lycoming Service Bulletin No 632B can be downloaded [HERE](#).

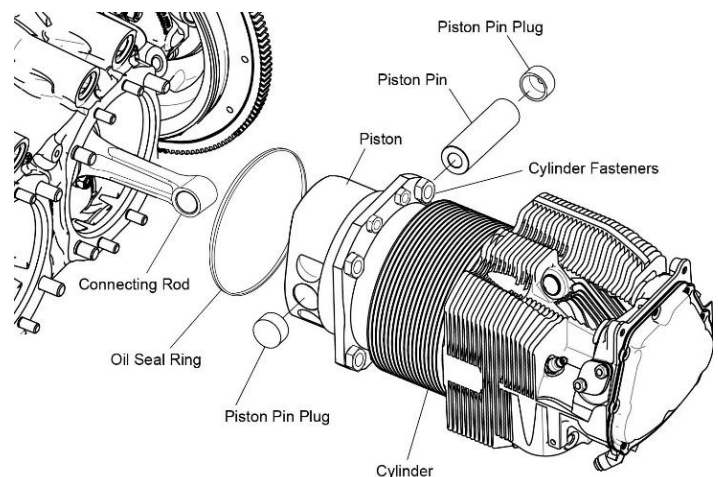


Fig. 1 This sketch shows the Lycoming Cylinder assembly with the piston detached from the connecting rod. This method of dismantling allows the small end bearing to be inspected for movement without removing the piston from the cylinder.



Fig. 2 The issue that's causing the trouble is that there appears to be a loose fit between the small end bearing and the connecting rod, though whether the error resides with one or both components is not known. This Lycoming tool tensions the bearing to check for a correct fit.