Airworthiness Directive

AD No.: 2017-0136

Issued: 31 July 2017

Note: This Airworthiness Directive (AD) is issued by EASA, acting in accordance with Regulation [EC] 216/2008 on behalf of the European Union, its Member States and of the European third countries that participate in the activities of EASA under Article 66 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, 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 agreed with the Authority of the State of Registry [Regulation (EC) 216/2008, Article 14(4) exemption].

Design Approval Holder’s Name: ALEXANDER SCHLEICHER GmbH & Co. Segelflugzeugbau

Type/Model designation(s): ASK 21, ASW 22, ASH 25 and ASH 26 E powered sailplanes

Effective Date: 14 August 2017

TCDS Number(s): EASA.A.221, EASA.A.217, EASA.A.213 and Luftfahrt-Bundesamt Germany (LBA) Kennblatt No. 883

Foreign AD: Not applicable

Supersede: None

ATA 78 – Exhaust – Silencer – Replacement

Manufacturer(s): Alexander Schleicher GmbH & Co. Segelflugzeugbau (hereafter referred to as ‘Schleicher’)

Applicability: Schleicher ASK 21 Mi, ASW 22 BLE 50R, ASH 25 M (including those with sales designation ASH 25 Mi) and ASH 26 E powered sailplanes, all manufacturer serial numbers.

Reason: Occurrences were reported of finding cracks on exhaust silencer part number (P/N) 800.65.0001, installed on ASK 21 Mi powered sailplanes. Subsequent investigation determined that the affected part is susceptible to fatigue cracking and is also installed on other Schleicher powered sailplanes.

This condition, if not corrected, could lead to heat damage in the engine compartment and to the engine installation, possibly resulting in reduced control of the powered sailplane.

To address this potentially unsafe condition, Schleicher issued Technical Note (TN) ASK 21 Mi No. 11, TN ASW 22 BLE 50R No. 16, TN ASH 25 M/Mi No. 32 and TN ASH 26 E No. 19 (single document, hereafter referred to as ‘the TN’ in this AD), to provide replacement instructions.

For the reasons described above, this AD requires replacement of the affected exhaust silencer with an improved part and introduces installation restrictions of a part with P/N 800.65.0001.
Required Action(s) and Compliance Time(s):
Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:

Note 1: Exhaust silencer P/N 800.65.0001 is hereafter referred to as ‘affected exhaust silencer’ in this AD.

Note 2: For the purpose of this AD, Group 1 powered sailplanes are those that, on the effective date of this AD, have an affected exhaust silencer (see Note 1 of this AD) installed. Group 2 powered sailplanes are those that do not have an affected exhaust silencer installed.

Replacement:
(1) Before exceeding 150 engine operating hours accumulated by the affected exhaust silencer since new or 5 engine operating hours after the effective date of this AD, whichever occurs later, replace the affected exhaust silencer with an improved part, P/N 800.65.9010, in accordance with the instructions of the TN.

Parts Installation:
(2) Do not install on any powered sailplane an affected exhaust silencer, as required by paragraph (2.1) or (2.2), as applicable.

(2.1) Group 1 powered sailplanes: After modification of the powered sailplane as required by paragraph (1) of this AD.

(2.2) Group 2 powered sailplanes: From the effective date of this AD.

Ref. Publications:
Schleicher TN ASK 21 Mi No. 11, TN ASW 22 BLE 50R No. 16, TN ASH 25 M/Mi No. 32 and TN ASH 26 E No. 19 (single document) original issue dated 08 January 2016.

The use of later approved revisions of this 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. This AD was posted on 22 June 2017 as PAD 17-081 for consultation until 20 July 2017. 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. For any question concerning the technical content of the requirements in this AD, please contact: Alexander Schleicher GmbH & Co. Segelflugzeugbau, Germany Telephone +49 (0)6658 89-0, Fax +49 (0)6658 89-40, E-mail: info@alexander-schleicher.de.