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31 January 2001

ZENAIR ZODIAC MAIN WING SPAR SPLICE PLATES

Attached is a letter from Chris Heintz the Designer of the Zodiac which forwarded a number of drawings on Zenair Zodiac splice plates. This has been forwarded to the AUF in an air of urgency because there may be dimensional problems which can lead to reduced wing strength.

The drawings forwarded with the letter cannot be read with the Adobe Acrobat version 3X readers: Adobe Acrobat 4X readers are required. So, if it has been a long time since you downloaded your reader, check which version you have by going to your C drive, find Adobe Reader, find the ".exec file", right click on it, select properties, select version (at the top) and make sure it is version 4 (something). If you do not have version 4, go back to the top of the airworthiness page beneath the index of aircraft, left click the Adobe link and download. This will be the latest version. It is free from Adobe with no strings attached. You will be required to pay your ISP as usual, but the actual programme is free.

All owners and builders are warned that there could be a problem with these plates and that if they wish to fly, they should take appropriate action to determine the integrity of their aircraft before they do so.



R Hewitt-Cook
Technical Manager

Attachment: Chris Heintz Letter dated 29 Jan 2001 (with drawings - Acrobat Reader Version 4X required)

January 29, 2001

Dear ZODIAC builder:

Upon inspection of several aircraft, it has come to my attention that some wing splice plates installed in ZODIAC aircraft do not meet the specifications shown on the Zodiac drawings, and that the design tolerance is not met. Check your wing spar splice plates, especially the rear plates, to verify that they are the correct size.

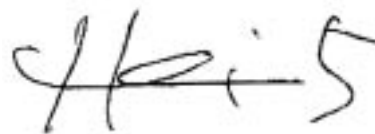
If the size of the splice plates is smaller than the dimensions specified on the drawings, and/or the edge distance of the holes is less than specified, the structural integrity of your aircraft will be affected. While I'm not aware of any spar splice plate failures, take the time to check your splice plates and replace them if required. If the spar splice plates do not meet the specifications the load capabilities of the aircraft (G loads) are diminished, and the fatigue life of the aircraft is reduced.

How to check for correct measurements: Refer to the attached drawing for details.

If you find that your splice plate(s) do not meet the specifications, replace them with new splice plates. Zenith Aircraft Company will send you replacement splice plates (free of charge). Use the attached form to request replacements. The new splice plates will need to be drilled, and will be shipped with instructions.

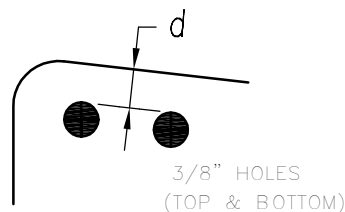
If you have sold your kit or aircraft, please forward this letter to the new owner. I apologize for this inconvenience, but please take the time to verify this and correct the splice plates if required. Contact me if you have any questions regarding this, or contact Zenith Aircraft Company.

Regards,

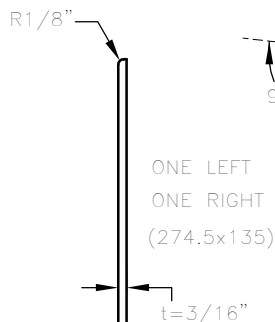
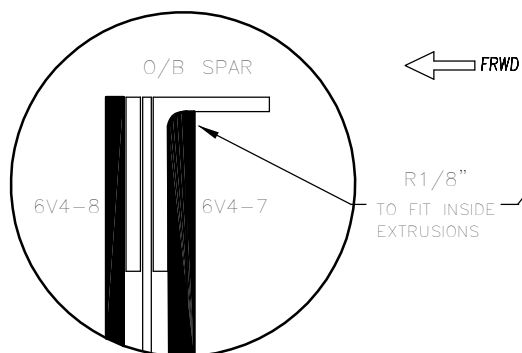


Chris Heintz,
Designer.

Enclosures.



MINIMUM ACCEPTABLE: 10.0mm
 DISTANCE "d" IS MEASURED FROM THE EDGE OF THE 3/8" HOLES TO THE EDGE OF THE PLATES 6V4-7, 6V4-7HD AND 6V4-8.
 REFERENCE: CONSTRUCTION MANUAL PAGE 16

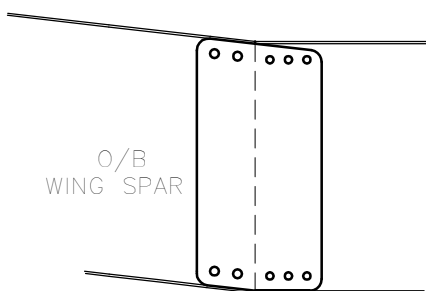


6V4-7 REAR PLATE
 6061-T6, t=3/16" (1L + 1R REQ'D)

6V4-7HD REAR PLATE
 6061-T6, t=3/16" (1L + 1R REQ'D)

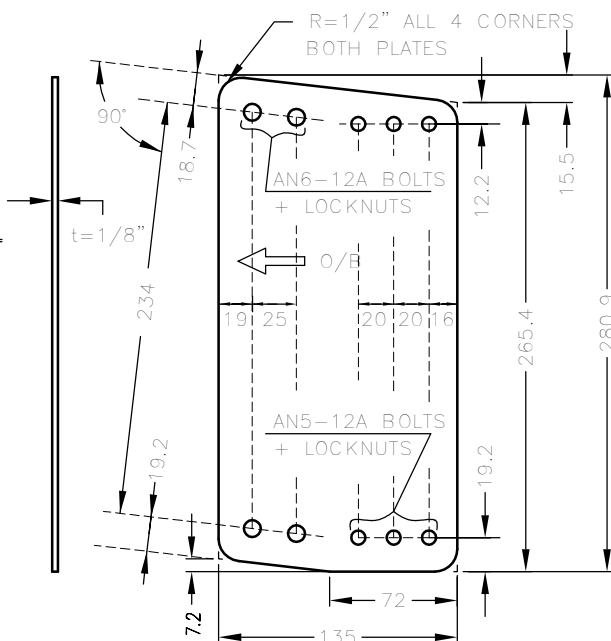
CHECK 1: THE SIZE OF THE PLATES; THE REAR PLATE 6V4-7 JUST FITS INSIDE THE OUTBOARD WING SPAR. THE TOP AND BOTTOM EDGES ARE PARALLEL WITH THE SIDES OF THE SPAR (FRONT & REAR PLATES)

CHECK 2: MEASURE "d" ON THE FRONT AND REAR PLATES TO THE EDGE OF THE EIGHT 3/8" HOLES: TWO UPPER, TWO LOWER - LEFT AND RIGHT SIDES.



CHECK 3: MEASURE THE DISTANCE "d" FROM THE EDGE OF THE 3/8" HOLES DRILLED IN THE OUTBOARD SPAR TO THE INSIDE EDGE OF THE SPAR EXTRUSION.

REPLACEMENT PLATES: USE 4130N t=1/8" WHEN THE DISTANCE "d" FALLS WITHIN THE RANGE OF 6mm TO 9.9mm (THE LOCATION OF THE 3/8" HOLES DRILLED IN THE OUTBOARD SPAR CAUSES "d" TO BE LESS THAN 10mm.) STAY WITH 6061-T6 IF "d"=10 OR GREATER.



6V4-8 FRONT PLATE
 6061-T6, t=1/8" (2 REQ'D)

NOTE: SAME LAYOUT AS 6V4-7 BUT BIGGER ON TOP AND BOTTOM BY 3.2mm REFERENCE: DRWG 6-V-4

ZODIAC
 CH601HD

ORIGINAL INFO
 01/25/01

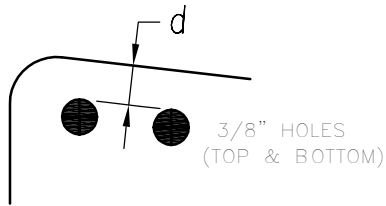
DESCRIPTION

HD WING SPAR SPLICE PLATES

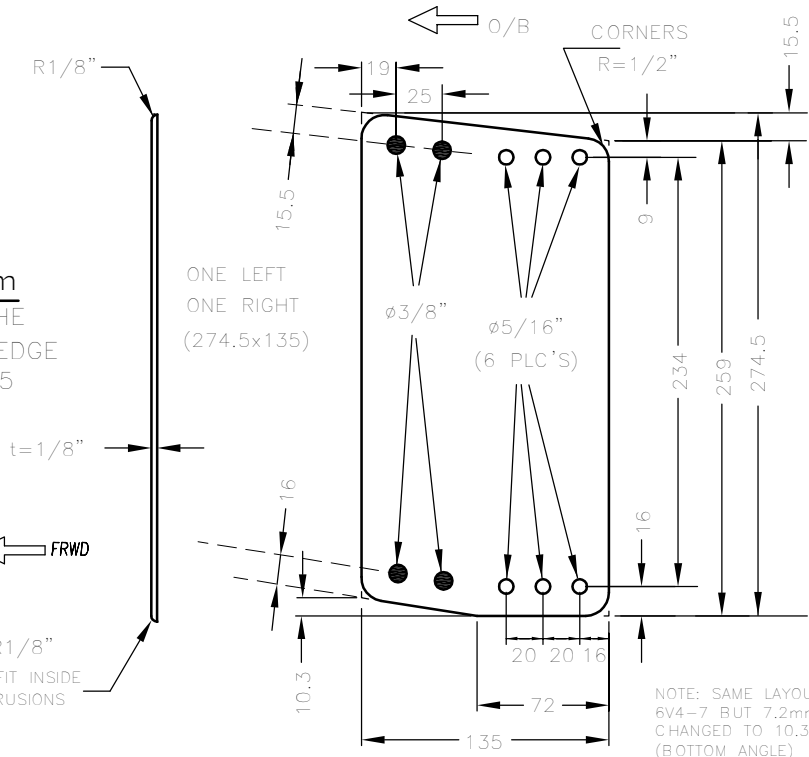
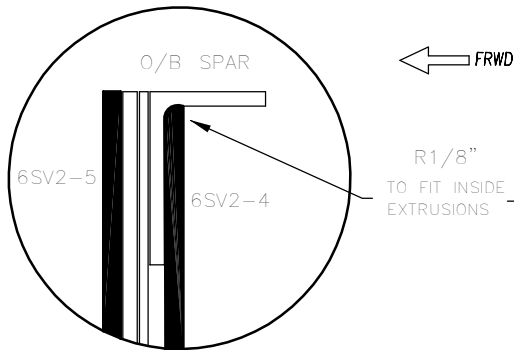
PART NO.

6V4-7

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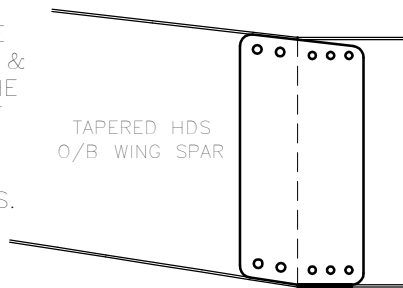
MINIMUM ACCEPTABLE: 10.0mm
 DISTANCE "d" IS MEASURED FROM THE
 EDGE OF THE 3/8" HOLES TO THE EDGE
 OF THE PLATES 6SV2-4 AND 6SV2-5
REFERENCE: 601 CONSTRUCTION
 MANUAL PAGE 16



6SV2-4 REAR PLATE (REPLACE 6V4-7HD)
 6061-T6, t=1/8" (1L + 1R REQ'D)

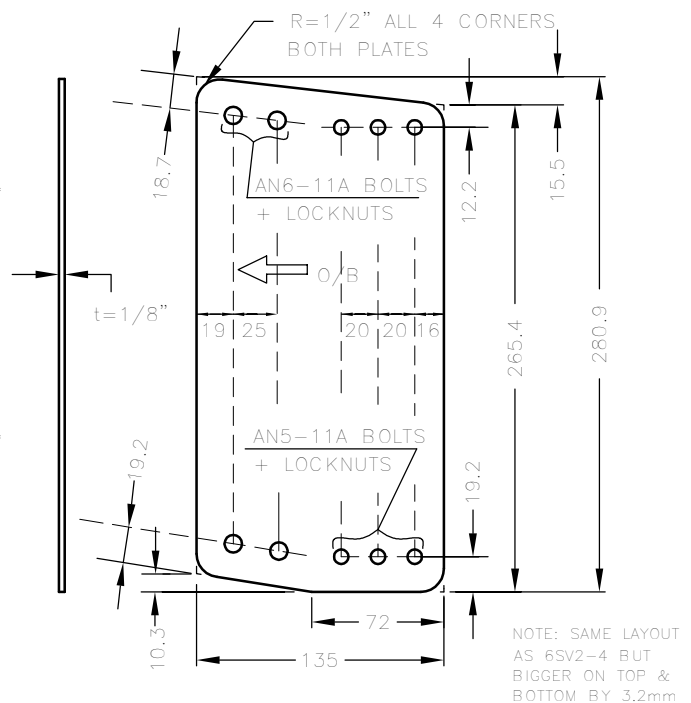
CHECK 1: THE SIZE OF THE PLATES; THE
 REAR PLATE 6SV2-4 JUST FITS INSIDE THE
 OUTBOARD WING SPAR (THE EDGES RUN
 PARALELL TO THE SIDES OF THE SPAR).

CHECK 2: MEASURE
 "d" ON THE FRONT &
 REAR PLATES TO THE
 EDGE OF THE EIGHT
 3/8" HOLES : TWO
 UPPER, TWO LOWER,
 LEFT & RIGHT SIDES.



CHECK 3: MEASURE THE DISTANCES
 "d" FROM THE EDGE OF THE 3/8" HOLES
 DRILLED IN THE OUTBOARD SPAR TO THE
 INSIDE EDGE OF THE SPAR EXTRUSION.

REPLACEMENT PLATES: USE 4130N t=1/8"
 WHEN THE DISTANCE "d" FALLS WITHIN THE
 RANGE OF 6mm TO 9.9mm (THE LOCATION
 OF THE 3/8" HOLES DRILLED IN THE
 OUTBOARD SPAR CAUSES "d" TO BE LESS
 THAN 10mm.) STAY WITH 6061-T6 IF "d"=10
 OR GREATER.



6SV2-5 FRONT PLATE (REPLACE 6V4-8)
 6061-T6, t=1/8" (2 REQ'D)

CLARIFICATION: ADDED NEW PART NUMBER 6SV2-5 FOR THE FRONT PLATE TO DISTINGUISH THEM FROM THE REAR PLATES 6SV2-4

ZODIAC
 CH601HDS

ORIGINAL INFO
 01/25/01

DESCRIPTION





HDS WING SPAR SPLICE PLATES

PART NO.

6SV2-4

ZENITH AIRCRAFT COMPANY

KIT PART REPLACEMENT REQUEST FORM

WING SPAR SPLICE PLATES: See attached drawing to determine which plates are required:	Aluminum Plate Rear Plate: Front Plate:		4130N Steel Plate Rear Plate: Front Plate:	
	 (if 'd' = 10 mm. or greater)		 (if 'd' = 6 to 9.9 mm.)	
Quantity Required:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Zodiac Model: HD HDS UL

Aircraft Serial Number: Date Kit Purchased: _____

Name: _____

Shipping Address: _____

Telephone: _____

E-mail: _____

Fax or mail this form:

**Zenith Aircraft Company
 PO Box 650
 Mexico, MO 65265-0650 USA
 FAX: 573-581-0011**