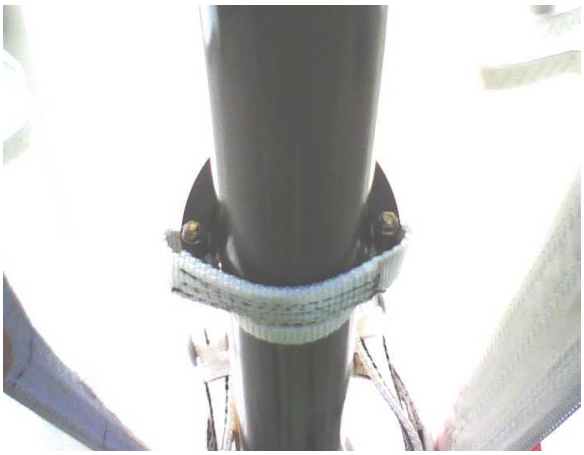
Wills Wing Technical Bulletin TB20100625

Inspection Recommendation

The rear sled on the crossbar center wedge secures the rear of the crossbar wedge to the keel via a short webbing strap. This strap is secured to the sled by two 3/16 diameter NAS 623-3-23 bolts and two 3/16 clinch nuts. The normal and correct installation of these two bolts is with the bolts inserted from the rear of the sled, so that the bolt heads are at the rear and the nuts are at the front – as shown in the first picture, on the left, below (looking aft from underneath the keel at the nose).

If the direction of installation of the bolts is reversed, as shown in the second picture, it is possible for the front edge of the keel pocket to become caught on one or the other of the two nuts when the sweep wire is tensioned. If this happens, then when the VG is activated it is likely that the force applied to the keel pocket will cause it to be torn loose from the sail, resulting in severe sail damage.



CORRECT INSTALLATION



INCORRECT INSTALLATION