
7.10 FUEL SYSTEM

The aluminum tank is located behind the seats, below the baggage compartment. The capacity is specified in Section 2 of this manual. The tank filler on the left side of the fuselage behind the canopy is connected to the tank with a rubber hose. A grounding stud is located on the under side of the fuselage near the trailing edge of the left hand wing. The aircraft must be grounded prior to any fueling operation.

The tank vent line runs from the filler neck through the fuselage bottom skin to the exterior of the airplane. The vent line is the translucent plastic hose adjacent to the left wing root. The vent line must be clear for proper fuel system operation. The tank has an integral sump which must be drained prior to each flight, by pushing up on the brass tube which protrudes through the underside of the fuselage, forward of the trailing edge of the left hand wing.

Two outlets with finger filters, one left and one right, are installed at the bottom of the tank (see Figure 7.6). Fuel is gravity fed from these outlets to a filter bowl (gascolator) and then to the electric fuel pump. The filter bowl must be drained prior to each flight, by pushing up on the black rubber tube that protrudes through the underside of the fuselage, adjacent to the fuel tank drain. The electric fuel pump primes the engine for engine starting (Prime ON) and is used for low throttle operations (Fuel Pump ON). When the pump is OFF, fuel flows through the pump's internal bypass. From the electric pump, fuel is delivered to the engine's mechanical fuel pump by the fuel supply line. Fuel is metered by the fuel control unit and flows via the fuel distribution manifold to the injector nozzles.

Closing the fuel shut-off valve, located either on the aft side of the firewall or at the maintenance drain manifold, will cause the engine to stop within a few seconds.

A return line from the mechanical pump's fuel vapor separator returns vapor and excess fuel to the tank.

Fuel pressure is measured at the fuel distribution manifold and displayed on the fuel pressure indicator, which is calibrated in PSI.

Some DA20-C1 aircraft also have a fuel vapor separator in the distribution manifold. These aircraft have a second vapor return line from the distribution manifold to the firewall.

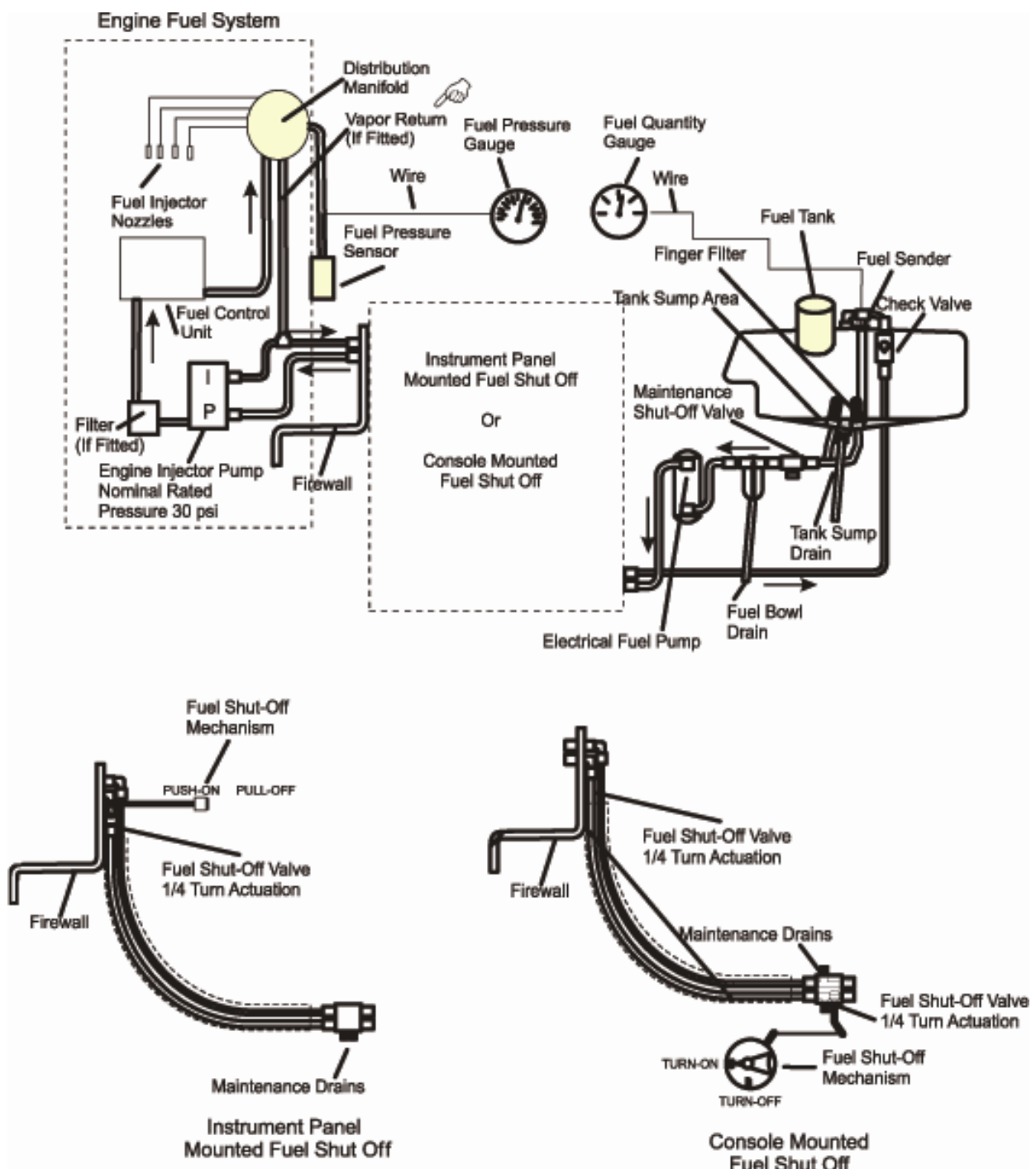


Figure 7.6 - Fuel System Schematic Diagram

7.10.1 Fuel Shut-off Valve

WARNING

THE FUEL SHUT-OFF VALVE SHOULD ONLY BE CLOSED FOR EMERGENCIES OR FUEL SYSTEM MAINTENANCE.

There are two different versions of fuel shut-off valves in the DA20-C1.

Version 1

The fuel shut-off valve is located on the cabin side of the firewall and is controlled by a handle on the right side center pedestal. To activate the fuel shutoff valve, lift the handle release lock and pull the handle out. In the open position the knob is in. In the closed position the knob is out.

Version 2

The fuel shut-off valve is integral to the maintenance drain manifold, located below the fuel tank. It is actuated by the center console mounted rotary lever, via a rigid pushrod. To activate the valve, rotate the lever clockwise from OFF to ON or lift the lockout knob and rotate the lever counterclockwise from ON to OFF. The safety lockout knob prevents accidental actuation of the valve.

7.10.2 TANK DRAIN

To drain the tank sump, activate the spring loaded drain by pushing the brass tube in with a drain container. The brass tube protrudes approximately 1 1/6 in (30 mm) from the fuselage contour and is located on the left side of the fuselage, approximately at the same station as the fuel filler cap.

7.10.3 FUEL FILTER BOWL

The fuel filter bowl is between the tank and the fuel pump. The bowl acts as a trap for sediment and water that has entered the fuel line from the tank.

7.10.4 FUEL FILTER BOWL DRAIN

The filter bowl drain is next to the fuel tank drain. It operates in the same manner as the fuel tank drain.

7.10.5 FUEL DIPSTICK

A fuel dipstick, P/N 22-2550-14-00, is supplied with all aircraft to permit direct measurement of fuel level during the preflight check. On serial numbers C0056, C0066, C0067 and C0069 use fuel dipstick P/N 22-2550-17-00.

NOTE

Electric fuel gauges may malfunction. Check fuel quantity with the fuel dipstick before each flight.

To check the fuel level:

- (a) Insert the graduated end of the fuel dipstick into the tank through the fuel filler opening until the dipstick touches the bottom.
- (b) Withdraw the dipstick from the fuel tank.
- (c) Read the fuel quantity. The dipstick is calibrated in increments of 1/4 of useable fuel capacity. (21.3 US gallons/80.5 liters for Type 1 Fuel System or 24.0 US gallons/91 liters for Type 2 Fuel System).

NOTE

Several readings should be taken to confirm accuracy.

7.10.6 ELECTRIC FUEL PUMP (PRIMING PUMP) OPERATION

The DA20-C1 is equipped with a DUKES constant flow, vane type, two speed, and electric fuel pump. This pump emits an audible whine when it is switched on.

(a) Fuel Prime

The pump's high speed setting is used for priming the engine prior to engine start. The prime setting is selected by turning the FUEL PRIME switch ON. An amber annunciator indicates that FUEL PRIME ON is selected.

(b) Fuel Pump

The pump's low speed setting is required for maintaining positive fuel supply system pressures at low throttle settings. This setting is selected by turning the FUEL PUMP switch ON. This setting should be selected for any low throttle operations, including taxiing and any flight operations when engine speed may fall below 1000 RPM (e.g. stalls, spins, descents, landings, etc.).

The FUEL PUMP may also be selected ON to suppress suspected vapour formation in the fuel supply system. Smooth engine operation at high ambient temperatures with heat soaked fuel and up to and exceeding the service ceiling has been demonstrated without use of the electric pump.

NOTE

Turning the priming pump on while the engine is running, will enriches the mixture considerably. Although the effect is less noticeable at high power settings when the fuel flow rate is high, the effect at low and idle throttle settings is an over rich mixture, which may cause rough engine operation or engine stoppage. It is therefore recommended that for normal operations, the FUEL PRIME be turned OFF.