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SERVICE INFORMATION LETTER

SIL-001/SZD/2026

DATE: September 14th, 2026

SUBJECT: Mandatory one-time glider inspection to determine details regarding the installation of an unapproved part - a rubber main landing gear shock absorber.

S/N AFFECTED: All s/n of the SZD-50-3 "Puchacz" glider.

TIME OF COMPLIANCE: Before the next flight.

NOTE

Please review the contents of this document thoroughly to fully understand the information it contains.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

This document contains important information for ensuring the reliable operation of SZD-50-3 "Puchacz" gliders, for which Allstar PZL Glider Sp. z o.o. holds the Type Certificate.

The reason for introducing the SIL is the discovery of main landing gear rubber shock absorbers installed in non-conformity with the approved Type Design.

The change in the material and type of rubber cord resulted from the commercial unavailability of rubber cord manufactured in accordance with the PN-58/C-94130 standard.

The approved shock absorber is made of an aeronautical rubber cord with a diameter of 20 mm, compliant with the PN 58/C 94130 standard, with the overlapping cord ends bound by whipping (Figure 1).

The unapproved shock absorber is a ring measuring $\varnothing 19.1 \text{ mm} \times 266.7 \text{ mm}$ ($3/4" \times 10 \frac{1}{2}"$), manufactured by SBC Industries, Inc. (Scottsboro, AL, USA) in accordance with the MIL C 5651 Type II standard (Figure 2).

It should not be difficult to distinguish between the two types of shock absorbers (cord diameter, colour and connection method).



Figure 1 Approved rubber shock absorber



Figure 2 Non-approved rubber shock absorber

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GUIDELINES FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SIL

To unequivocally identify the type of rubber shock absorber used in the main landing gear of the SZD-50-3 "Puchacz" glider, a visual inspection of the component as installed in the main landing gear assembly must be performed.

The subject of the inspection is the main landing gear rubber shock absorbers (item A4-7 in the Spare Parts Catalogue, corresponding to drawing 503.00.10.00/30), and the objective is to determine whether the glider is equipped with shock absorbers that comply with the approved Type Design.

Two shock absorbers (shock-absorbing loops) are installed in the main landing gear shock-absorbing assembly.

It is not necessary to remove the shock absorbers from the glider or to disassemble the glider itself to perform the inspection.

The inspection should be performed by the user, the owner, or a service facility.

POST-INSPECTION PROCEDURES

If an inspection reveals that shock absorbers of an unapproved type are installed on a glider, that glider must be withdrawn from service until shock absorbers compliant with the approved Type Design are installed.

In case of doubt, please contact techsupport@szdallstar.com

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