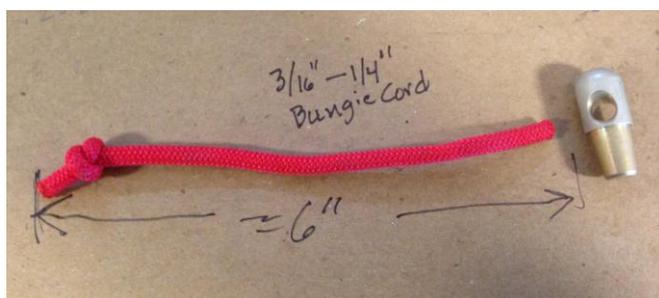


Easy Update for your Kasperwing Rib Retainer Tabs

One of the easiest updates—and replacements—for the leather tabs that tensioned the ribs against the leading edge spar, were the slick little aluminum “bullets” that came with the B Model Kasperwing. Don’t get me wrong: Those leather straps did the job and the Kasperwing we currently fly had a set that looked fairly new after all these years. The changeover is easy, though, with just a bit of 3/16” bungee cord and some of the turned, aluminum rib plugs that can be ordered through this web site (<http://www.kasperwing.com/For%20Sale.htm>). It may be possible to use the bungee cord that currently holds your leather tabs on, but if it is old and worn, just start anew. A quick search of the internet will lead you to many suppliers of appropriate bungee or shock cord suppliers.

Prepping the Rib: When the leather tabs were used, the ribs had a slight ‘notch’ filed into the trailing edge end (front end is flattened). To allow the shoulder of the new plug to sit flush in the end of the tube, file or cut about 1/8” off the rib to remove the notched portion. It



doesn’t take much. **Note:** Some of us cut off the front ends as well (where the ribs slide over the LE Spar) and replaced the flattened



section of tubing with [05-01932 POLY TIP RIB END FTTNG 3675](#) (available at Aircraft Spruce).

Prepping the Bungee Cord: Start with a length of bungee cord about 6-7” long (make just one and check it first!). Cut and burn the ends (use a hot knife if you have one). Tie a knot about ½-1” from one end. Now it is a simple matter of threading the unknotted end up through one grommet, through the hole in the plug and then through the other grommet. Tie a loose knot in the end you just pulled through the grommet, about an inch down. Slide a rib in the sail rib pocket, pop the plug in the end of the rib and check the tension of the bungee cord. Adjust the loose knot as needed to add or reduce the amount of tension pushing the rib forward. Cut any excess bungee cord off (above the knot!) if desired.

Depending on when your sail was made and who manufactured it, the grommets should be placed similar to at least one of the photos below. These are examples of different ways to secure the bungee:

