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Information Paper

Resuming to Flight after prolonged storage / parking.

This document provides information on the considerations for a safety risk assessment and recommendations on checks associated with returning to recreational flight post extended storage / parking of any aircraft.

1. INTRODUCTION:

Covid restrictions meant less recreational flying for some. It is likely that preservation work at the beginning of the parking period may not have been carried out due to uncertainty of when restrictions might ease.

Returning the aircraft to flight after a long period should include a thorough check of the integrity of the aircraft systems, structure, and components to ensure the aircraft airworthiness is of a high standard for resuming flight.

2. THESE ARE CHECKS THAT MAY OR NOT BE INCLUDED IN YOUR DAILY OR PRE-FLIGHT CHECK LIST, HOWEVER ITS WORTHY REMINDER IF RESUMING FLIGHT AFTER A LONG STORAGE / PARKING PERIOD:

- Fuel Contamination: water, corrosion, microbiological contamination of fuel. Consider dumping the fuel and adding fresh fuel.
- Flight control linkages and cables etc lubrication if needed, check for smooth operation.
- Hydraulic system leak check.
- Engine oil level, oil condition and leaks.
- Removal of dust or grime build up.
- MR up to date
- Software updates for GPS maps
- Tire condition prone to cracking with non-use, tire pressures.
- Fire extinguisher and/or oxygen bottles in date
- Battery fully charged and in good condition
- Electrical connections in good condition, No corrosion, or signs of wiring insulation degradation.
- Radio check.
- No signs of structural corrosion if aircraft stored in a corrosive environment.
- Removal of all covers and plugs
- Inspect for unobstructed and clean condition of all drain ports/holes



- Inspection and contamination removal of all pitot-static lines, probes, and sensors. Particular attention to detailed inspection of areas prone to wildlife intrusion, birds, and insect nesting.
- Completion of probes and sensors system functional checks as well as any required leak checks of the system.
- Pilot competency. Are you ready to fly & confident to fly? As per CASA <u>Part 61 Manual</u> of <u>Standards</u> - The general competency rule is a cornerstone of safe operations. Before commencing a flight, pilots must ask themselves 'Am I capable of conducting the operation safely?'.