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SERVICE LETTER 00091 - REV 1

Date Released: November 11th, 2023 (REV 1)

Date Effective: November 9th, 2023

Subject: Laser Cut Parts and Certification of Aircraft

Affected Models: All RV models with installed laser cut parts classified as “replacement recommended”
See VAD-10041 Laser Cut Parts List

Required Action: Inspection of parts labelled “replacement recommended” until further update

Time of Compliance: See the Synopsis section below

Supersedes Notice: None

Labor Required / SLSA Warranty Allowance: None at this time

Level of Certification: SLSA: LSA Repairman Maintenance or A&P
ELSA: Owner (certification not required)
Check the rules of the local controlling authority/agency and the operating limitations for your aircraft.

Synopsis:

The FAA issued an email notification to its inspectors related to certification of RV aircraft containing laser cut parts in “critical structures.” These parts are classified as “replacement recommended” in the Laser Cut Parts List (VAD-10041) as published by Van’s Aircraft. Laser cut parts were produced for Van’s Aircraft by an outside supplier from January 2022 to June 2023. All testing to date has shown that there is no immediate airworthiness concern for aircraft with laser cut parts. In addition, there is no immediate need to replace laser cut parts that are already installed in an aircraft prior to inspection for certification. Van’s Aircraft has conducted an analysis of the airworthiness and service life of these parts. A summary of this investigation, “Laser-Cut Parts Engineering Evaluation,” is available on the Van’s Aircraft website.

Van’s Aircraft is in the process of planning its parts replacement program and will release further information regarding the method and time of compliance for inspection, repair or replacement of laser cut parts.

Aircraft with “replacement recommended” laser cut parts may continue to be certified and operated.