

Inspection of Europa Motor Glider Airbrakes

Classification: Mandatory

Applicability: All Europa Motor Glider airbrakes

Note: This SB is not applicable to XS or Classic standard wings.

Compliance: Before next flight

Introduction:

A case has been reported of a fast-build airbrake kit with 2 plies of "BID" missing from the laminating process.

This Service Bulletin requires an immediate inspection of the airbrake structure to ensure that the plies are present.

Action

Before next flight, position the airbrakes in the fully open position and inspect the airbrake hinge flange structure to see if the 2 plies of "BID" described on Page 6–9 and Fig 15 of the Motor Glider Build Manual are present. If the plies are present, then the edge of the plies may be clearly visible to the naked eye. If the cloths are not visible to the naked eye, then it may be that the cloths have been missed off or that the builder has chamfered the edge of the cloth and carried out a very good finishing operation, in which case the edge of the cloth may not be obvious. However, it may still be possible to identify the gradual increase in thickness from 4 to 6 plies BUT, if still in doubt, it will be necessary to measure the hinge flange thickness at each end of the airbrake and apply the following criteria:

If the thickness is greater than 0.070", the cloths have been included in the build OR

If the thickness is less than 0.070", the cloths have not been included in the build.

a) If the cloths are present, annotate the Motor Glider logbook: Service Bulletin 18 embodied, no action required".

b) If the cloths are missing, then carry out the following recovery actions:

Remove the screws retaining the airbrake piano hinges and remove them from the airbrake.

Abrade the areas to be laminated, ref: Motor Glider Builders Manual, Page 6–10, Fig 15: "Hinge flange Reinforcement"

Lay-up the 2 plies of "BID" in accordance with the Motor Glider Builders Manual, Page 6-9 and Fig. 15.

Allow to cure and finish paint as standard practice.

Action (Cont):

Using the blind holes in the airbrake hinge flange as a template drill through the remainder of the hinge flange using a 4.8mm dia. Drill – 18 positions per airbrake. If in doubt refer to Chapter 9 of the Motor Glider Builders Manual.

Re-fit the airbrake hinges in accordance with Chapter 9 of the Motor Glider Builders Manual.

Annotate the Motor Glider logbook: "Service Bulletin 18 embodied, missing 2 plies of BID added to airbrake hinge flange". If the aircraft is still in build, annotate the build record book.

Please inform Europa Aircraft of the findings and. If you have received this service bulletin and are no longer the owner of the motor glider wings, please contact: david.goddard@swiftaircraft.co.uk with contact details of the new owner.