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Subject: INSTALLATION OF FAIRINGS
AND GAP SEALS ON EAGLE II
AIRCRAFT

We are pleased to note that more than 200 Christen Eagle II aircraft are now flying. Factory personnel and the Eagles Team pilots have had the opportunity to see some of these aircraft at air shows and have been surprised to notice that some builders are flying their Eagles without fairings and gap seals installed. For optimum performance, and particularly for flight safety, we strongly recommend that all Eagle II builders install the fairings and gap seals prior to test flights. The installation is detailed in the 922 Fairings Kit and the 923 Covering and Prefinishing Kit.

Fairings are part of the aerodynamic design of the Eagle, particularly the wing root and stabilizer root fairings. If the wing root and stabilizer root fairings are not installed air is disturbed as it passes along the surfaces of the wings and stabilizers, lowering control efficiency. It is hazardous to operate the aircraft without these fairings in place because spin characteristics and spin recovery characteristics may be adversely affected. I-strut fairings are not critical for safety, but their absence reduces aileron efficiency.

The gap seals are also part of the aerodynamic design, reducing air movement through the gap between the wings and ailerons, the rudder and tail, and the stabilizers and elevators. Absence of gap seals reduces control system efficiency because it allows turbulence to develop adjacent to the control surface gaps. Installation of the gap seals increases control response and decreases control pressures by as much as 20%.

Eagle II owners and builders who have not installed the fairings and gap seals should do so as soon as possible to ensure safe flight characteristics and optimum Christen Eagle II performance.

ENCLOSURES:

None