

British Gliding Association Aircraft Inspection

Mandatory

Number:	Issue:
016/04/2001	2

Date: 27 June 2003

Subject: Air Brake System – Failure of bevel drive gears.

Applicability: SZD 50-1 & 50-3 Puchacz

Accomplishment: Part 1 – Within 10 flight hours and at each annual C of A inspection.

Part 2 – At each Pre Flight (DI) inspection – optional.

Reason: The failure of one of the airbrake mechanism bevel gears will cause asymmetric deployment of the airbrakes, there

is a possibility that this may have contributed to a recent accident.

Instructions: Part 1.

1/ De-rig aircraft.

2/ Locate air brake bevel gears in wing root and ensure they are clean, remove excessive grease as far as possible.
3/ Using an endascope or magnifying mirror, strong light or other suitable inspection equipment inspect both bevel gears over entire visible surface and meshed area for cracks, splits, distortion, surface pits or blow holes. Slowly actuate airbrake during inspection. Pay particular attention to the root area of each tooth and the area surrounding the retention ring nut.

4/ Inspect the face of the meshing teeth for signs of foreign object damage (FOD)

Note: This inspection is very difficult, as the access is poor through the small hole in the wing rib.

5/ If any damage is found or suspected the gears must be removed from the wing and dismantled from the drive shafts for a close inspection prior to further flight. The removal of the gears will entail an access hole being cut in the wing skin. The mounting for the gears is bonded to the wing structure.

6/ The aircraft is grounded if defects are present.

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6/cont. Please inform the BGA immediately of any defects found as this may have implications for the depth of inspection required on the other aircraft. (Please use BGA 1022 Engineering Occurrence form if possible)

- 7/ Defective gears must be replaced before further flight.
- 8/ Record compliance with this inspection in the Glider log book.

Part 2 – Optional inspection.

To be carried out at each pre flight (DI) inspection and may be certified as part of the daily inspection by a qualified pilot.

- 1/ Pay special attention to the operation of the air brake system.
- 2/ Check for smooth even operation, lumpiness, stiff spots and excessive over centre lock forces.
- 3/ Any abnormality found must be investigated before flight.

Issue 2:

An improved gear is available, identified by colour black as is made from black nylon material, available from All-Star PZL Glider or Henryk Mynarski (via Stan K).

Fitment of the improved gear removes the annual inspection requirement.

Approved By
Jim Hammerton, Chief Technical Officer

(Issue 2 supersedes issue 1)