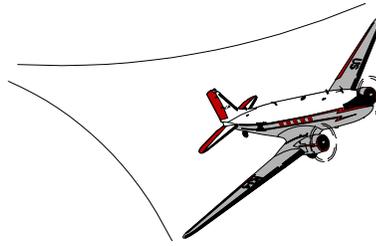


# **SPECIAL AIRWORTHINESS INFORMATION BULLETIN**

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



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

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

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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 sailplane owners on the following:

- Proper flight control rod end security

## **Background:**

During an accident inspection on a Schempp-Hirth sailplane, the jam nuts on the rod ends in the flight controls were noted for not being properly secured between the control sticks and under the pilot seats. This was not the cause of the accident; however, this is a general safety issue.

## **Safety Issue:**

The FAA recommends a one-time inspection for proper security of rod ends at all accessible locations in all flight control systems. If any of the jam nuts are found loose, a determination should be made to ensure that the rod end is threaded with the proper number of turns in the control rod. The rod end should then be properly installed. Proper security of the control rod ends should be checked during all scheduled airworthiness inspections.

## **General Information:**

The FAA provides this information as a courtesy to operators of the Schempp-Hirth sailplane owners/operators because this is a potential safety issue. 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 either type certificated or non-type certificated products.

## **For Further Information Contact:**

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