

## **Piaggio P-180, Improper Elevator Installation, ATA na**

(The FAA's Small Airplane Directorate in Kansas City provides the following safety admonition. Aerospace Engineer Mike Kiesov narrates the discussion; contact information follows the article.)

"The purpose of this Alerts article is to describe an event where the elevators on a Piaggio Aero P180 Avanti airplane were installed incorrectly. The R/H elevator was installed upside down on the left side of the airplane, and similarly, the L/H elevator was installed upside down on the right side of the airplane. The airplane was then rigged within acceptable limits per the AMM (aircraft maintenance manual). During flight, this reversed elevator installation greatly influenced elevator trim authority—additionally causing the airplane yoke to be in a noticeably different longitudinal position.

"The airplane manufacturer has subsequently incorporated a note in the airplane manual for this model P180 Avanti—a similar note is intended for their model P180 Avanti II.

"A very simple way to ensure the correct elevator is installed on the proper side is to verify the location of the static wicks—they must be on the upper surface of the elevator. This fact is reflected in the additional note added to the P180 Avanti AMM."



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Part Total Time: (N/A)