



BGA Engineering News

Published by the British Gliding Association

Number 46, January 2008.

SEASONS GREETINGS

Christmas is now but a memory, until you next try those overalls and found they have shrunk around the middle! (again!) anyway, Happy New Year.

Inspectors should have received a letter from the BGA during December with thanks for all the extra effort supporting the transition process. We also advised of a new Inspectors Forum on the BGA web site. This is for you to use to share experiences and the like. Initially it is for the transition but we will see how it develops in the future. To access the forum visit the BGA web site: [www.gliding.co.uk / forums/](http://www.gliding.co.uk/forums/) (you need to type in the address without any spaces). Please read the sticky notices. The forum is not official BGA policy and will be moderated. It is for you to use.

NEW GLIDER C OF A ISSUES

Several owners and inspectors have experienced difficulties and delays, applying for initial issue EASA C of A's using the CAA's processes. This is mainly due to an exceptionally high workload for the CAA during the EASA change over.

We have agreed with the CAA that the BGA can issue New BGA C of A's on newly imported gliders and self sustainers. Once the BGA C of A is issued the gliders will then pass into the transition process. As with all other transitioning gliders the BGA C of A can only legally be validated until 28 September 2008, however the EASA C of A and ARC will be valid for a full year and overwrite the BGA C of A once issued. The fee for an initial issue and transition will be the same as existing transitioning gliders. For full details and documents required see the BGA TNS 6-2007 or contact the BGA office.

EASA GLIDER TRANSITION ARRANGEMENTS PROGRESS REPORT

The transitions are progressing well, however there is still a hold up at the CAA due to the late approval by EASA. To negate the impact we are now renewing all BGA C of A's up till 28 September 2008 so that you can continue to use the aircraft. Once the new EASA C of A and ARC are issued, the BGA C of A will be invalid as it is over written by the EASA documents. The validity of the EASA ARC will revert to the C of A anniversary plus any anticipation (up to 90 days)

We have some common errors on the transition paperwork: TCDS number and revision missing, Airworthiness Directives numbers not listed, Compliance statement not completed, Lifer items calculation confusion.

In the New Year there will be a revised set of forms hopefully to help with the problems and correct errors.

Sometimes we do have to reject transition packs (some twice!) due to basic information missing or serious omissions. We do not want to reject any as it creates more work for us and slows down the process.

Please check and double check your pack before sending in, I recommend getting another inspector to review it first if at all possible. Also to help us, type written forms (word doc) are far quicker to process as some of the hand writing is difficult to read (understatement!).

Please work with on this. Thanks.

INSPECTOR TRAINING

Spaces still available at the following seminars.:

Bristol & Glos. Gliding Club, Nympsfield, 12 January 2008

Cambridge Gliding Club, Gransden Lodge. 26 January 2008

Scottish Gliding Union, Portmoak, 17 February 2008

RAF GSA Halton, Aylesbury, 5 April 2008.

(Note: for the Halton seminar, booking is only by e-form and vehicle details are required. It will not be possible to attend if not booked)

Further venues will be published on the BGA web site

Advance notice:

Ulster Gliding Club, March/April 2008 date to be confirmed (Not BGA AGM or Easter weekends)

The Gliding Centre, Hus. Bos, April/May 2008 date to be confirmed

Booking is by e-form download from the BGA web site. Please book through Debbie at the BGA office debbie@gliding.co.uk

There is no charge for the seminars, delegates will need to book lunch if required (and pay for it on the day) Space is limited so preference will be given to current inspectors. We will have sufficient spaces for all inspectors to attend, however please book early as late booking may mean disappointment and having to attend a seminar outside your locality.

If you book but then cannot attend please advise us as so the space can then be offered to someone else. If you are a no show, you may be placed on a lower priority list.

BGA AGM 2008

A date for your diary.

8 March 2008 at Hellidon Lakes Hotel Golf & Country Club, Daventry.

Same venue as last year.

We shall be there to help with glider transition queries as well as the usual varied programme.

Full details with booking forms in S & G and on BGA web site soon.

ENERGY ABSORBING CUSHIONS

Further to the item in Engineering News no 45, the BGA Safety committee requested that when additional foam cushions are fitted they should be secured in position with suitable ties or Velcro. Loose cushions can work out and cause control restrictions and if not in position can be ineffective as well as uncomfortable, but being able to remove them is also useful to cater for differing occupant heights and to clean them.

Jim Hammerton
Chief Technical Officer