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# Weekend Workshop

## Mylar Seals and Zig Zags

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### **Brief Outline of work:**

Fitting Mylar seals is one of those jobs that can easily be tackled by anyone, and can increase the performance of your glider as well.

The mylar replaces traditional fabric tape and as a result presents a lower section to the airflow. In most cases it is considered safe to replace fabric tapes with mylar but you should first check with your inspector to make sure that this will not invalidate your C of A.

### **Tools needed:**

Scissors, ruler, pencil, masking tape, wall paper seam roller.

### **Timescale:**

Allow about 2 hours for a 15mtr glider

### **Materials needed:**

Curved Mylar seal (complete with adhesive backing)

Capping Tape

Teflon Tape

### **How to do the work:**

1) Remove the fabric tape and all the old adhesive. Use Adhesive Tape Remover (Pt No POL060) or Avgas/Acetone

2) Cut Mylar to length of control surface plus 50mm. ( this is to allow you to position the mylar and not finger the adhesive in an area that is going to be at

the end of the length)

3) If you need to use Teflon Tape apply this now. Mount approximately 5mm of Teflon on the wing side and the rest on the control surface. ENSURE the control is fully deflected so that the tape does not restrict travel.

4) With the edge of the red backing tape against the Teflon or the edge of the wing make a pencil mark to indicate leading edge of the mylar.

5) Peel back 50 to 100 mm of the red backing tape and position your mylar so that the leading edge side is against your pencil mark.

6) Keeping a firm tension on the mylar, ease back the backing tape while positioning and lightly fixing the mylar to the wing steering the mylar by gently pulling in the direction you need to go. Aim to have a very low angle between the mylar and the wing and use the backing tape as a guide to the position of the mylar relative to the edge or Teflon. Avoid major changes in direction. If you do start to go wrong carefully lift the mylar from the surface. It helps to tape the end of the mylar to the wing to prevent it from falling on the floor whilst you are working. Trim the mylar to the correct length as you approach the end.

7) Once you are happy with the positioning use the wallpaper seam roller to firmly attach the mylar in place.

8) Apply the capping tape so that it covers approximately the line of the adhesive on the mylar