

SUBJECT: REPLACING THE RG NOSE GEAR FORK ATTACH BOLTS

APPLICATION: All Glasair retractable landing gear shipped before 2/20/90.

DESCRIPTION: Recently, one of our Glasair III builders reported a serious nose gear shimmy incident resulting from a failure to tighten the nose gear shimmy damper friction collars before taxi testing. The shimmy occurred very suddenly, and sheared the stop bolt on the aft side of the friction collar, allowing the nose wheel to rotate up to 90° to the side. The resulting side loads bent the nose gear fork, breaking the screws that attach the nose fork to the oleo cylinder.

Because of the potential for costly damage from this sort of incident, we require that the nose gear fork attach bolts be replaced with larger, 1/4" diameter fasteners on all Glasair RG aircraft (Glasair I RG, Glasair II RG, Glasair II-S RG, and Glasair III).


NOTE: Very early Glasair I RG nose gear forks that mount on the upper side of the chrome oleo cylinder flange need not be modified because the fork cannot completely separate from the strut.

NOTE: For shimmy damper clamp adjustment procedures, refer to the Systems Checkout Sections in Final Assembly of your Instruction Manuals (page G-513, Glasair II; page G-586, Glasair III) or to the new-style shimmy damper clamp installation instructions (Glasair I).

SOLUTION:

Replacing the 3/16" dia. nose gear fork fasteners with larger, 1/4" bolts requires removing the old fasteners, (see the CAUTION, below), enlarging the holes with a drill, and installing the new fasteners. The estimated rework time is one hour.

CAUTION: For Glasair I RG and Glasair II RG landing gear serial numbers 401 through 465, the internal oleo cylinder pressure must be relieved before removing the nose gear fork attach bolts. This is not necessary, however, if only one bolt is removed at a time, the hole enlarged, and the bolt replaced before removing the next bolt.

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A Nose Gear Fork Fastener Modification kit (381-5351-501) is available from Stoddard-Hamilton for a cost of \$11.50. The kit consists of the following:

3 ea	AN4-11A	Bolt
3 ea	AN4-10A	Bolt
9 ea	AN960-416	Washer
3 ea	AN960-416L	Washer
6 ea	AN365-428	Nut
3 ea	DO131	Washer
1 ea	632-0195-011	Instructions

NOTE: The DO131 washers are specially machined washers that fit within the counterbored holes in the fork, and are needed only for Glasair I RGs and Glasair IIIs.

Please contact Stoddard-Hamilton Aircraft's Shipping Department to place your order, using the above-mentioned kit part number. Since Glasair II RG builders don't need the DO131 washers, they will probably prefer not to order the kit but to order the other items separately.


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