



THE GLIDING FEDERATION OF AUSTRALIA

**GFA AD 136**

(ISSUE 3)

## GFA AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVE

**TYPE AFFECTED:** Standard Cirrus all variants, all serial numbers.

**SUBJECT:** Fatigue life limits on the l'Hotellier coupling balls in the air brake circuit.

**BACKGROUND:** This AD was originally issued in 1979; however the original AD did not make it clear that the balls must be replaced every 500 hours and not just after the first 500 hours. The original AD also quoted an incorrect part number for the replacement ball; this is corrected in this Issue.

The replacement ball design has been modified by the manufacturer. The thread length is now slightly shorter and begins 2.5 mm below the flange. It is necessary to relieve the bellcrank hole to allow the flange to sit flat on the bellcrank surface.

Note: The general servicing requirement of AD 177 must be complied with.

**DOCUMENTATION:** Schempp-Hirth Technical Note 278-23.

**ACTION REQUIRED:** 1. The l'Hotellier coupling balls in the air brake circuit must be replaced each time they reach 500 hours in service.

The replacement part number is 961S-150-150.L3.

2. At the first installation of the coupling ball with the new part number drill a recess 2.5 mm (0.1 in) deep and 6.0 mm (0.24 in) diameter into the side of the bellcrank facing the coupling ball (drill bit included angle  $\cdot 115^{\circ}$ ) enabling the ball to tighten against the bellcrank. See figure 1.

SIGNED:

*[Signature]*  
for

CHIEF TECHNICAL OFFICER AIRWORTHINESS



For and on behalf of:

THE GLIDING FEDERATION  
OF AUSTRALIA

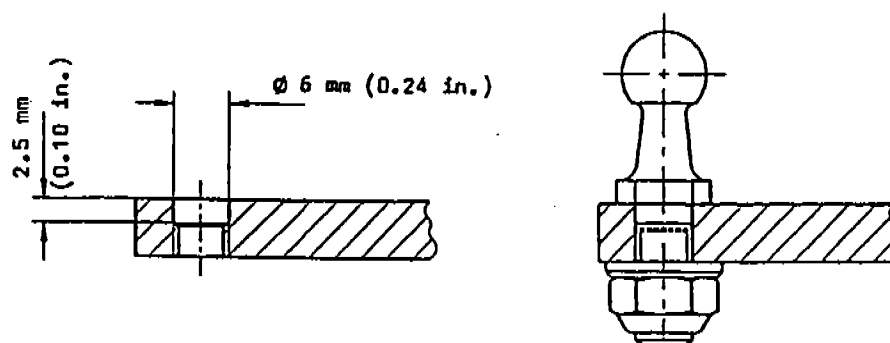
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FIGURE 1



3. In the section of the Service manual headed "Prescribed Periodic Maintenance" delete the designation of the Coupling balls and enter part No.

916S 150-150.L3

WEIGHT AND BALANCE: Not affected

IMPLEMENTATION: Replacement of the l'Hotellier coupling balls must be done by persons rated "Annual Inspections" any type.

Manual amendments may be incorporated by the owner.

COMPLIANCE: The requirements of this GFA Airworthiness Directive are mandatory. This Directive is issued pursuant to the Rules and Regulations of the Gliding Federation of Australia.