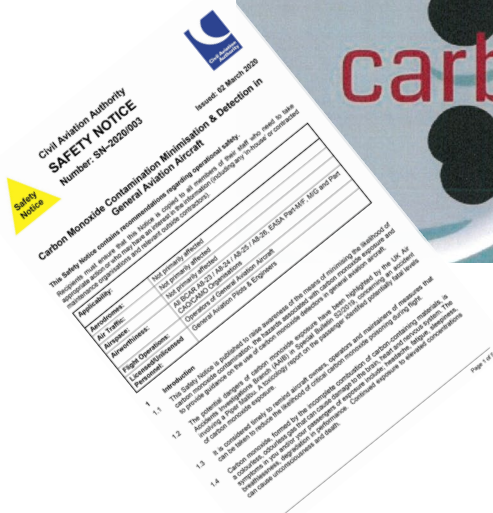


LAA/AWA/20/04
4th March 2020

UK CAA – SN-2020/003

Carbon Monoxide Contamination Minimisation & Detection In General Aviation Aircraft



Most aviators are aware of the dangers posed by the inhalation of carbon monoxide (CO) gas, and are aware that the symptoms of exposure start with a general feeling of not being on top form; as CO blood levels increase, as they inevitably will if CO is present in breathed air, further symptoms include headache, fatigue, sleepiness, breathlessness and a general degradation of performance – often first noticed as an inability to recall normally well-known information, for example, a local, often used, aerodrome’s frequency.

The potential dangers of CO exposure have recently been highlighted by the UK AAIB as toxicological evidence has become available to investigators investigating a fatal accident involving a Piper PA-46 Malibu aircraft. The AAIB have issued a Special Bulletin (S2/2019) concerning this issue which can be downloaded from their website:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/air-accidents-investigation-branch>

Following the publication of this Special Bulletin, the UK CAA have issued a Safety Notice offering general advice which, if followed, should reduce the possibility of exposure and offer suggestions as to the use of CO detectors. This Safety Notice may be downloaded [HERE](#).

The Safety Notice suggests further reading, and one of the publications mentioned in their list is an article written by Doug Blair, an active member of the LAA’s Safety Group. If you haven’t seen this article, which was featured in the July edition of Light Aviation, it’s worth the read: *The Canary & The Silent Killer* can be downloaded [HERE](#).