

## SERVICE ALERT

May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2005

### **Fuel tank bushing failure.**

At Sun n Fun this year we had a failure of the rubber fuel tank bushing .Upon inspection it appeared

to have been torn. The tank hole was inspected and a slight burr was evident so we proceeded to better deburr the hole. The thought at that time was that the burr caused the failure.

However after the show the plane was parked in the trailer and upon opening th trailer a few days ago we noticed an order of fuel and an empty tank. Once again the bushing appeared torn.

The tank was removed and a test performed where by a new bushing was inserted and about 1 gallon of fuel was poured in. At about 36 hrs I noticed a bit of seepage around the bushing and the bushing seemed to be slightly swelled up and not fitting tightly against the tank. I pushed on the bushing a bit and a small tug caused the bushing to fail looking just like the others.

I am going to investigate this further tomorrow and will contact my supplier .So far all I know is the bottom of the bushing has a number 83 on it. My first thought is that what I received was a bushing made of something other than Buna N. I don't want to speculate at this time but I just want to alert anyone who picked up a kit or bought any of those fittings within the last 6 months to give them look. Also if you bought a wing tank kit in the past 6 months. If you see an 83 on the bottom just send them back to CGS for replacement.

It appears that if you have a bad one the defect will show up in about a week or less when totally submerged in fuel. It seems that when it's bad it presents itself rather quickly. I've had these type fittings in tanks for years and never had this happen. We will replace any bushings that you might suspect as being bad if you have any doubt send it in.. As I learn more I'll certainly pass it on.

Let as many Hawk Owners you know about this alert.

Thanks

Chuck Slusarczyk Pres.