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Astro SB001 - Propeller Mount Mandatory Replacement

Date Released: September 30th 2021

Subject: Propeller Mount Replacement

Effectivity: Effective immediately and implemented into design of record

Required Action: Replace Propeller Assemblies with Freefly provided upgraded hardware

INTRODUCTION

This service bulletin is being issued to operators who own an Astro with the following serial numbers shipped before 10/1/2021. This bulletin requires mandatory action to remove and replace propeller mount hardware:

109AFDAB	1090EBB4	109DB04C	1096779D	1091B94A
109CDDFE	109079BF	109D3DA6	109D3C14	109F2237

BACKGROUND

During extended testing, the engineering team has discovered that the mount assembly used on the affected aircraft holding the propellers to the motor can fail if the parts have been previously damaged and have a high number of lifetime flight hours. Since these parts must last the lifetime of an aircraft, the design has been upgraded. Any Astro not listed here is unaffected by this bulletin.

Scope: Any units that shipped after 10/1/21 have the latest version of parts and no action is required.

DISCUSSION

Freefly has flown over 500 hours with the original propeller mount design. After seeing a single failure of this part in testing, we feel that that design should be more robust to ensure that even with damage the part will outlast the aircraft lifetime. As a precautionary measure, we are limiting the lifetime of the current design to 100 flight hours and also requiring a replacement of these parts for any units in the field.

Additional documentation

- [Work Instructions for hardware replacement](#)

If you purchased replacement propeller sets, these will be replaced as well. Please discard old assemblies.

RECOMMENDATION

1. Action: Immediate assembly replacement
 - a. Freefly will contact each customer with affected unit serial numbers and send the customer a replacement set of propeller assemblies to install on each aircraft (as well as replacements for spare prop kits)
 - b. Customer will follow the [Assembly Instructions](#) for removing and replacing the propeller assemblies
 - c. The old propeller assemblies must be discarded once they are removed from the aircraft.

For Service Information Contact Freefly Customer Support: Support@freeflysystems.com \ <http://www.freeflysystems.com/support>