

TOTAL PERFORMANCE **VAN'S AIRCRAFT**

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Service Letters and Bulletins: www.vansaircraft.com/public/service.htm

SERVICE BULLETIN 13-12-12

Date Released: December 12, 2013

Date Effective: December 12, 2013

Subject: Sealing avionics bay to prevent water intrusion.

Affected Models: All RV-12 SLSA aircraft serial numbers up to and including 12012 and Fuselage Kits shipped prior to December 13, 2013.

Required Action: Seal avionics bay at F-1201H Upper Fwd Fuse Doubler and F-1240 Upper Forward Fuselage Skin interface.

Time of Compliance: At or before the next annual condition inspection.

WARNING! Avoid flight in precipitation prior to complying with this bulletin. If flight in precipitation cannot be avoided, the pilot should be prepared for possible electrical failures.

Synopsis:

Aircraft in the field experienced electrical failure caused by water entering avionics bay. Without seal, water may infiltrate structure between mating surfaces of F-1240 Upper Forward Fuselage Skin and F-1201H Upper Fwd Fuse Doubler.

Method of Compliance:

Flying aircraft: (see Figure 1)

Step 1. Remove the right and left instrument panels to gain access. If a Skyview screen is installed, remove it instead of the instrument panel on that side.

Step 2. If necessary, remove the transponder.

Step 3. Apply release agent, such as Boelube, to the inner surface of the F-1240 Upper Forward Fuselage Skin. This will allow the skin to be removed later if required.

Step 4. Apply approximately 1/4 in. radius fillet of sealant, such as Permatex 16BR Black Silicone Adhesive Sealant #81158 or equivalent, per manufacturer's instructions to the inside corner formed by the F-1240 Skin and F-1201A Firewall Upper and allow to cure.

Aircraft under construction: (see Figure 2)

Step 1. Remove, if/as required, the F-1240 Upper Forward Fuselage Skin and apply a release agent to the area of the F-1240 which mates to the F-1201H Upper Fwd Fuse Doubler.

Step 2. Apply approx. 1/16 diameter bead of sealant (see above) to the entire length of the F-1201H Upper Fwd Fuse Doubler.

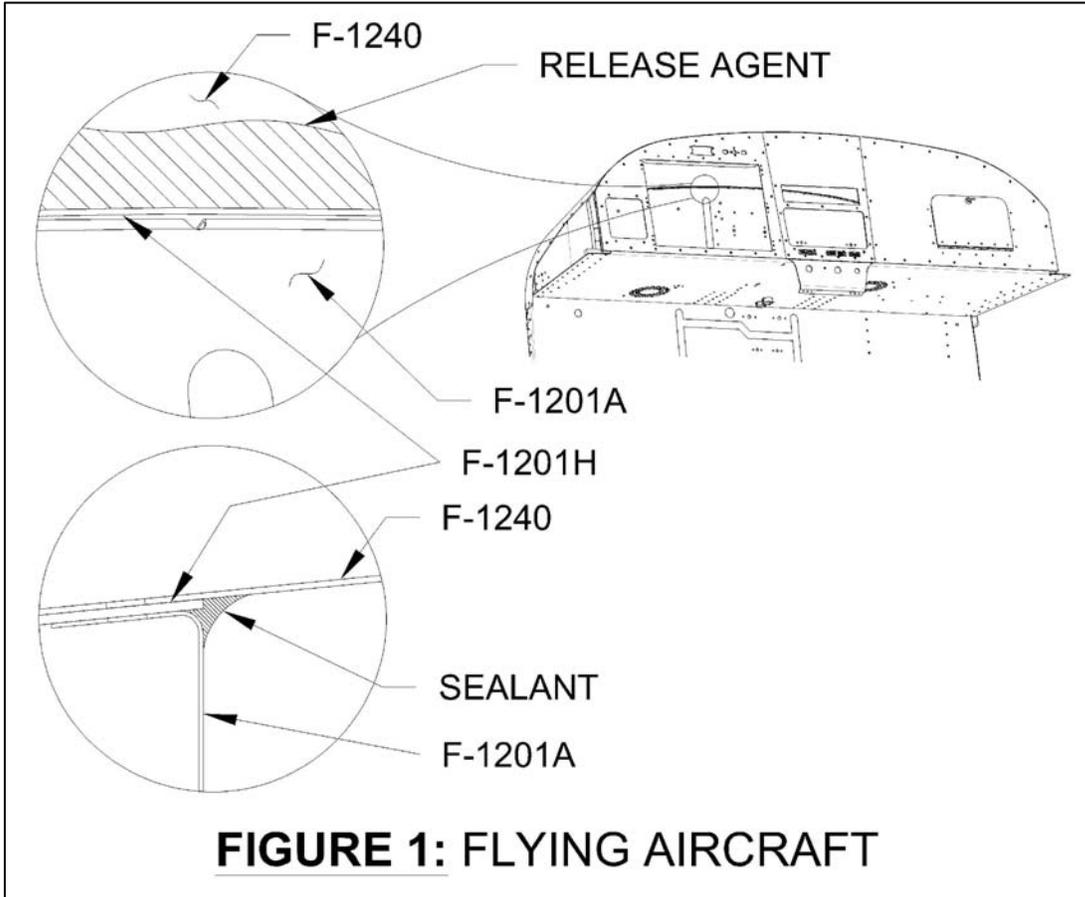
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Step 3. Install (or re-install) the F-1240 Upper Forward Fuselage Skin and allow sealant to cure.



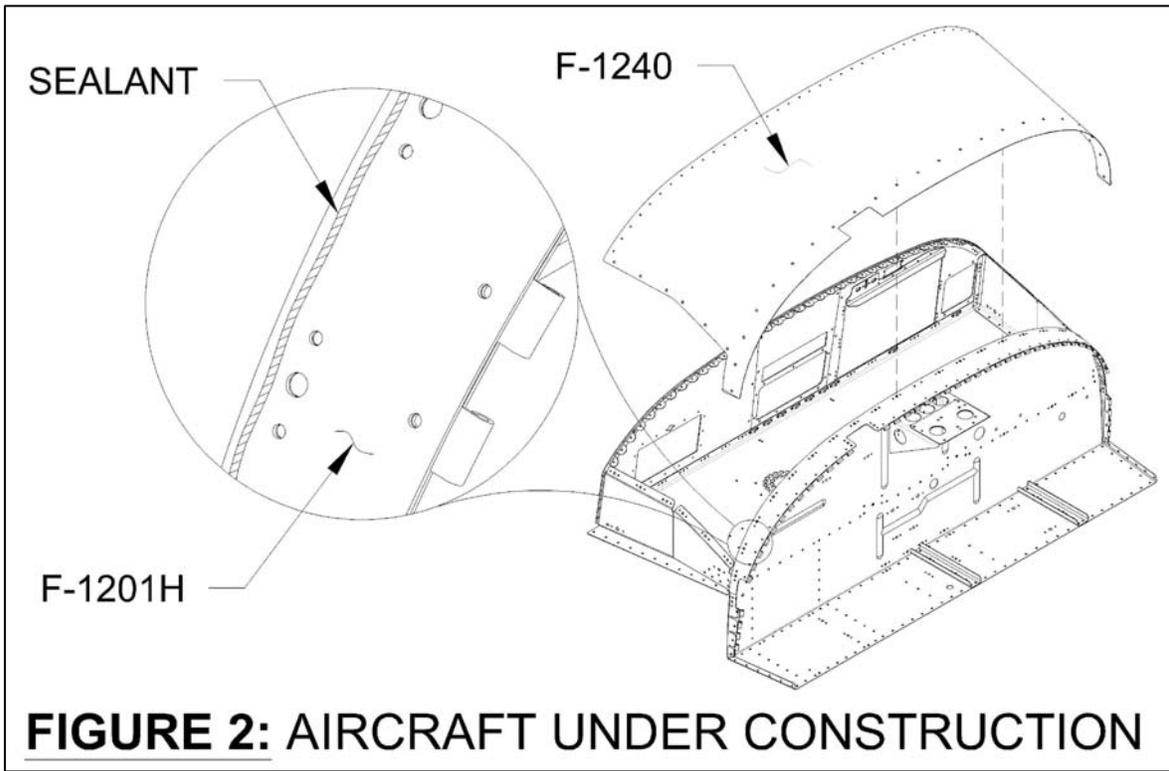


FIGURE 2: AIRCRAFT UNDER CONSTRUCTION