

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION  
AIR SAFETY DIRECTORATE  
AV. 15013/3/2006 -AS**

**Air Safety Circular No. 02 of 2008**

**Subject: Spark Plug & Heli-coil Inspection in Piston Engined Aircraft.**

The analysis of a recent accident to the aircraft engaged in flying club has revealed that partial loss of engine power during initial climb was caused by the failure of the Heli-Coil Insert of spark plug. The Heli-coil had failed in overload condition, due to misalignment / over - torque tightening of the spark plug during the installation.

All flying training institutes, piston engine operators & piston engine overhaul organizations should amend engine removal and installation maintenance work schedules to include inspection of spark plug condition. Also Heli-coil Insert be inspected by Detailed Visual Inspection during Overhaul / Strip examination of the engines. The same should be documented as an item of inspection in maintenance work schedules.

All the operators engaged in piston engine operation and piston engine overhaul organizations are requested to ensure compliance of above instructions to prevent recurrence of such avoidable accidents.

29<sup>th</sup> February 2008

(Ram Nath)  
Director Air Safety  
for Director General of Civil Aviation

Distribution: All Piston Engine Operators and Piston Engine Overhaul Organizations.

Internal Distribution: As per list