

LINDSTRAND HOT AIR BALLOONS LTD

SERVICE INSTRUCTION NO. 2

Issue 1, Dated 20 August 2007

Title: Inspection of Basket Wires

Classification: Advisory

Applicability: All Lindstrand Baskets

Compliance Standard: Achieve During Next Annual / 100 Hour Inspection

Background

During a pre-flight inspection a large Double-T basket wire was found to be worn so much that several strands of the wire were broken. The damage occurred at the top frame where the wire comes through the rounded stainless steel bush (see Photo 1). The basket was five years old with two hundred and ninety flight hours. Investigation of the component showed that many of the wire strands had worn through. It is believed that most of the wear has been caused by driving the balloon to and from the flight with the burner frame erected.

Inspection Instructions

The current Maintenance Schedule identifies that the basket wires must be inspected. This Service Instruction is to identify the best way of establishing the condition of the basket wires:

1. Fold back or pull to one side the leather stub pocket as much as possible using a screwdriver if necessary.
2. Shine a torch down inside the stub pocket and pull the plastic wire cover tubing away from the basket top frame.
3. If necessary use a screwdriver to lever the basket foam padding out of the way so that the wire can be seen.
4. If any wire strands are broken or are flattened at the point where the wires come out of the bush then the basket leathers must be removed to facilitate a closer inspection.
5. Count the number of broken or damaged strands.

6. If more than ten strands are broken then the basket wire must be repaired or replaced in accordance with the Maintenance Manual instructions.

Skill Level

The skill level required to conduct this inspection is standard. This means that pilots are capable of completing the inspection.

Documentation

Details of broken or damaged wire strands must be noted within the aircraft log book. If the inspection is accomplished as part of an annual / 100 hour inspection then this must be completed by a qualified inspector.



Photo 1 - Broken Wire