


EASA	AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVE
	<p>PAD No.: 12-089</p> <p>Date: 25 July 2012</p> <p>Note: This Proposed Airworthiness Directive (PAD) is issued by EASA, acting in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 216/2008 on behalf of the European Community, its Member States and of the European third countries that participate in the activities of EASA under Article 66 of that Regulation.</p>
<p>In accordance with the EASA Continuing Airworthiness Procedures, the Executive Director is proposing the issuance of an EASA Airworthiness Directive (AD), applicable to the aeronautical product(s) identified below. All interested persons may send their comments, referencing the PAD Number above, to the e-mail address specified in the 'Remarks' section, prior to the consultation closing date indicated.</p>	
Design Approval Holder's Name: GROB AIRCRAFT AG	Type/Model designation(s): Grob G 109 powered sailplanes
Approval Number: LBA Kennblatt 817	
Foreign AD: Not applicable	
Supersedure: None	
ATA 27	Flight Controls – Elevator Control Rod in the Vertical Fin – Inspection / Replacement / Revision
Manufacturer(s):	Burkhart Grob Luft- und Raumfahrt GmbH & Co. KG, Grob-Werke GmbH & Co. KG.
Applicability:	Grob G 109 and Grob G 109 B powered sailplanes, all serial numbers.
Reason:	<p>Corroded and cracked elevator control rod in the vertical fin on a Grob G 109B powered sailplane has been reported.</p> <p>The technical investigation revealed that water had soaked into the elevator control rod through a control bore hole and resulted in corrosion damage and, in case of water freeze between the external control rod and the internal mass balance, in crack of the elevator control rod in the vertical fin.</p> <p>This condition, if not detected and corrected, could lead to failure of the elevator control rod, possibly resulting in loss of control of the sailplane.</p> <p>To address this unsafe condition, Grob Aircraft AG published Service Bulletin (MSB) 817-64 providing instructions for elevator control rod inspection and replacement.</p> <p>For the reasons described above, this AD requires accomplishment of inspections of the elevator control rod in the vertical fin and, depending on finding, its replacement with a serviceable part, as well as a revision of powered sailplane Aircraft Maintenance Manual (AMM).</p>
Effective Date:	[TBD: 14 days after final AD issue date]

<p>Required Action(s) and Compliance Time(s):</p>	<p>Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Within 25 flight hours or 60 days, whichever occurs first after the effective date of this AD, and thereafter at intervals not to exceed 5 years, inspect the elevator control rod in the vertical fin in accordance with accomplishment instructions of MSB817-64. (2) If, during the inspections as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, any cracked and/or corroded elevator control rod is detected, before next flight replace the elevator control rod with a serviceable part in accordance with accomplishment instructions of MSB817-64, as applicable to sailplane model. (3) If, during the inspections as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, only slight signs of corrosion of elevator control rod in the vertical fin are detected, before next flight, clean the rod surface and apply a corrosion inhibitor in accordance with accomplishment instructions of MSB817-64. (4) Within 30 days after the effective date of this AD, incorporate all applicable changes into Grob G 109 powered sailplane's AMM in accordance with instructions MSB817-64 and, thereafter, accomplish the instructions of the amended AMM accordingly. (5) Compliance with the requirements of paragraphs (1) and (4) of this AD can be demonstrated by: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (5.1) Revising as follows, unless accomplished previously, the approved Aircraft Maintenance Programme from which the operator or the owner ensures the continuing airworthiness of each operated aeroplane: <p>Incorporate applicable maintenance requirements specified in paragraphs (1) and (4) of this AD,</p> <p>and</p> (5.2) Complying with the approved Aircraft Maintenance Programme described in paragraph (5.1) of this AD.
<p>Ref. Publications:</p>	<p>Grob Aircraft AG MSB817-64, dated 13 July 2012.</p> <p>The use of later approved revisions of this document is acceptable for compliance with the requirements of this AD.</p>
<p>Remarks:</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. This Proposed AD will be closed for consultation on 22 August 2012. 2. Enquiries regarding this PAD should be referred to the Safety Information Section, Executive Directorate, EASA. E-mail: ADs@easa.europa.eu. 3. For any question concerning the technical content of the requirements in this PAD, please contact: Grob Aircraft AD, Rudi Vodermeier, Germany Telephone: +49 (0) 8268 998 139, Fax: +49 (0) 8268 998 200 E-mail: productsupport@grob-aircraft.com.