



RIGGING ADVISORY CIRCULAR

Issue Date: 01 November 1985

RAC No. 401 Rev. A

SUBJECT: MARKING CHEST RESERVE PARACHUTES

STATUS: MANDATORY

IDENTIFICATION: PA 2 pin chest reserve container strong stylemaster reserve container military T7A reserve container – military T10 reserve container – Pioneer Super Pro reserve container – all others.

BACKGROUND: Chest reserve parachutes are used in combination with a main parachute for premeditated parachute descents.

There are two in common use for deploying chest reserve parachutes:

In one configuration it is the intention that the main parachute will remain attached to the parachutists harness as the reserve parachute is 'hand deployed'. The parachutists will then descent under both the reserve parachute and the malfunctioned main parachute.

In the other configuration the main parachute will be released (cutaway) from the parachutist's harness using canopy release fittings and then the reserve parachute is deployed. The parachutist then descends under the reserve parachute.

In the 1st configuration there exists a possibility of reserve parachute entanglement with the main parachute during reserve parachute deployment unless the parachutist exercises some control over the reserve deployment sequence. The parachutist cannot exercise control over the reserve parachute canopy unless the pilot chute and bridle cord are removed.

In the 2nd configuration mentioned the parachutists does not need to exercise control over the reserve parachute deployment. For this configuration the pilot chute and bridle remain installed.

APF POLICY: A chest reserve parachute canopy intended for hand deployment beside a main parachute canopy shall have the pilot chute and bridle removed.

(Reserved)

A reserve parachute canopy for which it is mandatory to use a 'diaper' to control open shock forces shall only be used in a chest reserve parachute assembly in the "PILOT CHUTE ATTACHED" configuration.



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EFFECTIVE DATE: Immediately

AUTHORITY: Australian Parachute Federation, Board of Directors.

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All APF Instructors
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