



# AUSTRALIAN PARACHUTE FEDERATION

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## APF TECHNICAL DIRECTIVE No. 02/2010 Atom Containers Issued 21<sup>st</sup> MAY 2010

**Issue Date:** 12/05/2010

**Subject:** STICKY PACK FABRIC, ATOM CONTAINERS

**Background:**

There has been a recent report of sticky pack fabric on an ATOM reserve container. It causes the pilot chute fabric to adhere to the single wall side flaps and may impede the pilot chute launch. The pack tray coating has become sticky and may cause the premature release of the reserve brake setting.

Information received indicates that this is a phenomenon called hydrolyse where the coating becomes sticky due to moisture and heat due to climatic conditions. It may occur in ATOMS built between 2002 and 2005 as they were built with single wall construction. Since 2006 Parachutes de France / AERAZUR have used double wall construction so that there are no coated surfaces against the reserve pilot chute or free bag.

**Action:**

The APF recommends that where sticky fabric coating is present in a rig that it be returned to the manufacturer for repair by fitting a double layer or replacement as determined by PdF / Aerazur.

This work may require some time to complete and requires owners to consult with PdF Aerazur.

Any other rig that may have similar problems should be referred to the manufacturer.

**Compliance:**

Immediate

**Authority:**

APF Director Rigging

**Distribution:**

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