



SAFETY ALERT

No: SA 2015.01

Date: 8 February 2015

Subject: Goodwin Seat Tanks

A report has been received from a gyroplane manufacturer in Australia that the sight gauge material used in these tanks is subject to failure without warning. In more than one case he has found that tanks supplied as brand new and still wrapped in plastic have been delivered with the sight gauge fractured. The reason(s) for the failures have not yet been established.



Information received from another gyroplane manufacturer in Australia confirms the defects reported by the first.



The consequences of an in-flight failure of the sight gauge at the point where it enters the lower tank fitting are obvious.

- ASRA strongly recommends that pilots, owners and operators of gyroplanes fitted with any size Goodwin seat tank cease operations immediately and replace the sight gauge with high quality tubing designed and manufactured specifically for use with petroleum products.

ASRA does not normally recommend a specific brand or type of material for use in situations such as this. However, one of the reporters of the defects states that he has had success with tubing manufactured in Italy known as “Ariete Green Double Skinned 6x9”. He states that it fits the tank fittings exactly and despite its name is actually purple in colour. Any “good” motor cycle spare parts store should stock it. Another likely source of good quality tubing is www.purplepig.com.au .

The authors request that where any original tubing is found defective, that advice be provided to them at technical@asra.org.au and operations@asra.com.au .

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