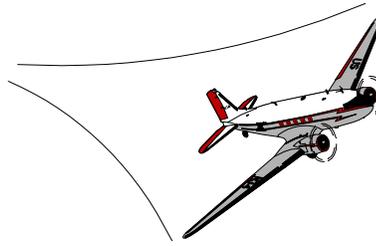


SPECIAL AIRWORTHINESS INFORMATION BULLETIN

REGULATORY SUPPORT DIVISION
P.O. BOX 26460
OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA 73125-0460



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Aviation
Administration**

No. ACE-99-32
July 15, 1999

SAIB's are posted on the internet at <http://av-info.faa.gov>

This is issued for informational purposes only and any recommendation for corrective action is not mandatory.

Introduction:

The purpose of this Special Airworthiness Information Bulletin (SAIB) is to provide safety information to Schempp-Hirth Models Janus C, Janus CM, and Janus CT sailplane owners/operators of the following:

- Horizontal Tailplane – Elevator Mass Balance (Technical Note Numbers 295-27 and 809-15)
For copies of technical notes and foreign AD, contact the FAA as listed below.

Background:

The FAA has assessed a potential safety problem that may occur on the Schempp-Hirth Models Janus C, Janus CM, and Janus CT sailplanes. There has been an in-flight flutter incident that has been attributed an incorrect mass balancing requirement of the elevator. This incident resulted in a case of elevator flutter substantial damage to the vertical fin.

Safety Issue:

The potential safety issue that may arise is an elevator flutter condition during high speed flight. The Luftfahrt-Bundesamt has issued an Airworthiness Directive, 1999-265, for the models listed above. These model sailplanes do not have a United States Type Certificate. This safety issue however, is the same whether or not the sailplanes are type certificated. The FAA highly recommends that you comply with the Technical Note listed above. A copy of this Technical Note is included for your reference.

General Information:

The FAA provides this information as a courtesy to owners/operators of the Schempp-Hirth Models Janus C, Janus CM, and Janus CT because this is a known safety issue. The FAA does not issue Airworthiness Directives for sailplanes that do not have a U.S. type certificate. This safety issue will not be tracked or enforced by the FAA. Furthermore, the FAA will not use an SAIB to track all safety related items for non-type certificated products.

For Further Information Contact:

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