

## Are Your Cables Safe?

We all know the common problems we have with control cables, broken strands, flat strands from wear, bad ends and many others.



One that gets overlooked some times is corrosion. Here are some pictures of the rudder cables that were on my glider previously.

As you can see there is surface rust on the outside of the cables. There are no signs of any other damage, no broken strands or any other physical damage.

**Looks can be deceiving.** When we untwist the cable and look inside we find more corrosion. Even though there are still no broken strands the cable is weakened and is not acceptable. Any corrosion on the inside of the cable is cause for rejection

The next time you are looking at your cables, if you see a little surface rust, it would be to your best interest to look a little deeper. Disconnect the cable. gently untwist it and look inside. If you don't find any corrosion inside then clean the surface corrosion and put a THIN coat of protective grease on it

If you do have to replace the cable I prefer stainless steel if possible. But the best way to keep from having this problem is to **CLEAN AND LUBE** your aircraft on a regular basis. This may not keep you from have cable problems but it will sure help.

