

**September 12<sup>th</sup> 2016**

**Maintenance Advisory MA E-04.1**

**Affects: E-04.8 Whip Antenna**

**RE: Antenna Cracking**

***The antenna base is a blend of polycarbonate and ABS plastic. Injection molded plastic forms many invisible cracks as the material rapidly cools in the mold there are a number of chemicals especially volatile organic compounds that can attack the bond between these cracks. We have had issues with the whip antenna cracking when subjected to cleaning solutions or other substances that will attack injection molded ABS/Polycarbonate plastics. Alcohol based compounds common to some strong cleaning solutions some of which can damage the bond on certain injection molded plastics especially when subject vibration. For example, Extreme Simple Green® Aircraft & Precision Cleaner for example contains these chemicals. Hydrocarbons will also attack injection molded ABS/Polycarbonate.***

***Use only water or a mild soap solution to clean the antenna. Never paint the antenna, use any hydrocarbon based product or plastic protector products such as Armor All.***