



Airworthiness Directive

AD No.: 2016-0192

Issued: 28 September 2016

Note: This Airworthiness Directive (AD) is issued by EASA, acting in accordance with Regulation (EC) 216/2008 on behalf of the European Union, its Member States and of the European third countries that participate in the activities of EASA under Article 66 of that Regulation.

This AD is issued in accordance with Regulation (EU) 748/2012, Part 21.A.3B. In accordance with Regulation (EU) 1321/2014 Annex I, Part M.A.301, the continuing airworthiness of an aircraft shall be ensured by accomplishing any applicable ADs. Consequently, no person may operate an aircraft to which an AD applies, except in accordance with the requirements of that AD, unless otherwise specified by the Agency [Regulation (EU) 1321/2014 Annex I, Part M.A.303] or agreed with the Authority of the State of Registry [Regulation (EC) 216/2008, Article 14(4) exemption].

Design Approval Holder's Name:

A. SCHLEICHER GmbH & Co Segelflugzeugbau

Type/Model designation(s):

ASK 21 sailplanes

Effective Date: 12 October 2016

TCDS Number(s): EASA.A.221

Foreign AD: Not applicable

Supersedure: None

Aircraft Flight Manual – Amendment

Manufacturer(s):

Alexander Schleicher GmbH & Co Segelflugzeugbau (hereafter referred to as Schleicher).

Applicability:

Schleicher ASK 21 sailplanes, all manufacturer serial numbers.

Reason:

A temporary rudder control blockage was reported, involving an ASK 21 sailplane equipped with a rudder hand control system. The subsequent investigation revealed significant cable slack in the rudder control system.

This condition, if not detected and corrected, could lead to reduced rudder control, possibly resulting in reduced controllability of the sailplane.

To address this potentially unsafe condition, Schleicher issued ASK 21 Technical Note (TN) 38 to provide instructions to amend the ASK 21 Aircraft Flight Manual (AFM), incorporating updated pre-flight inspection instructions to check the rudder control system of sailplanes modified in accordance with the instructions of Schleicher ASK 21 TN 25 (rudder actuated by hand lever for the front pilot seat) or TN 30 (rudder control by hand for the rear pilot seat).

For reasons described above, this AD requires amendment of the applicable Schleicher ASK 21 AFM, revising pre-flight checks of the rudder hand control system.



Required Action(s) and Compliance Time(s):

Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:

For sailplanes modified in accordance with Schleicher ASK 21 TN 25 or TN 30:

- (1) Within 60 days after the effective date of this AD, amend the applicable AFM (see Note 1 of this AD) in accordance with the instructions of Schleicher ASK 21 TN 38 and, thereafter, operate the sailplane accordingly.

Note 1: In accordance with the provisions of Commission Regulation (EU) No 1321/2014, Part M.A.803, amendment of the AFM may be accomplished by the pilot owner.

For sailplanes NOT modified in accordance with Schleicher ASK 21 TN 25 or TN 30:

- (2) Concurrently with the modification of a sailplane in accordance with Schleicher ASK 21 TN 25 or TN 30, as applicable, amend the applicable AFM (see Note 1 of this AD) in accordance with the instructions of Schleicher ASK 21 TN 38 and, thereafter, operate the sailplane accordingly.

Ref. Publications:

Schleicher ASK 21 TN 25 dated 16 February 1993.

Schleicher ASK 21 TN 30 dated 22 January 2007.

Schleicher ASK 21 TN 38 dated 31 May 2016.

The use of later approved revisions of these documents is acceptable for compliance with the requirements of this AD.

Remarks:

1. If requested and appropriately substantiated, EASA can approve Alternative Methods of Compliance for this AD.
2. This AD was posted on 29 August 2016 as PAD 16-122 for consultation until 26 September 2016. No comments were received during the consultation period.
3. Enquiries regarding this AD should be referred to the EASA Safety Information Section, Certification Directorate. E-mail: ADs@easa.europa.eu.
4. For any question concerning the technical content of the requirements in this AD, please contact:
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