



THE GLIDING FEDERATION OF AUSTRALIA

**GFA AD 433**  
(ISSUE 2)

**GFA AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVE**

- TYPE AFFECTED:** Standard Libelle 201B  
Kestrel  
Hornet  
Mosquito and Mosquito B  
Glasflügel 304  
When fitted with water ballast bags.
- SUBJECT:** Placarding of the cockpit to prevent flight with closed water ballast valves at high altitude.
- BACKGROUND:** If the water ballast valve is closed when flying at high altitude the pressure differential between sea level atmospheric pressure in the bags and the atmospheric pressure at 16400 ft can cause wing damage.
- If Issue 1 of the AD did not make it clear that only those gliders with water ballast bags are affected. The filler caps for gliders with integral tanks are not air tight and therefore prevent excessive pressure differential.
- DOCUMENTATION:** LBA Airworthiness Directive 84-11
- ACTION REQUIRED:** 1. If an oxygen system is installed then before the next flight using oxygen a placard must be fitted as follows:
- WHEN OPERATING AT HIGH ALTITUDE WITHOUT WATER BALLAST THE WATER DUMP VALVE MUST ALWAYS BE KEPT OPEN.**
2. Whenever an oxygen system is installed a placard as above must be fitted.
- WEIGHT AND BALANCE:** Not affected.
- IMPLEMENTATION:** The placard may be fitted by the Certificate Holder.
- 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.

**SIGNED:**

CHIEF TECHNICAL OFFICER AIRWORTHINESS

For and on behalf of:

**THE GLIDING FEDERATION  
OF AUSTRALIA**

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**16 February, 1995**

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