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Manufacturing Organisation - M677

**SERVICE BULLETIN**

#0012 Revision 1

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**(The Airplane Factory (Pty) Ltd. considers compliance with all Service Bulletins mandatory)**

**NOTE: THIS SERVICE BULLETIN REPLACES SERVICE BULLETIN #0012 (REVISION 0) IN ITS ENTIRTY**

**SERVICE BULLETIN #0012 (REVISION 0) IS ACCORDINGLY CANCELLED WITH EFFECT FROM 19/08/2025**

**RELEASE DATE:** 19 August 2025

**REASON FOR REVISION 1:** Update to list of affected models

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** 7 February 2018

**SUBJECT:** Potential risk of failure when attempting to activate the parachute rocket due to incorrect installation of rocket activation cable.

**MODELS AFFECTED:** Sling LSA, Sling 2, Sling 2 Taildragger and Sling 4 manufactured before the effective date (07/02/2018).

**COMPLIANCE TIME:** Before the next flight.

**DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE:**

The Service Bulletin provides instructions for the inspection and if required the rectification of the parachute rocket activation cable attachment.

**PARTS AND CONSUMABLES LIST:**

- a) Loctite 243 medium threadlocker or equivalent;
- b) PVC release agent such as Micon Pink PVA release liquid;
- c) Acrylic sealant such as Pattex acrylic sealant;
- d) 3.2mm x 8mm domed pop rivets;
- e) 0.4mm shim stock or equivalent (small piece);

Directors M Blyth, A Pitman, J Pitman

- f) Benzine or equivalent cleaning and degreasing agent;
- g) Touch up paint.

#### **TOOLS REQUIRED:**

- a) 2.5mm Allen key;
- b) 3.2mm Drill bit;
- c) Drill (electric, pneumatic);
- d) 8 x 3.2mm clecos;
- e) Cleco pliers;
- f) Rivet gun.

#### **INSTRUCTIONS:**

For the Sling LSA, Sling 2 and Sling 2 Taildragger:

- 1 . Safety lock the activation handle on the instrument panel so that the parachute rocket cannot accidentally be activated.
2. Climb under the dash on the left-hand side to get to where the base of the rocket is located.
3. Slide the heatshrink back and look at the base of the rocket where the activation cable is attached.
4. Check that the activation cable steel end piece protrudes beyond the rocket base by 1 — 2mm.
5. If no part of the steel end piece is visible, then undo the grub screw using the 2.5mm allen key and slide the cable outwards until it clearly stops in position (figure 2).
6. Very carefully put a small drop of Loctite onto the screw threads and firmly retighten the grub screw.
7. Slide the heatshrink back into place.

For the Sling 4 Serial Number 003 to 063:

- 1 . Safety lock the activation handle on the instrument panel so that the parachute rocket cannot accidentally be activated.
2. Using your 3.2mm drill bit, drill out all rivets associated with removing the skin covering the rocket. This is the skin closest to the radio antenna (rearmost skin).

3. Using an inspection mirror to inspect base of rocket. Slide the heatshrink back that is covering the base of the rocket where the activation cable is attached.
4. Check that the activation cable steel end piece protrudes beyond the rocket base by 1 — 2mm.

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5. If no part of the steel end piece is visible, then undo the grub screw using the 2.5mm allen key and slide the cable outwards until it clearly stops in position.
6. Very carefully put a small drop of Loctite onto the screw threads and firmly retighten the grub screw.
7. Slide the heatshrink back into place.
8. Set up your 0.4mm shim stock to look like figure 4.
9. The shim is to be used between the rivet and the parachute skin. The process is to ensure a 0.4mm gap between the rivet head and skin, allowing the skin to be easily removed by the rocket (figure 3).
10. Clean both contact surfaces using benzine until free from both PVA release agent and acrylic sealant.
11. Attach skin temporarily using 3.2mm clecos to mark airframe skin as a guideline to apply the PVC release and acrylic sealant using a pencil or masking tape.
12. Apply a thin coat of PVC release agent on both contact surfaces of airframe and parachute skin — wait until completely dry.
13. Apply acrylic sealant on airframe side — This needs to be a thin layer, just enough to ensure seal between the two skins. This is to prevent water/moisture from entering and damaging the parachute.
14. Install skin using 3,2mm clecos and ensure good fit, eliminating any deformation in the skin.
15. Rivet the skin on using 3.2mm x 8mm domed rivets, ensuring the installation of each rivet has the 0.4mm shim between rivet head and skin.
16. Pull the shim out from under the rivet head after riveting.
17. Touch up paint where necessary.

For the Sling 4 Serial Number 064 onward:

- 1 . Safety lock the activation handle on the instrument panel so that the parachute rocket cannot accidentally be activated.
2. Undo the 8 screws securing the rocket cover skin and remove the skin to allow access to the rocket.
3. Slide the heatshrink back and look at the base of the rocket where the activation cable is attached.

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4. Check that the activation cable steel end piece protrudes beyond the rocket base by 1 — 2mm.
5. If no part of the steel end piece is visible, then undo the grub screw using the 2.5mm allen key and slide the cable outwards until it clearly stops in position (figure 2).
6. Very carefully put a small drop of Loctite onto the screw threads and firmly retighten the grub screw.
7. Slide the heatshrink back into place.
8. Refit the rocket cover skin.

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## DIAGRAMS:

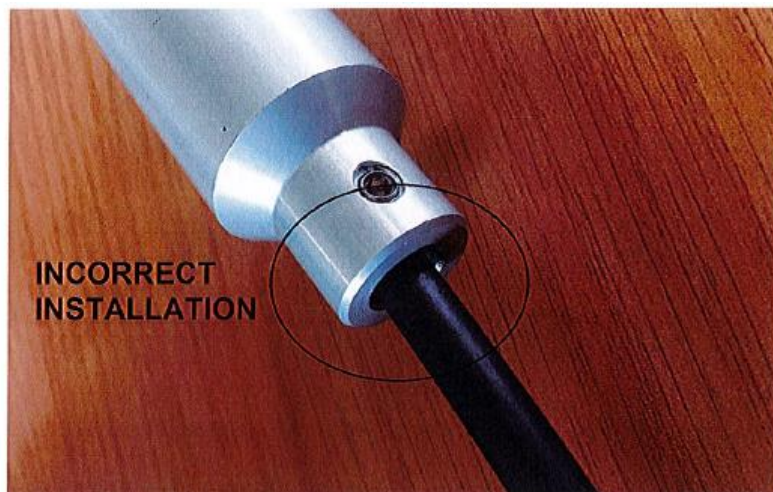


Figure 1 shows no steel end piece protruding and indicates an incorrect installation.

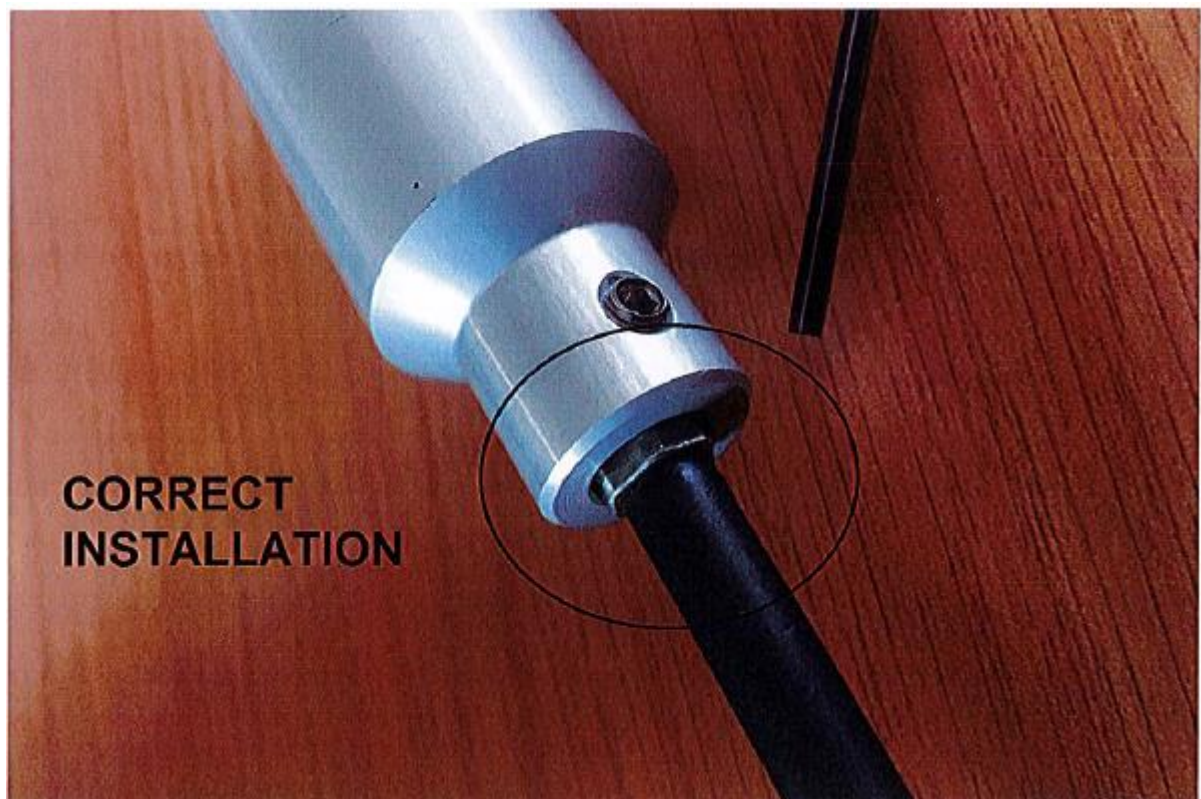


Figure 2 shows the steel end piece protruding out of the rocket base and indicates a correct installation.

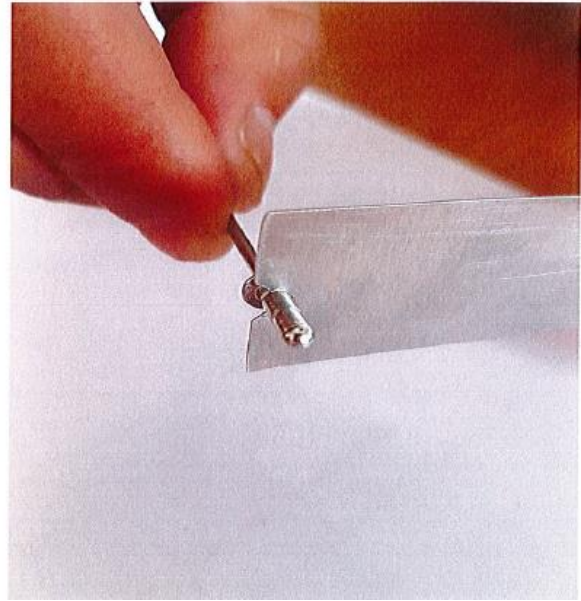
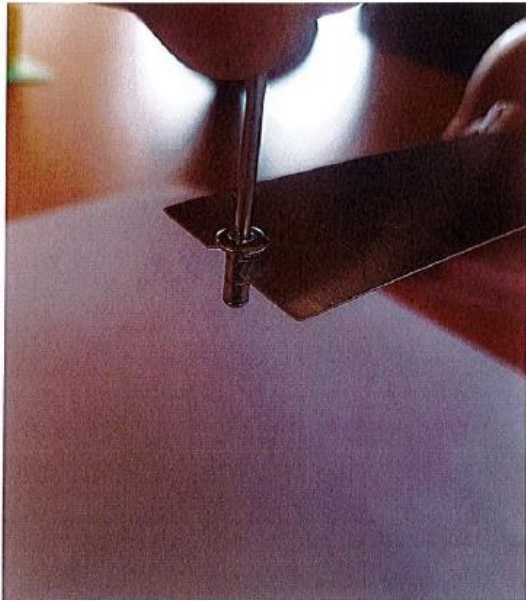


Figure 3 shows the how to set up your shim stock

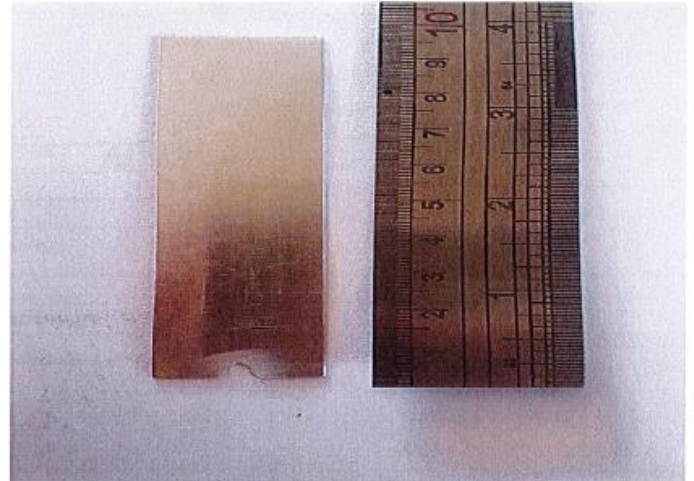
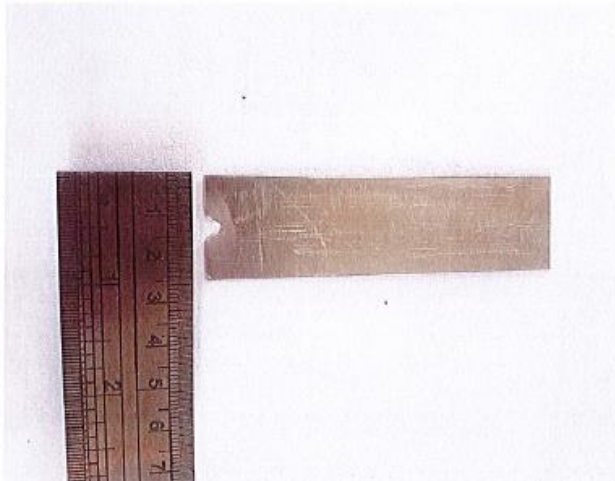


Figure 4 shows the size of the shim stock

Signed on this the 19th day of August 2025

*JAL Pitman*  
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**ACCOUNTABLE MANAGER**  
**MR JAMES PITMAN**