

LAA/AWA/21/08
1st November 2021

Europa Aircraft – All Variants

Door Losses

There have been several incidents of Europas having one of its gull-wing doors come open during flight, often resulting in the loss of the door due to the hinges of the rapidly opening door failing in overload. The most recent door-loss incident, earlier this year, resulted in one of the tailplanes being struck and damaged by the departing door.

It is considered most likely that the door losses are due to mis-latching the door before take-off, therefore a means to prevent further occurrences has been designed and is the subject of an LAA Standard Modification. Due to the potential for catastrophic consequences should a Europa suffer a door loss in future, LAA Airworthiness Information Leaflet MOD/247/012 has been issued making this Standard Mod mandatory, to be accomplished before the next 5 flying hours or the next Permit to Fly revalidation, whichever is the sooner.

An aerodynamically shaped stop (see photo), secured to the fuselage outside surface immediately aft of the door where the rear shoot-bolt would go should the door not be closed properly, has been shown to be effective in alerting the occupant that the door is not properly closed and its installation is described in LAA [Standard Mod SM15833](#).



A copy of LAA AIL MOD/247/012 can be downloaded [HERE](#).