



**Airworthiness
Directive
1999-311**

Luftfahrt-Bundesamt
Airworthiness Directive Section
Hermann-Blenk-Str. 26
38108 Braunschweig
Federal Republic of Germany

Alexander Schleicher

Effective Date: September 08, 1999

Affected:

Kind of aeronautical product:	Powered Sailplane
Manufacturer:	Alexander Schleicher, Poppenhausen, Germany
Type:	ASH 26 E
Models affected:	ASH 26 E
Serial numbers affected:	all
German Type Certificate No.:	883

Subject:

Inspection and exchange of the muffler of the power plant. Amendment and corrections of pages into the manual.

Reason:

The high grade steel plate of the muffler unfortunately turned out to be insufficiently resistant for the inner areas. In one case a muffler showed cracks in the inner area after 45 hours operating time. After 1996 a superior material for the inner parts of the muffler is used. These upgraded mufflers were marked with an „X“ at the front plate.

As an additional offer the used CFRP fairing may now be exchanged for an improved version.

Action/Compliance:

Before the next flight an inspection must be done, to see which version of muffler is installed. Upgraded mufflers were marked with the letter „X“.

If there is a muffler without „X“ marking installed and the operating time of the muffler is less than 40 hours, the CFRP-fairing of the muffler must be inspected before the next flight for overheat traces.

If the operating time of the muffler exceeds 40 hours, the front side of the muffler behind the cover plate must be inspected additionally. If no discoloration has been found, the engine could be operate for further 2 hours and must be inspected every 2 hours up to a maximum of 60 hours operating time of the muffler.

If damages or discoloration has been found during any of this inspection, the muffler must be exchanged before the next flight.

In case of powered sailplanes which use already the muffler version marked with an „X“, the muffler must be returned for an inspection to Messrs. Schleicher upon reaching 100 hours engine operating time but at latest within the next 12 month after the effective date of this AD. On all affected powered sailplanes the manual pages must be exchanged after the installation of the new muffler at latest.

Inspection and exchange of muffler and pages into the manuals must be done in accordance with the Technical Note of the manufacturer.

Technical publication of the manufacturer:

Alexander Schleicher ASH 26 E Technical Note No. 8 dated August 23, 1999 which becomes herewith part of this AD and may be obtained from Messrs.:

Alexander Schleicher
GmbH & Co.
Segelflugzeugbau

D- 36163 Poppenhausen
Federal Republic of Germany
Phone: ++ 49 6658 89-0
Fax: ++ 49 6658 89-40

Enquiries regarding this Airworthiness Directive should be referred to Mr.Olaf Schneider, Airworthiness Directive Section at the above address, fax-no. 0049 531/2355-720. Please note, that in case of any difficulty, reference should be made to the German issue!

Accomplishment and log book entry:

Action to be accomplished by an approved service station and to be checked and entered in the log book by a licensed inspector.

Holders of affected aircraft registered in Germany have to observe the following:

As a result of the a.m. deficiencies, the airworthiness of the aircraft is affected to such an extent that after the expiry of the a.m. dates the aircraft may be operated only after proper accomplishment of the prescribed actions. In the interest of aviation safety outweighing the interest of the receiver in a postponement of the prescribed actions, the immediate compliance with this AD is to be directed

Instructions about Available Legal Remedies:

An appeal to this notice may be raised within a period of one month following notification. Appeals must be submitted in writing or registered at the Luftfahrt-Bundesamt, Hermann-Blenk-Str. 26, 38108 Braunschweig.