



ALERT SERVICE LETTER

Equipment Type(s): RDR-1600 WEATHER RADAR SYSTEM

RT-1601A RECEIVER-TRANSMITTER
P/N 379-2011-001

Serial Number - All Units

Subject: An aircraft on the ground may transmit RF energy

The RDR-1600 radar system's Weight on wheels is a safety feature that prevents the transmission of RF energy (which maybe hazardous to ground personnel) when an aircraft is on the ground. However, we have found that when the radar system is initially turned on, the Weight on Wheels circuit **will** allow the RT-1601A to transmit RF energy.

WARNING

Until the RT-1601A has been modified, the operator should use the recommended precautionary measures to prevent on ground RF energy transmission. These precautionary measures are set forth in the RDR-1600 Pilot's Guide and are repeated below.

PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES

It is always advisable to keep the radar system in Standby or Test mode when the aircraft is on the ground. Do not turn the radar on within 25 feet of ground personnel or containers holding flammable or explosive material. The radar should never be operated during refueling

REMEDIAL ACTION

Telephonics will expedite the publishing of a Service Bulletin that describes the installation of firmware in the RT-1601A that eliminates the possibility of this condition.

BACKGROUND

Upon initial power up of the radar system, it is possible to switch the radar mode switch from Standby to On and cause the radar system to transmit RF energy. Until the RT-1601A has been modified, the operator should use the recommended precautionary measures to prevent on ground radiation.

When the aircraft lifts off the ground and the aircraft's Weight on Wheels switch is open, the Weight on Wheels circuit will work correctly. Upon touch down, the Weight on Wheels switch closure will cause the transmitter to stop transmitting RF energy.

Upon power up and until the Weight on Wheels switch opens, the circuit will not work correctly. Once the Weight on Wheels circuit opens the first time (after power up) the circuit will work correctly.

RESOLUTION

1. Equipment may be returned to Telephonics to have this modification performed.
2. An authorized Telephonics Service Center capable of performing the required testing may also be used for this modification.

This Service Letter can be downloaded from the Telephonics web site www.telephonics.com .

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