



Airworthiness Directive

AD No.: 2018-0181

Issued: 27 August 2018

Note: This Airworthiness Directive (AD) is issued by EASA, acting in accordance with Regulation (EC) 216/2008 on behalf of the European Union, its Member States and of the European third countries that participate in the activities of EASA under Article 66 of that Regulation.

This AD is issued in accordance with Regulation (EU) 748/2012, Part 21.A.3B. In accordance with Regulation (EU) 1321/2014 Annex I, Part M.A.301, the continuing airworthiness of an aircraft shall be ensured by accomplishing any applicable ADs. Consequently, no person may operate an aircraft to which an AD applies, except in accordance with the requirements of that AD, unless otherwise specified by the Agency [Regulation (EU) 1321/2014 Annex I, Part M.A.303] or agreed with the Authority of the State of Registry [Regulation (EC) 216/2008, Article 14(4) exemption].

Design Approval Holder's Name:

BALÓNY KUBÍČEK spol. s r.o.

Type/Model designation(s):

BB Hot Air Balloons

Effective Date: 03 September 2018

TCDS Number(s): EASA.BA.003

Foreign AD: Not applicable

Supersedure: None

ATA 53 – Fuselage – Envelope Vertical Load Tapes – Inspection

Manufacturer(s):

Balóny Kubiček spol. s r.o.

Applicability:

BB hot air balloons, serial numbers 1292, 1331, 1360, 1364 and 1397.

Definitions:

For the purpose of this AD, the following definition applies:

The SB: Service Bulletin (SB) No. BB/52.

Reason:

Investigation prompted by a BB hot air balloon accident revealed a failure of an envelope vertical load tape. It was determined that other balloon envelopes might be affected as well.

This condition, if not detected and corrected, could result in envelope tear, leading to an uncontrolled descent with consequent injury to balloon occupants and persons on the ground.

To address this unsafe condition, Balóny Kubiček spol. s r.o. issued the SB, providing inspection instructions to detect a weaving defect on a load tape.



For the reason described above, this AD requires a one-time inspection of all the load tapes and, depending on findings, repair of the balloon by replacing any load tape having a weaving defect.

Required Action(s) and Compliance Time(s):

Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:

Inspection:

- (1) Within 30 days after the effective date of this AD, inspect all the load tapes (White PES Tape 20 kN, width 25 mm, thickness 2,7mm, lined with black threads by sides) in accordance with the instructions of the SB.

Corrective action:

- (2) If, during the inspection as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, any discrepancy is detected as specified in the SB, before next flight, accomplish the repair in accordance with the instructions of the SB.

Ref. Publications:

Balóny Kubíček spol. s r.o. SB No. BB/52 original issue dated 23 July 2018.

The use of later approved revisions of the above-mentioned document is acceptable for compliance with the requirements of this AD.

Remarks:

1. If requested and appropriately substantiated, EASA can approve Alternative Methods of Compliance for this AD.
2. Based on the required actions and the compliance time, EASA have decided to issue a Final AD with Request for Comments, postponing the public consultation process until after publication.
3. Enquiries regarding this AD should be referred to the EASA Safety Information Section, Certification Directorate. E-mail: ADs@easa.europa.eu.
4. Information about any failures, malfunctions, defects or other occurrences, which may be similar to the unsafe condition addressed by this AD, and which may occur, or have occurred on a product, part or appliance not affected by this AD, can be reported to the [EU aviation safety reporting system](#).
5. For any question concerning the technical content of the requirements in this AD, please contact: Balóny Kubíček spol. s r.o., Telephone +420 545 422 620, E-mail: technical@kubicekballoons.cz, Website: <http://www.kubicekballoons.eu>.

