



Airworthiness Directive

AD No.: 2020-0140

Issued: 23 June 2020

Note: This Airworthiness Directive (AD) is issued by EASA, acting in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2018/1139 on behalf of the European Union, its Member States and of the European third countries that participate in the activities of EASA under Article 129 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 (EU) 2018/1139, Article 71 exemption].

Design Approval Holder's Name:

STEMME AG

Type/Model designation(s):

TSA-M powered sailplanes and ASP aeroplanes

Effective Date: 07 July 2020

TCDS Number(s): EASA.A.143, EASA.A.612

Foreign AD: Not applicable

Supersedure: None

ATA 61 – Propeller – Gearbox Tooth Belt – Inspection

ATA 05 – Time Limits / Maintenance Checks – Airworthiness Limitations Section Chapter 4 – Amendment

Manufacturer(s):

Stemme AG (Stemme)

Applicability:

TSA-M S6 and S6-RT powered sailplanes, all serial numbers (s/n); and
ASP S15-1 aeroplanes, all s/n.

Definitions:

For the purpose of this AD, the following definitions apply:

The applicable ALS: Stemme Aircraft Maintenance Manual (AMM) P500-006000 Chapter 4 Airworthiness Limitations Section (ALS), and Stemme AMM K500-911962 Chapter 4 ALS, as applicable to aircraft model, including Temporary Revision (TR) 04-00-01.

The SB: Stemme Service Bulletin (SB) P062-980049.

The AMP: The Aircraft Maintenance Programme (AMP), on the basis of which the operator or the owner ensures the continuing airworthiness of each operated aeroplane. For affected Stemme TSA-M powered sailplanes and ASP aeroplanes operated under EU regulations, compliance with the



AMP is required by Commission Regulation (EU) [1321/2014](#), Part M.A.301 (c), or ML.A.301 (c), as applicable.

New and/or more restrictive tasks: This includes all tasks and limitations that are new or for which a threshold and/or interval was reduced, which were introduced into the applicable ALS (as defined in this AD) since the previous ALS Revision that is currently incorporated in the AMP.

Reason:

The airworthiness limitations for Stemme TSA-M powered sailplanes and Stemme ASP aeroplanes, which are approved by EASA, are currently defined and published in Chapter 4 of the applicable AMM. These instructions have been identified as mandatory for continued airworthiness.

Failure to accomplish these instructions could result in an unsafe condition.

During a regular incoming part inspection at Stemme, the supplier delivered a new version of the tooth belts used in the propeller gearbox. The new part (with marking “Carbon”) deviates from the previously used part (with marking “Extreme”) by its layer build up. The new tooth belt has been found airworthy, although with a reduced life limit.

Before Stemme identified the issue, new tooth belts were delivered, identified as Part Number (P/N) 830.185, the same as the previous part. These parts have to be identified by inspection, changed to P/N 832.502, and the reduced life limit implemented.

Consequently, Stemme issued the applicable ALS introducing the new life limit for the new part. Stemme also issued the SB providing additional instructions on relevant inspections and corrective actions.

For the reasons described above, this AD requires a one-time inspection of the propeller gearbox tooth belts, and, depending on findings, re-identification. This AD also requires implementation of the reduced life limit by accomplishment of the actions specified in the applicable ALS.

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

Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:

Inspection:

- (1) Within 25 flight hours or 30 days, whichever occurs first after the effective date of this AD, inspect the tooth belt in the front propeller gearbox in accordance with the instructions of the SB.
- (2) If, during the inspection as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, a tooth belt with marking “Carbon” is found, before next flight, change the P/N of that part in accordance with the instructions of the SB.

Replacement of Life Limited Parts:

- (3) From the effective date of this AD, replace each component before exceeding the applicable life limit, as specified in the applicable ALS.



AMP Revision:

- (4) Within 12 months after the effective date of this AD, revise the AMP by incorporating the limitations described in the applicable ALS.

Credit:

- (5) If, before the effective date of this AD, the AMP has been revised to incorporate the life limitations as specified in a previous revision of the applicable Stemme AMM Chapter 4, that action ensures the continued accomplishment of those limitations.

Consequently, for an aircraft to which that AMP applies, it is acceptable to accomplish the new and/or more restrictive limitations as specified in the applicable ALS, within the compliance times as specified in the applicable ALS to comply with paragraph (3) of this AD.

For that AMP, it is acceptable to incorporate the new and/or more restrictive limitations as specified in the applicable ALS, into the AMP to comply with paragraph (4) of this AD.

Recording AD Compliance:

- (6) When the AMP of an aircraft has been revised as required by paragraph (4) or (5) of this AD, as applicable, that action ensures continued accomplishment of the tasks as required by paragraph (3) of this AD for that aircraft. Consequently, after revising the AMP, as required by paragraph (4) or (5) of this AD, as applicable, it is not necessary that accomplishment of individual action is recorded for demonstration of AD compliance on a continued basis.

Part Installation:

- (7) From the effective date of this AD, it is allowed to install a tooth belt with marking “Carbon” in the front propeller gearbox, provided that the P/N of that part has been changed in accordance with the instructions of the SB.

Ref. Publications:

Stemme AMM P500-006000 Chapter 4 ALS dated 04 March 2019, including TR 04-00-01 dated 05 May 2020.

Stemme AMM K500-911962 Chapter 4 ALS dated 03 June 2013, including TR 04-00-01 dated 05 May 2020.

Stemme SB P062-980049 dated 27 May 2020.

The use of later approved revisions of the above-mentioned 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. Based on the required actions and the compliance time, EASA have decided to issue a Final AD with Request for Comments, postponing the public consultation process until after publication.



3. Enquiries regarding this AD should be referred to the EASA Programming and Continued Airworthiness Information Section, Certification Directorate. E-mail: ADs@easa.europa.eu.
4. Information about any failures, malfunctions, defects or other occurrences, which may be similar to the unsafe condition addressed by this AD, and which may occur, or have occurred on a product, part or appliance not affected by this AD, can be reported to the [EU aviation safety reporting system](#).
5. For any question concerning the technical content of the requirements in this AD, please contact: STEMME AG, Flugplatzstrasse F2 Nr. 6-7, 15344 Strausberg, GERMANY
Telephone: +49 3341 3612 0, FAX: +49 3341 3612 30, E-mail: airworthiness@stemme.de.

