

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT

AIR TRANSPORT GROUP

CANCELLED 27-09-2017

AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVE - GLIDERS

GFA/AD 66/SLINGSBY 15

Glider Types Affected: All Slingsby Kestrel T59A, B, C, D, E & F gliders.

Background:

This Directive arises out of Slingsby Sailplanes Technical Instruction No. 77 and local experience.

During investigation following a fatal accident, it was found that excessive wear had occurred to the rudder cables of the aircraft. Inspection of a number of gliders of the type have revealed a number of possible contributing causes to such excessive wear which however should be detectable during normal inspection procedures.

Required Action:

Before further flight carry out the following inspection procedure.

Without altering the position of the rudder pedal adjustment, feel the rudder cables at the points where the cables enter the "S" shaped tubes attached to the rudder pedals. There should be no evidence of broken wires. Check the cables with rudder pedals positioned throughout their range of adjustment and moving through their full range of control movement.

At the full forward adjustment of the rudder pedals check that the rudder cables enter the "S" tubes smoothly without any sharp bends in any position of rudder movement. Also inspect that in the rearmost pedal adjustment the cables enter the top of the "S" tubes smoothly and without any sharp bends in any position of rudder movement.

If any broken wires in the rudder cables are detected, the rudder cables must be replaced before further flight. If any sharp bends in the cables occur due to misalignment of the entry to the "S" tubes, modification will be required. If this condition occurs, contact the Chief Technical Officer Airworthiness (C.T.O.A. Gliding Federation of Australia for modification details. If broken wires in rudder cables are detected, advise C.T.O.A./G.F.A. giving details of hours in service of the subject glider.

Compliance:

Compliance with the requirements of this Directive is mandatory.

This Directive is issued pursuant to Air Navigation Regulations under delegated authority of the Secretary of Department of Transport.

Douglas Lyon

Douglas Lyon,
CHIEF TECHNICAL OFFICER AIRWORTHINESS