



Interagency Aviation TECH BULLETIN



No. IA TB 24-02

May 9, 2024

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Subject: Dragon Egg Plastic Sphere Devices

Area of Concern: UAS Operations

Distribution: All Plastic Sphere Dispenser Users

The UAS Ignis Payload and the SEI Red Dragon utilize SEI Dragon Egg plastic spheres. Recent reports have highlighted concerns of rapid reaction times that lead to volatile effects. All reports this field season have reported 2023 lot numbers. SEI is actively addressing this issue in collaboration with Drone Amplified to find a resolution.

SEI has reported this is a separate issue in [IA TB 24-01 Plastic Aerial Ignition Spheres with Energetic Reactions](#), although the behavior is similar.

Key points to note:

- Field Support Services and Type One Incident Support (the distributors of Dragon Eggs) are fully aware of the situation and actively assisting with the resolution process.
- Replacement of affected Dragon Eggs is currently on hold, pending further investigation. The specific reasons behind the reaction times are still being determined.
- Testing results indicate that reducing the glycol content to as low as 0.1 ml can effectively slow down the reaction time for the Ignis payload.
- Additionally, a 50/50 mixture of water and glycol has demonstrated similar effects in delaying the reaction for the Ignis payload.
- It is recommended to bench test each new box or unit as needed to ensure safety and reliability.

For tracking purposes, please report lot numbers and manufacturer dates via [Dragon Egg Reporting Form](#).

Contacts: Questions regarding this bulletin may be directed to: Josh Ingle, USFS National Helicopter Program Manager/Aerial Ignition, cell: (406) 558-9690, email: joshua.ingle@usda.gov. or Kelly Boyd, USFS National UAS Aerial Ignition Specialist, cell: (970) 628-6631, email: kelly.boyd@usda.gov.

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