

SERVICE INFORMATION LETTER**SIL SSP-007**Initial allocation: 09th January 2017

Aircraft Type: All airplanes (both gliders and motorised aircraft) used for acrobatic flying and equipped with SCHROTH restraint systems, P/N 4-01-(), 4-02-(), 4-03-(), or 4-04-().

System: Restraint systems P/N: 4-01-(), 4-02-(), 4-03-(), and 4-04-().

Subject: Restraint systems with SCHROTH rotary buckles, in particular SCHROTH rotary buckle types SL 10.xx and SL 12.xx.

Applicability: SCHROTH harness restraint systems used for acrobatic flying (aerobatic).

Further Applicable Documents: SCHROTH CMM 25-04-01, latest issue.

Background:

This Service Information Letter has been issued to advise acrobatic aircraft operators of potential issues with some SCHROTH harness restraint systems if used for acrobatic flying. Affected restraint systems use various SCHROTH rotary buckle types, particularly buckle types SL 10.xx and SL 12.xx.

It has been noted that in some cases it is possible that an individual latch of the restraint system could be unfastened from the buckle without prior activation of the release mechanism.

Investigation has shown that this effect is caused by certain patterns of load changes that typically occur during acrobatic flying in combination with very tightly attached belts. Such operating conditions may result in unusually high abrasive wear of the retaining pins and/or the latches which, in turn, creates the conditions for an inadvertent release of an individual latch.