



Airworthiness Directive

AD No.: 2024-0242R1

Issued: 17 January 2025

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, or Annex Vb Part ML.A.301, as applicable, 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 Annex Vb Part ML.A.303, as applicable] or agreed with the Authority of the State of Registry [Regulation (EU) 2018/1139, Article 71 exemption].

Design Approval Holder's Name:

SCHEMPP-HIRTH Flugzeugbau GmbH

Type/Model designation(s):

Standard Cirrus

Effective Date: Revision 1: 24 January 2025

Original Issue: 26 December 2024

TCDS Number(s): EASA.A.278

Foreign AD: Not applicable

Supersedure - Revision: This AD revises EASA AD 2024-0242 dated 12 December 2024; and supersedes Luftfahrt-Bundesamt (LBA) AD (LTA) 80-243 dated 13 October 1980.

ATA 27 – Flight Controls – Horizontal Tailplane Drive Lower Bearing – Modification

Manufacturer(s):

SCHEMPP-HIRTH Flugzeugbau GmbH (Schempp-Hirth)

Applicability:

Standard Cirrus, model Standard Cirrus sailplanes, having serial numbers 21, 23, 27, 30, 32, 33, 34, 36 through 52 inclusive and 54 through 120 inclusive.

Definitions:

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

Affected part(s): EL6 lower ball bearing (identified as 'type 1a' in the TN) or self-aligning lower ball bearing (identified as 'type 1b' in the TN) of elevator drive fitting.

Serviceable part: Lower bearing ring with inner bronze bushing having Part Number HS4-30.013/1 (identified as 'type 1d' in the TN).

The TN: Schempp-Hirth Technical Note (TN) 278-25 revision 1.



Reason:

Occurrences of broken outer race of the lower ball bearing (identified as 'type 1a' in the TN) of the all-moving horizontal tailplane drive fitting were reported.

This condition, if not detected and corrected, could lead to jamming of the tailplane drive and, in consequence, to loss of control of the sailplane.

To address this potential unsafe condition Schempp-Hirth published the TN at original issue, providing instructions to determine which type of the lower bearing is fitted on the sailplane, and to replace affected parts. With reference to that TN, the LBA issued the AD (LTA) 80-243.

Since that AD was issued, it has been determined that also self-aligning ball bearing (identified as 'type 1b' in the TN) is affected by the same issue. Consequently, Schempp-Hirth revised the TN to reflect that only two bearings (identified as 'type 1c' and 'type 1d' in the TN) are not affected, and EASA issued AD 2024-0242 requiring a one-time inspection to determine which type of the lower bearing is fitted on the sailplane and, depending on findings, replacement of affected part(s) with serviceable part(s).

After AD 2024-0242 has been issued, it was identified that reference to LBA AD 80-243 was omitted. This AD is therefore revised, to provide updated background context, and to formally supersede LBA AD 80-243.

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

Required as indicated by this AD, unless the action(s) required by this AD have been already accomplished:

Inspection:

- (1) Within 4 months after 26 December 2024 [the effective date of the original issue of this AD], inspect the elevator drive fitting in accordance with the instructions of the TN.

Modification:

- (2) If, during the inspection as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, an affected part is found installed, within 4 months after 26 December 2024 [the effective date of the original issue of this AD] replace that affected part with a serviceable part in accordance with the instructions of the TN.

Part(s) Installation:

- (3) From 26 December 2024 [the effective date of the original issue of this AD] do not install affected part(s) on any sailplane.

Alternative Method of Compliance:

- (4) Review of the maintenance records of a sailplane, allowing determination of which bearing of horizontal tailplane drive fitting is installed, is an acceptable alternative method to comply with the inspection requirement of paragraph (1) of this AD for that sailplane.



Ref. Publications:

SCHEMPP-HIRTH TN 278-25 revision 1 dated 09 July 2024.

The use of later approved revisions of the above-mentioned document 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. The original issue of this AD was posted on 13 November 2024 as PAD 24-138 for consultation until 11 December 2024. 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. 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](#). This may include reporting on the same or similar components, other than those covered by the design to which this AD applies, if the same unsafe condition can exist or may develop on an aircraft with those components installed. Such components may be installed under an FAA Parts Manufacturer Approval (PMA), Supplemental Type Certificate (STC) or other modification.
5. For any question concerning the technical content of the requirements in this AD, please contact: Schempp-Hirth Flugzeugbau GmbH, Kребenstr. 25, 73230 Kirchheim, Germany. Telephone: +49 7021 72980; e-mail: info@schempp-hirth.com

