



EASA Decision not to adopt Luftfahrt-Bundesamt AD 93-035

EASA considerations, leading to the decision not to adopt Luftfahrt-Bundesamt (LBA) AD 93-035

On 21 January 1993, LBA issued Lufttüchtigkeitsanweisung (LTA) 93-035, applicable to all hot air balloons with propane fuel cylinders of aluminium, type “Worthington”.

That LTA (AD) requires filling, testing and weighing of each cylinder and inspection of the bleed valve. Any defective valve must be replaced, either with a new valve, or loose dip tubes must be soldered onto the valve (silver filler). As long as the dip tubes have not been soldered, the AD requires repetitive annual inspections for condition of the cylinder and bleed valve.

Initially, EASA considered that, in light of the Applicability description (the AD does not identify any product, part or appliance for which Germany is the State of Design), this AD could not be considered as a ‘State of Design’ AD. Effectively, it had not been ‘adopted’ by the Basic Regulation and for that reason, it never appeared in the [EASA SP Tool](#).

More recently, it was pointed out that the AD could be interpreted as to apply to ‘all *German design* hot air balloons’ with propane fuel cylinders of aluminium, type “Worthington”. Irrespective of whether that was the LBA AD’s intent at the time, the AD remains valid in Germany as a result of this interpretation. Consequently, EASA was requested to consider this AD to be adopted for Europe-wide validity.

EASA has reviewed all available information, particularly the fact that the AD was issued more than 25 years ago and required (in principle) a one-time action (replacement of defective bleed valves) only. Since the AD was issued, new design valves have been introduced on the affected “Worthington” cylinders, which provide an equivalent level of safety to the soldering or annual inspections as required by LBA AD 93-035.

Based on these considerations, EASA have decided not to adopt LBA LTA (AD) 93-035.

In case you need further information, please contact the Safety Information Section, Certification Directorate, EASA; E-mail ADs@easa.europa.eu.

Original Signed
Cologne, 16 April 2019
