



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Aviation
Administration**

Advisory Circular

Subject: FUEL DRAIN VALVES

Date: 2/7/83
Initiated by: AWS-130

AC No: 20-119
Change:

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1. **PURPOSE:** This advisory circular provides an acceptable means, but **not** the only means, of compliance with the requirements of the Federal Aviation Regulations (FAR) **for** positive locking of fuel drain valves in the closed **position**.
 2. **BACKGROUND.** FAR Sections 23.999(b), 25.999(b), 27.999(b), and 29.999(b) **require**, in part: "Each drain . . . must have manual or automatic means **for** positive locking in the closed position . . ." This requirement refers to the required drain valves. The purpose of this advisory circular is to respond to the question as to whether a **spring** loaded valve in the **closed** position could be considered a "positive locking valve."
 3. **GUIDANCE,** Spring loaded fuel drain valves conforming to MIL-V-25023B or TSO-C76 or equivalent may be approved for those installations where the person operating the valve can visually confirm that the valve **is closed**, **provided the applicant** has shown that the valve will not open inadvertently under any **foreseeable operating condition**.

M. C. Beard
Director **of** Airworthiness

