

Frequently Asked Questions – Zenith CH 601XL and CH 650

Q: Are all Zenith 601 models affected by the recent FAA actions?

A: No, only the CH 601XL and CH 650 models are affected. Other models of the 601 line, such as the UL, HD and HDS are not affected.

Q: What is required for owners of CH 601 XL or CH 650 certified in the light-sport category (SLSA)?

A: These aircraft are required to follow all maintenance instructions issued by the manufacturer. AMD, the manufacturer of the SLSA versions, has issued a [safety directive](#) outlining modifications that must be made to the aircraft. These SLSA aircraft cannot be flown until the safety directive is complied with. Watch the [AMD Website](#) for further info.

Q: How long will it take to make these modifications, and how much will it cost?

A: AMD will post info in their [AMD Website](#) regarding cost and availability of modification kits. They should also be able to offer insight into how much time it will take to modify existing airplanes. Call AMD at 478-374-2759 for additional info.

Q: I have an amateur-built Zenith CH 601XL. What do I need to do?

A: Owners/operators of amateur-built and experimental light-sport (ELSA) versions of the CH 601XL are strongly encouraged to incorporate the modifications called out in the [safety directive](#) as soon as possible. Until you make the modifications called out in the safety directive, you should follow the guidance outlined in the [alert dated July 8th, 2009](#).

Q: My CH 601XL is an ELSA. What should I do?

A: Your airplane should be treated the same as the amateur-built versions of the CH 601 XL. You should incorporate the modifications outlined in the AMD [safety directive](#) as soon as possible, and before making the modifications you should operate in accordance with the information in the [alert dated July 8th, 2009](#).

Q: I'm currently building a CH 601XL. What should I do?

A: You should incorporate the [safety directive](#) that AMD has issued for the CH 601XL and CH 650 as you construct your plane. You can get an idea of what modifications are recommended by looking at these [drawings](#). Visit the [AMD Website](#) for further info.

Q: I don't want to modify the aircraft I'm flying. Do I have to?

If you are operating a Zodiac CH 601XL or CH 650 that is certificated in the light-sport category (SLSA) you are not authorized to operate the aircraft until the aircraft complies with the ADM [safety directive](#). You are required by FAR 91.327 to comply with factory safety directives.

If you are operating an experimental CH 601XL in either the amateur-built or ELSA category you are required by your operating limitations to operate the aircraft in a "condition for safe operation". If you ignore the known safety issue pointed out by the AMD [safety directive](#) and the FAA's [Special](#)

[Airworthiness Information Bulletin](#) it will be hard to make a case that your aircraft is in a condition for safe operation. The FAA could issue a violation against you for operating your aircraft not in compliance with its operating limitations.

Q: I don't want to modify the aircraft I'm building. Do I have to?

The FAA has issued a [memorandum](#) stating that no new airworthiness certificates will be issued for Zenith CH 601XL or CH 650 aircraft unless they are modified "in a manner consistent with" the AMD [safety directive](#). This means that, if you don't make the modifications to your aircraft you will not receive an airworthiness certificate.

Q: How do I contact Zenith Aircraft Company if I have questions?

You can reach Zenith Aircraft Company by phone at 573-581-9000, or you can visit their [website](#).