CIRCULAR LETTER No. 08
SERVICE BULLETIN No. 04
to all distributors

Checking or replacing gascolator's retaining spring on Sinus ultralight motorglider, Virus 912

MANDATORY

Please pay attention to the following safety definitions used in this service bulletin:

WARNING! Disregarding the following instruction leads to severe deterioration of flight safety and hazardous situations, including such resulting in serious injury and loss of life.

CAUTION! Disregarding the following instruction leads to serious deterioration of flight safety,may cause serious damage to the aircraft and suspend warranty.

Aircraft affected: SN.86 to SN.111

Distributors are to translate this service bulletin into their native language and forward it to all concerned owners in your area immediately.
Also, distributers must inform Pipistrel d.o.o. which concerned owners were informed about the content of this service bulletin by e-mail (pipistrel@siol.net) or FAX: +386 5 3661 263 as soon as possible.

Please see following page(s) for further details.

Eventual gascolator plastic filter damage

Problem description:

Reported on a Virus 912 aircraft, the retaining spring inside the gascolator damaged the plastic filter. Particles in fuel were therefore not detained by the filter but sucked into the carburators - concequentially the engine RPM dropped.

A mistake in production caused that an incorrect type of gasculator's retaining spring was mounted. Spring's diameter was not large enough to cover the outer-bottom wall of the filter – therefore the spring, being too narrow, penetrated through the base of the plastic filter.

Picture shows the damaged plastic filter base (highlited area) and spring. Note the base of the filter has been completely penetrated by the too narrow retaining spring.

WARNING! The malfunction of the fuel filter may cause partial or complete engine failure in any stage of flight!

Affected units:

Only the 50 ccm version of the gascolator is potentially affected by this problem. Aircraft equipped with the 50 ccm version of gascolator are Sinus and Virus from SN. 86 to SN. 111. It is also possible that a previously manufactured aircraft carries the 50 ccm version of gascolators if it was serviced and the older gascolator was replaced with the 50 ccm version.

The bigger gascolator, 110 ccm version IS NOT affected by the spring problem.

Please see photos below for recognition of units.

50 ccm version gascolator as mounted on aircraft **(affected)**

110 ccm version of gascolator **(not affected)**

Solution:

Check if the gascolator on your aircraft containes the correct retaining spring type. You fill find the retaining spring INSIDE the gascolator.
The spring MUST BE of approximately 15 mm diameter to cover the outer-bottom wall of the plastic filter. If the spring is narrower, the spring must carry a washer pressed against the filter base.

If the spring inside your gascolator has a diameter of less than 15 mm and does not have a washer on top, the retaining spring MUST BE replaced.

WARNING! The malfunction of the fuel filter may cause partial or complete engine failure in any stage of flight!

As a distibutor you are to collect orders for replacement springs. Forward the exact number of replacement retaining springs you need to Pipistrel d.o.o. as soon as possible. The replacement retaining springs will be shipped to you free of charge for further distribution to customers.

Pipistrel d.o.o.
Ivo Boscarol, GM