



## A Safe Outcome Should Never Be In Doubt

My last safety article ended with the following statement, ***“a safe outcome should never be in doubt.”*** You may have thought this is an obvious fact that needs no clarification. If this was true, we would not see Lipo battery fires, wings departing airplanes, aircraft crashing due to on-board battery failures, so on and so on.

Many of these problems can be realized and mitigated if the pilot employs an ardent inspection program for their aircraft. Here are some bullet points for consideration when doing RC aircraft inspections:

- Develop and use a checklist to see that your craft is ready for a successful flight
- Never try to accomplish major repairs at the flying field
- Do a comprehensive inspection on a regular basis
- Capacity check your batteries often. (Any battery that does not have a output of 75% of rated capacity is suspect and should not be used for flight.)
- Pay close attention to fuel lines and fuel tanks to determine their condition and for leakage
- Check all electrical connections from servos, to receiver, and batteries for security
- Determine the condition of the spark and glow plug,
- Check the control connections and primary flight controls for security and functionality
- Make sure the engine is attached and check the engine to mounting surface for proper torque
- Have someone witness the flight control directions are correct
- Check the balance of the propeller and check for propeller and spinner proper torque after installation
- Make sure the landing gear and wheel are secure and the surrounding structure is not fuel softened
- Check the condition of the transmitter and batteries
- On Walboro carburetors, replace gaskets and seal yearly. Paste the following link into your browser to demonstrate the gasket and seal replacement procedure.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RfzzTilqwo0>

You can add to this list depending on your aircraft and your specific requirements. This is a good time of year to see that your aircraft will be in airworthy condition and ready for the coming flying season. If you comply with an inspection then, the realization of a ***safe outcome should never be in doubt.***

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