

Dear aviation partners.

Statement by Lackfabrik Bäder on the incident involving Alaska Airlines flight 1282.

Following the incident on Alaska Airlines Flight 1282 on January 5th, where a fuselage part broke off mid-flight, subsequent inspections revealed **loose screws** on several aircrafts of the same type. Additionally, **problems with screws** were reported during inspections on other types of aircraft without further clarification. Recently, a whistleblower reported that four missing bolts led to the breaking out of the fuselage part. US aviation safety expert John Cox commented on this as a quality control issue.

To facilitate this quality control, simple measures are often employed in both commercial and general aviation. This letter aims to highlight one such measure – the use of **torque sealant**. There are already numerous specifications about this matter in aviation:

- Airbus Specification ECS L 2274
- Boeing Specification BMS8 45 Type II
- Rolls-Royce Specification MSRR1102
- Safran Specification HMDC6002



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Unsecured and loose screws
on an aeroplane door

These are all met by the torque sealant from Lackfabrik Bäder GmbH & Co. KG. However, it is not yet in widespread use.

The attached image illustrates loose screws that were found on an aircraft door during inspections following the incident on January 5th.

What stands out is that these screws were not marked. Torque sealant would have been beneficial here for two reasons:

Visual Inspection Marking

The mechanic marks the screw to indicate that it has been properly tightened.

Visual Loosening Indicator

The mechanic creates a seal, that shows even the slightest loosening through a breakage. This allows for early detection of screw loosening.

This letter does not imply that the incident could have necessarily been prevented by using torque sealant. Nevertheless, torque sealant is an essential component of any good quality control, contributing to increased safety and prevention of future incidents. We recommend, as a general practice, marking all critical screws with torque sealant.

We are available to provide consultation on this matter.



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Secured screws
on an aeroplane

Torque sealant is an essential component of any good quality control.