



RIGGING ADVISORY CIRCULAR

Issue Date: 01 August 1994

RAC No. 427 Rev. A

SUBJECT: PARACHUTES DE FRANCE PRODUCT SERVICE BULLETINS

STATUS: MANDATORY

IDENTIFICATION: All Parachutes de France equipment referenced in RAC 220

BACKGROUND: With effect from 1 April 1994 equipment manufactured to French Parachute Standard EQ 530-03 became approved for use in Australia under CAA Civil Aviation Order CAO 103.18. This includes equipment from Parachutes de France and the Parachute Shop.

Parachutes de France has now provided service bulletins dating from 21 January 1991 which relate to equipment manufactured to EQ 530-03 which may now be found in Australia. All bulletins provided by Parachutes de France have been incorporated into RAC 427.

APF POLICY: Parachutes de France Service Bulletins 910101, 920701, 920702, 92003, 92004, 92005 and 92006 shall be actioned in accordance with the instructions contained therein.

COMPLIANCE DATE: Immediate

AUTHORITY: APF Director Rigging



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SERVICE BULLETIN

ISSUE DATE: 21 JANUARY 1991

BULLETIN NUMBER: 910101

SUBJECT:

3-ring release housings

STATUS:

MANDATORY

IDENTIFICATION:

All Parachutes de France harness and container systems.

BACKGROUND:

It has been found that on some parachute harness and container systems manufactured by Parachutes de France, the force necessary to pull the 3-ring release handle was excessively high. Our inquiry revealed that the oil used in the manufacture of the housing material could remain in the grooves, in spite of the cleaning with trichlorethylene performed at our facility.

SERVICE BULLETIN:

Corrective action:

- 1) Dismantle the 3-ring housing and clear the left hand housing on the REQUIN, JAGUAR and ATOM harness/containers. For the GALAXY-TANDEM, clear the left hand housing from its way under the reserve ripcord housing, then pull the housing out of its channel over the left shoulder.
- 2) Clean the housings using a nylon cleaning brush identical to that used for a 5.5 mm rifle. Dip the brush in a solution of trichlorethylene.
- 3) Re-assemble the release housings to their respective harness.
- 4) Clean the release handle cables and lubricate them the usual way using silicone and a clean cloth.



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5) The whole process should be performed again at each periodic inspection of the equipment.

COMPLIANCE DATE:
IMMEDIATE

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DISTRIBUTION:
All Parachutes de France distributors
Parachuting Publications
IPC-member Aero Clubs
Parachute Industry Association, Technical Committee
Information Exchange Committee, IPC Technical Congress



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SAFETY BULLETIN

ISSUE DATE: 30 July 1992

BULLETIN NUMBER: 920701

SUBJECT: Modification of ATOM harness-container systems equipped with LOR 2 reserve lanyard system. The modification decreases the reserve ripcord pull force.

STATUS: Mandatory

IDENTIFICATION: All ATOM harness-container systems equipped with a LOR 2 system, carrying serial numbers lower than N° 920801. Note: serial numbers are printed on the inside of the left reserve riser cover.

BACKGROUND: During a repack it was found that a higher pull force than 9 daN was required to extract the reserve ripcord pin. Research revealed that this unusual high pull force is caused by the small velcro parts that hold the lanyards to the reserve top flap.

SERVICE BULLETIN: Follow these instructions to perform the modification:

- step 1) Open the reserve pin cover flap
- step 2) Remove the two lanyards from their respective velcro pieces.
- step 3) Carefully unpick the hook velcro piece sewn to the reserve top flap. Make sure not to cut any fabric.

remarks:

- * This simple modification can be performed by any appropriately rated rigger. It is not necessary to repack the reserve.
- * Removing the pile velcro pieces from the lanyards is not necessary. Due to the nature of the lanyard webbing this operation is very delicate and must only be performed with the greatest care and attention.

COMPLIANCE DATE: immediate

AUTHORITY: PARACHUTES DE FRANCE SA, Olivier RHEIN (quality inspector), P.O. Box 247, 95523 Cergy-Pontoise Cedex, telephone: +33-1-30 32 16 33, fax: +33-1-30 32 43 11.

DISTRIBUTION:

- * all National Aero Clubs (NACs)
- * Parachutes de France distributors
- * parachuting press
- * Parachute Industry Association
- * all parachute clubs in France



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Issue Date: 01 August 1994

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SAFETY BULLETIN

ISSUE DATE: 31 July 1992

BULLETIN NUMBER: 920702

SUBJECT: Inspection of attachment of 3-ring housings on JAGUAR harness-container systems.

STATUS: Mandatory

IDENTIFICATION: All JAGUAR harness-container systems

BACKGROUND: During a main canopy cutaway, the left hand release cable could not be extracted from the housing, because the housing slid freely up and down. The routing of the housing changed due to the pull force applied to the cable.

SERVICE BULLETIN: Check if the 3-ring housings are firmly attached to the harness, inside the right hand chest strap:

step 1) Remove the 3-ring release handle and cables.

step 2) Try if you can slide up or down one housing relative to the other,

--> A short way of some millimeters is normal.

--> If you can freely move one housing relative to the other, this can seriously effect a break away operation, or even make it impossible. In this case, the JAGUAR must be returned to Parachutes de France for repair. Repairs are free of charge, except for return shipment.

COMPLIANCE DATE: immediate

AUTHORITY: PARACHUTES DE FRANCE SA, Olivier RHEIN (quality inspector), P.O. Box 247, 95523 Cergy-Pontoise Cedex, telephone: +33-1-30 32 16 33, fax: +33-1-30 32 43 11.

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*** SERVICE BULLETIN ***

DATE: 17 November 1992

BULLETIN Nr : 92003

SUBJECT : Modification of cutaway system on Galaxy/tandem equipment.

STATUS : Mandatory.

IDENTIFICATION: GALAXY (PARACHUTES DE FRANCE S.A.) tandem harness-container system with serial number lower than 910301 which have not been modified by Parachutes de France S.A.

BACKGROUND: After excessive cutaway efforts, users of Galaxy equipment are advised to send back their equipment to the manufacturer to be upgraded.

This operation includes a modification of the fixation of both cutaway housings to the harness.

SERVICE BULLETIN: First solution: send your equipment, with its risers, for modification by the manufacturer; there is no charge, except for freight, until 30 April 1993.

Second solution: send only your risers to the manufacturer; after modification, they will be sent back along with a new housing; the rest of the modification can be performed by a rated rigger following the attached instructions.

COMPLIANCE DATE: Immediate.

AUTHORITY: PARACHUTES DE FRANCE - Olivier RHEIN (QC Manager)
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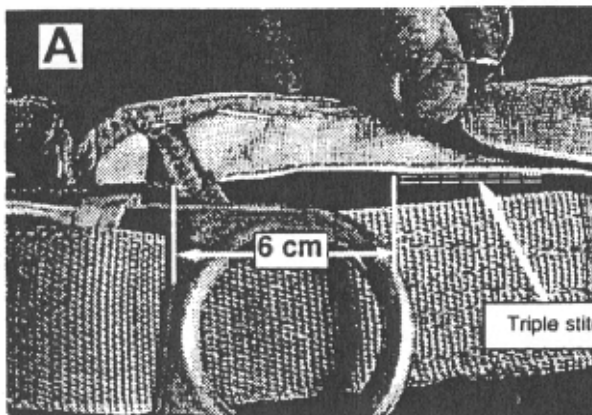
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PARACHUTES DE FRANCE SA

ADDITIONAL CLAUSE TO BS Nr 92003
MODIFICATION OF CUTAWAY SYSTEM ON GALAXY EQUIPMENT

INSTRUCTIONS

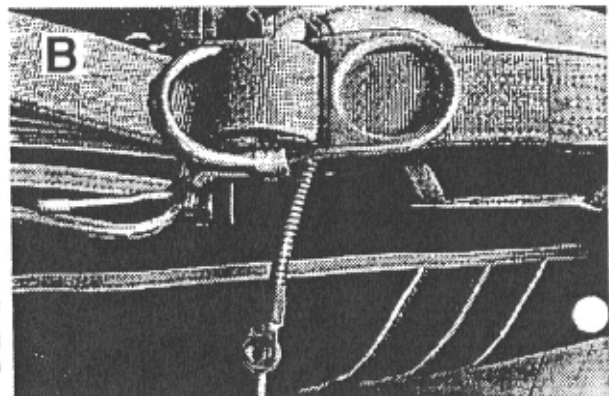
This operation must be performed by a rated rigger after the following instructions:



- 1** Unpick the stitches for 6 cm (see picture A) and secure the remaining 3 cm long seam with 2 back stitches (see pict. A).

- 2** Change the routing of the left release housing: it must go over the reserve ripcord housing (see picture B for right routing).

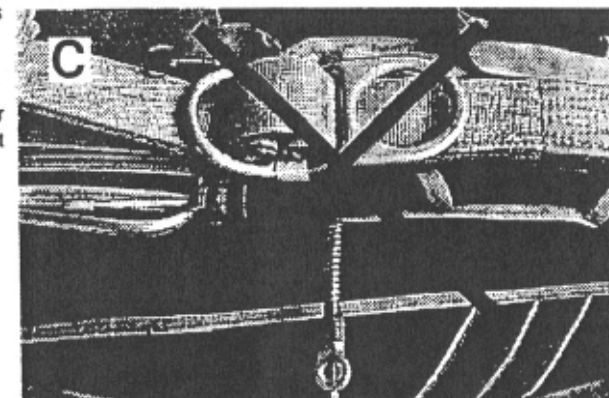
Note: picture C shows the former routing



- 3** Remove the right release housing from the clamps: first cut the ribbon wrapped around one housing, then break the clamps with a pincers.

- 4** Put in the new release housing and secure both release housings with two tackings on the Type 12 webbing.

If any problem occurs, please call Olivier RHEIN at (33) 1 30 32 16 33, or send a fax at (33) 1 30 32 43 11.





RIGGING ADVISORY CIRCULAR

Issue Date: 01 August 1994

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DATE: 17 November 1992

BULLETIN Nr : 92004

SUBJECT : Inspection of proper functioning of mini-risers.

STATUS : Mandatory.

IDENTIFICATION: All PDF mini-risers (with "PF" mark on rings).

BACKGROUND: After pulling the cutaway handle, a skydiver remained attached to his risers and had to help manually the 3-ring system to cutaway his main.

SERVICE BULLETIN: Users of mini-risers are asked to perform 2 tests with suspended harness:

1st test: the user hangs with his harness and his mini-risers from a bar.

Perform a normal breakaway while measuring (with a dynamometer) the necessary force to disengage the two locking loops; this value is M1.

Then, clean the cables and the housings, and lubricate the cables (with "3-in-1" oil).

2nd test: Following the same procedure as previously, the measured value is M2.

If M2 value is higher than 9 daN (or 9 kg) or if, for both trials, the release was not instantaneous after loops were disengaged, then send back your risers to the distributor, who will make an appointment with our After-Sale Service to modify them.

No charge, except for freight, until 30 April 1993.

CAUTION

IN ORDER TO KEEP ACCEPTABLE BREAKAWAY RELEASE FORCES, IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO PROCEED AS FOLLOWING EVERY MONTH: EXTRACT THE CABLES COMPLETELY FROM THE HOUSINGS AND DISCONNECT THE RISERS. CLEAN AND LUBRICATE THE RELEASE CABLES, AFTER CLEANING THE HOUSINGS.

COMPLIANCE DATE: Immediate.

AUTHORITY: PARACHUTES DE FRANCE - Oliver RHEIN (QC Manager)
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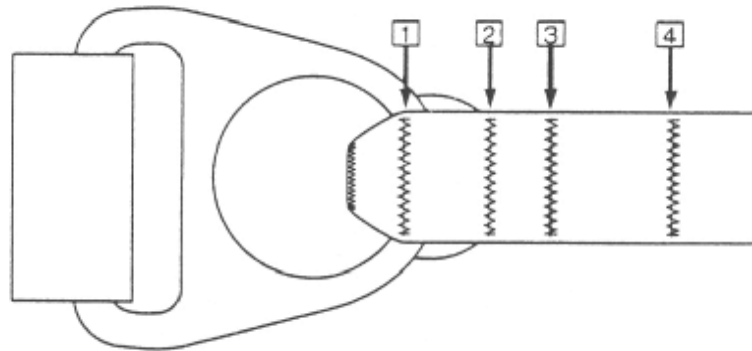
PARACHUTES DE FRANCE SA

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

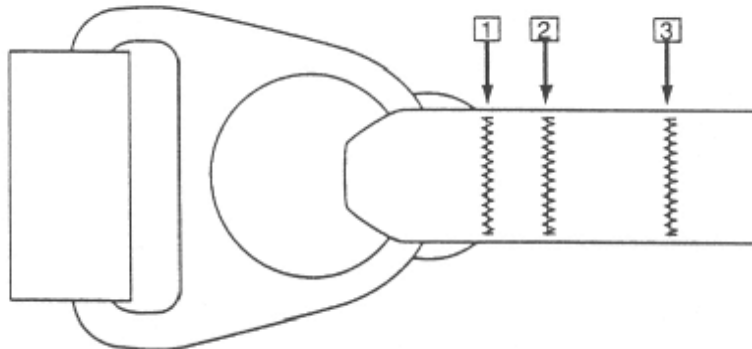
HOW TO RECOGNIZE THE DIFFERENT VERSIONS OF MINI-RISERS

1) All versions manufactured before 20-10-92 (without identification stamp) carry 4 well-spaced bartacks, of which the lowest one is at the level of the harness ring. In addition, there is a bartack folding the webbing at the end of the riser, where the middle ring is attached.

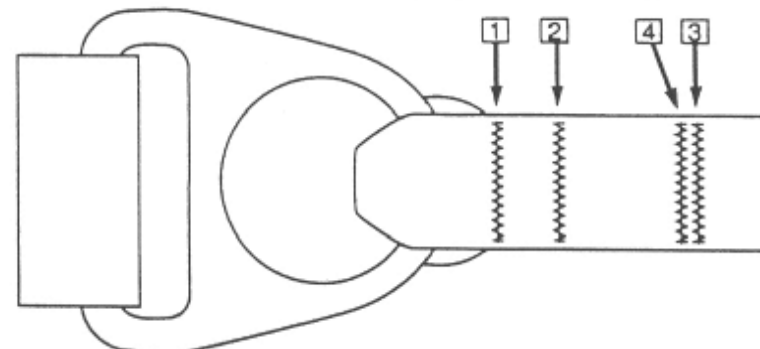
ATTENTION: These risers may not function properly! It is mandatory to verify airworthiness with the help of a suspended harness. In case of high release force, or no release, return the risers to our factory for a modification free of charge.



2) Mini-risers built between 20-10-92 and 25-04-93 are marked with a stamp "0" (zero) between the two legs. They carry only three bartacks, of which the first one is positioned a lot higher than before.



3) Effective 24-04-93 we have added a fourth bartack just below the top one, to reinforce the attachment of the small lip. Note that this bartack is placed on the inside, so as not to affect the mechanical dimensions. This latest generation of mini-risers are marked with stamp "1" (one) between the two legs.





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*** SERVICE BULLETIN ***

DATE: 17 November 1992

BULLETIN Nr : 92005

SUBJECT : Inspection of fixing of cutaway housings.

STATUS : Mandatory.

IDENTIFICATION: Following PDF equipments: JAGUAR - CAMPUS - CAMPUS 2 - ATOM.

BACKGROUND: After a breakaway, one ripcord housing had moved relative to the other.

SERVICE BULLETIN: Holding the end of the left housing (the longer) near the chest strap, pull the right housing by its superior end, upwards and downwards.

If one housing can move freely relative to the other, ground the equipment until the following operation has been performed: fixation of both housings by a tacking, as shown on the drawings overleaf.

This operation can be performed by any rated rigger, or by our After-Sale Service at Parachutes de France.

COMPLIANCE DATE: Immediate.

AUTHORITY: PARACHUTES DE FRANCE - Oliver RHEIN (QC Manager)
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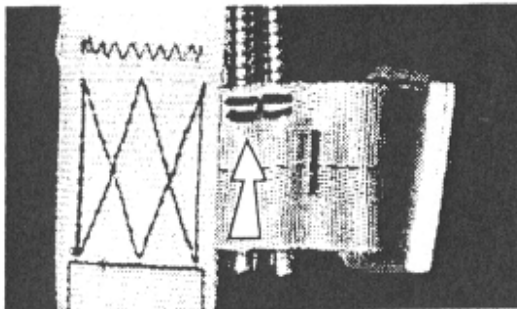
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Bulletin service Safety bulletin N° 92005

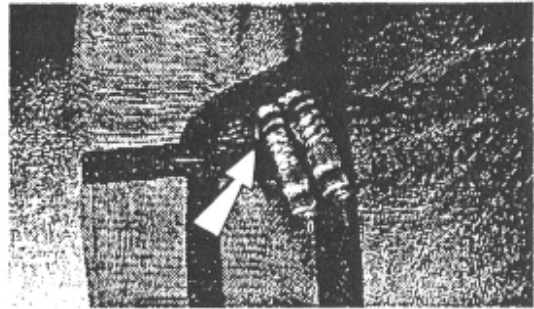
Emplacement des points de seller pour la fixation des gaines de libérateur.

Position of handtackings to secure 3-ring housing.

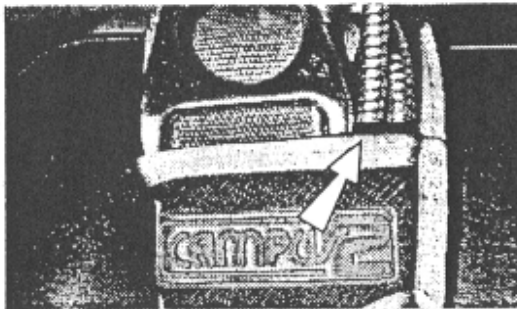
ATOM



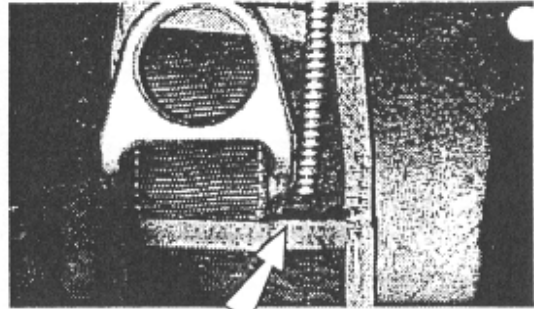
CAMPUS 1



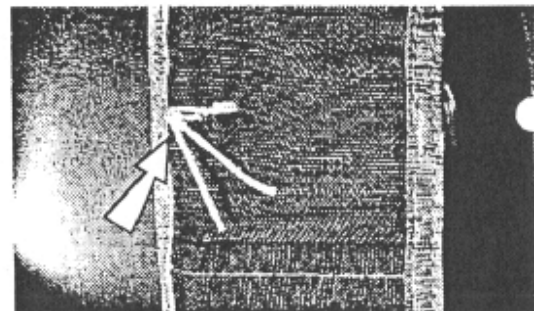
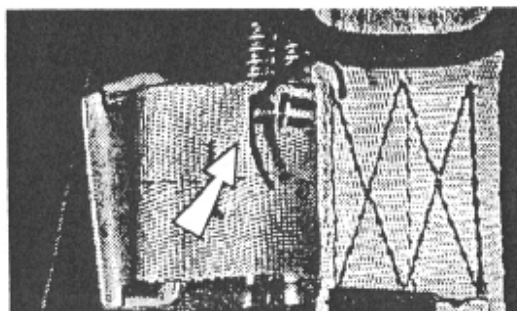
CAMPUS 2



JAGUAR

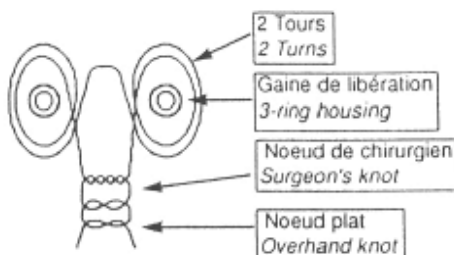


Envers de la fixation
Rear view of tackings



Description du point de seller: cheminement du fil.

Handtacking instructions: Routing of tacking cord.



Fil à utiliser: tresse polyester enduite 30 kg

Réf. PF: 90024150

Tacking cord: Waxed polyester braided cord, tensile strength 30 kg, P/N PF 90024150.



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*** SERVICE BULLETIN ***

DATE: 14 December 1992

BULLETIN Nr : 92006

SUBJECT : Change of closing loop of the reserve container.

STATUS : Mandatory.

IDENTIFICATION: Following PDF harness-container systems are concerned: JAGUAR - CAMPUS - CAMPUS 2 - ATOM - GALAXY manufactured before 23 November 1992.

BACKGROUND: Packing the reserve with a loop longer than necessary may prevent the correct opening of the reserve container.

Parachutes de France S.A. has developed a new closing loop, made of a thinner, softer and stronger polyethylene line. It eliminates the risk mentioned above.

The new loop has a tensile strength of 315 lbs (as compared to 234 lbs for conventional loops).

SERVICE BULLETIN: Replace the closing loop of the reserve container with a new loop and adjust its length to obtain proper flap positioning.

This operation can be performed by any rated rigger when repacking the reserve.

New loops are available from Parachutes de France S.A.
List price for single loops, P/N 20070515: FF 12,50 per unit.
List price for double loops, P/N 20070516: FF 16,80 per unit.

COMPLIANCE DATE: Immediate.

AUTHORITY: PARACHUTES DE FRANCE - Oliver RHEIN (QC Manager)
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DISTRIBUTION: All FAI parachute federations, PdF distributors, PIA, parachuting press.