

BGA Airworthiness and Maintenance Procedure	AMP 2-3
MODIFICATION TO NON-PART 21 GLIDERS	

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Introduction

Modifications to BGA non-Part 21 gliders fall into two main categories; **minor** and **major**, which either require approval and do not require approval for minor modifications.

All major modifications non-Part 21 gliders require BGA Technical Committee or aircraft manufacturers approval. Aircraft manufacturer (design authority) approved modifications would not normally require BGA approval provided they did not alter the type certificate or designation of the aircraft.

The definition of a major modification is one that requires a significant change to the flight manual, a major structural alteration, addition of a self-sustainer engine, conversion from fixed to retracting undercarriage or where changes to the flight characteristic are proposed and such like modifications.

Minor modifications, depending on complexity, either will or will not require approval.

Example modifications requiring approval

Installation of tailwheels, wheel brake conversions, winglets, canopy operation, seating and harnesses, substitution of structural components or materials, disabled pilot conversions.

Example modifications not requiring approval

Instrumentation and avionics fit, mountings for removable equipment such as GPS or cameras, non-structural substitution, cosmetic modifications.

Modifications that fall into the 'not requiring approval' category must be assessed to ensure they comply with section 10 of this leaflet.

Application

Application should be made using BGA forms BGA 261 for a minor modification and BGA 282 for a major modification. Minor modifications may be applied for after completion, however, it is advised that at least a verbal confirmation be obtained from the CTO prior to incorporation to ascertain acceptability.

The application form should be completed with as much detail as possible to enable the investigating engineer to assess the modification and make an accurate assessment without the need for constant referrals back to the applicant. Include sketches, drawings, wiring diagrams, manufacturers literature or specifications as appropriate.

Approval

The CTO will normally approve minor modifications and, where deemed necessary e.g. if expert assistance is needed, involve the technical committee. A signed copy of the application form is used to communicate approval.

Major modifications are investigated and approved by the Technical Committee. Approval is communicated either by letter or by returning a signed copy of the application form.

Depending on the nature of the modification, if acceptable to the BGA full approval will be given or in certain cases a permit to test may be granted. Again, depending on the complexity, this could be a simple note or e-mail or may involve a Technical Committee test programme or requirements.

Modifications not requiring approval – criteria to be met

To check that a proposed modification meets the criteria for 'not requiring approval' please follow the flow chart below. If in doubt please apply for the modification to be approved; at the very least someone independent will then have the opportunity to review the proposed modification and advise if approval is required or not.

