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SERVICE BULLETIN No PA SB1001

Issued 9th August 2010

SUBJECT: THINBACK AND SLIMPACK 2 RIPCORD HOUSING CLAMP

STATUS: MANDATORY

IDENTIFICATION:

Thinback Harness & Container System Part No. S005-() manufactured between July 2009 and June 2010 serial numbers:

5036, 5037, 5038, 5039, 5040, 5041, 5042, 5043, 5044, 5056, 5057, 5058, 5059, 5060, 5087, 5088, 5089 and 5096

Slimpack 2 Harness & Container System Part No. S003 manufactured between April 2009 and April 2010 serial numbers:

673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679 and 680

BACKGROUND:

At a scheduled 6 monthly inspection and repack of a Thinback Harness and Container System it was found that excessive force was required to pull the ripcord.

Upon investigation it was discovered that the clamp that secures the ripcord housing located below the ripcord handle was loose allowing the housing to be extracted from its fabric cover when pulling the ripcord.

Subsequent investigation revealed that during manufacture the housing clamp had been incorrectly installed onto the housing immediately below the housing end cap (refer image 1). The diameter of the housing is smaller than the minimum effective clamp range and should be installed around the housing's end cap (refer image 2).



Image 1

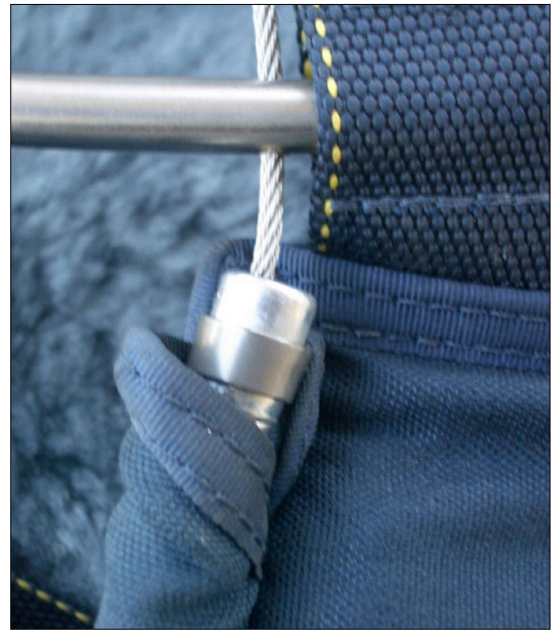


Image 2

MANUFACTURER ADVISORY:

Thinback and Slimpack 2 harness and container systems contained within the above mentioned serial numbers that has a housing clamp installed “below” the housing end cap are to be removed from service and returned to the manufacturer for rectification.

Effected equipment to be returned to Parachutes Australia are to be sent by Registered Post to the above address. The registered post cost will be refunded to the sender upon return of the equipment.

Thinback and Slimpack 2 harness and container systems contained within the above mentioned serial numbers that has a housing clamp installed on the housing end cap are unaffected and can remain in service.

AUTHORITY: Managing Director Underline Designs Pty Ltd trading as Parachutes Australia.

COMPLIANCE DATE: Immediate

DISTRIBUTION: Subscribers to the APF Service Bulletin Service
Australian Gliding Federation