

GLASTAR SERVICE BULLETIN 44

Subject: Aileron counterweight assemblies


Applicability: All GlaStar kits

Discussion: During a routine annual condition inspection, a Glasair owner discovered evidence of rust inside the square steel tubing of the aileron counterweights. The design and installation of the Glasair aileron counterweight assemblies is substantially similar to that on the GlaStar. Because the aft end of the counterweight tube is open, it is possible for moisture to enter the tube. Although aileron deflection would tend to drain any moisture that had collected inside the tube, it is possible that moisture could remain in the tube of a parked airplane for a considerable period of time.

The rust observed in the subject counterweight arm tubes was surface rust only, and the likelihood of any structurally significant rust taking hold inside the tubes is extremely small. However, this would be an easy area to overlook during condition inspections, and it does warrant monitoring by Glasair owners.

Recommended Action: In the course of each annual condition inspection, *remove* the aileron counterweight assemblies and inspect for rust inside the tubes. If any evidence of rust is found, use mechanical means (e.g., a thin wire brush, ScotchBrite on a dowel, etc.) to remove it and treat the interior of the tube with a chemical corrosion neutralizer such as Corrosion X or Lockrite Extend.

If no evidence of rust is found, preventative treatment with a chemical rust inhibitor is still recommended.

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