

Subject: SZD-9 bis 1E - Notification of unapproved parts installed**Ref. Publications:**

None.

Applicability:

Zakład Szybowcowy “Jeźów” (ZSJ) SZD-9 bis 1E “Bocian” sailplanes, all serial numbers.

Description:

EASA has been informed that the Type Certificate Holder – ZSJ installed an unapproved rubber cord (see Figure 1) into the Main Landing Gear (MLG) shock absorber assembly of SZD-9 bis 1E sailplanes. This unapproved part consists of a shock ring in the form of a closed-loop hoop that does not require the ends to be joined.

According to ZSJ, this practice has been in place since at least 2019 and was related to market unavailability of the relevant approved part.



Figure 1 - Unapproved Rubber Cord

In March 2026, ZSJ published SIL-002/ZSJ/2026 to indicate that this unapproved part cord was eligible to be installed in SZD-9 bis 1E sailplanes. However, this document was subsequently withdrawn following indications from the Polish Civil Aviation Authority.

According to the instructions provided by the Technical Service Manual of SZD-9 bis 1E sailplanes, the rubber cord shock absorber should be replaced before exceeding four years since first installation.

This is information only. Recommendations are not mandatory.

Therefore, it is likely that several sailplanes have shock absorbers installed that exceeded the recommended interval for replacement, or shock absorbers with an unapproved part installed.

At this time, the safety concern described in this SIB is not considered to be an unsafe condition that would warrant any Airworthiness Directive (AD) action under Commission Regulation (EU) [748/2012](#), Part 21.A.3B.

Recommendation(s):

EASA recommends owners, operators, and maintenance organisations to inspect the MLG shock absorber and determine whether the MLG shock absorber is an approved part.

If any unapproved part is found during the inspection, it is recommended that the unapproved part is quarantined to prevent (re-)installation.

Contact(s):

For further information contact the EASA Safety Information Section, Certification Directorate.
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