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SDPR Sigma Type Drogue Product Advisory – Rev B – 04/02/2019

Background

Drogue bridles constructed of Nylon Mil-T-5038 Type 4 and Mil-W-4088 Type 12 will stretch under load which creates the need to set or trim the centre line (kill line) longer than those used in Kevlar bridled drogues (UPT).

SDPR Sigma Type Drogue Product Advisory Rev A was released in July 2018 to address the possible incorrect trimming of centre lines (kill lines) in the field. UPT factory trim specs for Kevlar bridled drogues were being used for "after-market" drogues with Nylon bridles, resulting in the possibility of over collapse of the ballute at drogue release.

Since Rev A was published, SDPR has modified the standard length for the central limiter that the centre line is attached to. By increasing the length of the central limiter, the possibility for over collapse is greatly diminished.

Actions Required

SDPR Drogues manufactured after July 2018

Identifiable by a Yr-Month-Number code on one loaded Type 3 tape close to the lower mesh panels. Prefixed with SDPR the code will resemble SDPR180901.

Drogues manufactured after July 2018 have centre lines at correct trim. No re-trimming is required.

Centre lines fitted after the original centre line has worn out should be trimmed so the blue mark at the top of the centre line (180 mm to 230 mm from the stop knot) is at the bridle spreader grommet when the ballute is collapsed and the bridle is at full length but not stretched.

SDPR drogues manufactured before July 2018

Identifiable by lack of serial number or any other SDPR labelling.

Adjust the drogue centre line at the link to the deployment bag to ensure a minimum 250mm of line is between the bridle spreader 0 grommet and the limiting tape stop knot. Mark the centre line with permanent marker at 250 mm to 280 mm from the stop knot.



Permanent marker at 250 mm to 280 mm
from stop knot



When drogue is collapsed, and the bridle is
at rest, the 250mm mark should be not
lower than the bridle spreader

Adjustment of the kill line is done by first measuring the required change length at the top end, draw the kill line from the canopy end of the bridle, undo the overhand knot and release the "finger trap" splice, set the desired length and reverse the process.

Finger trapping the loose end is desirable but not absolutely necessary.

To test correct adjustment, anchor the deployment bag end of the bridle and centre line at a strong point, hold both sides of V tapes in either hand, apply about 40 kg of load to the bridle. The stop knot at the top of the centre line should be approximately 50mm from the bridle spreader 0 grommet.

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APF Rigger R73, FAA SR 2637943