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**Technical Bulletin 041196RB**

**Thursday, April 11, 1996  
Chilliwack, British Columbia**

**Attention: All Rebel Builders  
Subject: Cutting of wing stringers for welded tank installation**

**Contact:                    Technical Services  
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**Information:**

It has come to our attention that some builders have considered or have already cut some of the wing stringers in the Rebel wing for installation of welded fuel tanks. Some builders have apparently started installing whole, welded tank units in preference to the standard wet tank design. While from an engineering standpoint welded tanks are acceptable, builders must be careful about **any** structural modifications they make to accommodate them.

The full length wing stringers and the ribs in the tank area are key elements of the strength of the wing. The stringers can if necessary be spliced (if done properly) however they **must** be in place. The support provided by the actual wing ribs in the tank area must also be present. If absolutely necessary, the ribs can be removed if some sort of integral support is built in as part of the tank to provide the desired support. **Absence or improper modification of these items can have a serious detrimental effect on the structural integrity of the airplane. Please do not do so without consulting with our technical department.**

Although we can not give absolute engineering approval to any modification which we have not made and tested, we can provide some advice and feedback as to the safety or validity of certain modifications. If you in fact plan on making any major changes to the load bearing structure of the airplane, we request that you make notes about the planned modification including sketches which can be sent to our technical department for review.

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