



08/2014: Service Bulletin Carbon Seatboards

It has increasingly come to our notice that there are pilots flying with a damaged or even broken carbon seatboard, without being aware of this situation. The problem is one that can apply to all harnesses with a carbon seatboard, irrespective of the harness manufacturer.

A carbon seatboard can be damaged by a hard landing, rough usage, incorrect packing – and so on. Splintered carbon fibres are very sharp-pointed and sharp-edged. A damaged carbon seatboard (especially the damage at the edge of the board) can do damage to your harness, and, in the worst case, weaken an important load-bearing feature of the harness, so greatly compromising your safety.

Fundamentally this state of affairs can affect all those ADVANCE harness models that have been supplied with a carbon seatboard – whether routinely or as an option.

We recommend a regular check of a carbon seatboard for signs of fracture, damage and splintering, especially along the seatboard edge (General rule: a yearly check or every 50 flights).

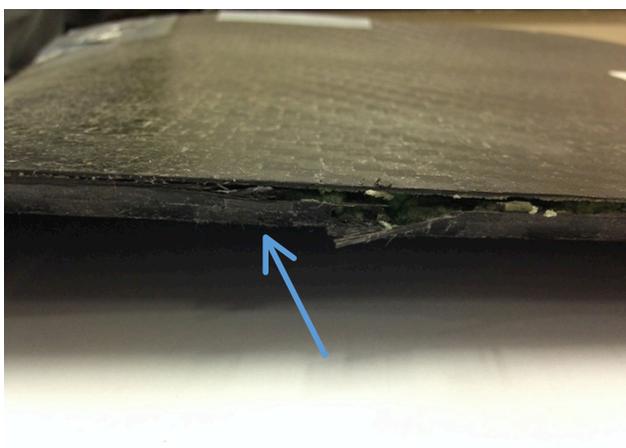
Please check the carbon seatboard in your harness as soon as possible. Here is a guide as to how to do it.

Important: When putting the seatboard back in the harness make sure that the carbon seat board is the right way up, and that the leg straps run cleanly around the board.

If you find suspected damage please go to your ADVANCE dealer, in every case; a damaged seatboard must always be replaced. Your dealer will also check whether the straps on your harness have been weakened by the damaged seatboard.

Checking

Damaged board



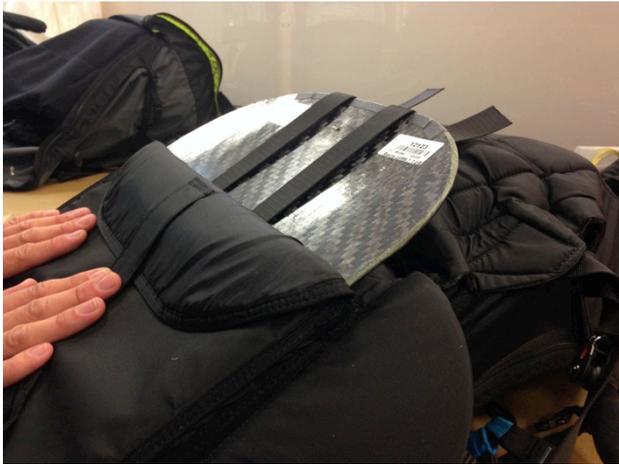
Sites likely to be affected





Removing and reinstalling the carbon seatboard

Pushing the seatboard out



Slide the leg straps to the sides and remove the board



Important: when reinstalling the seatboard make sure it is the right way up - convex side on top when flying - and that the leg straps lie cleanly around the board.

