



# RIGGING ADVISORY CIRCULAR

Issue Date: 01 July 1995

RAC No. 430 Rev. A

SUBJECT: PARACHUTES DE FRANCE ATOM HARNESS INSPECTION

STATUS: MANDATORY

BACKGROUND: At the 1994 Australian National Championships at Corowa a Parachutes De France (PDeF) Atom harness was found to have the double "W" stitching used to secure the large ring of the 3-Ring system missing from one side. The harness was provided to the Bureau of Air Safety Investigation (BASI) who determined the stitching had been removed at some stage in the past. Based on the BASI evidence PDeF now admit the original stitching was removed somewhere along (their) line and never replaced.

In Germany in June 94 during a routine inspection of an Atom harness/container it has been found the double "W" stitch pattern securing the 3-Ring harness ring was missing. In this case the stitch pattern was never made.

The manufacturer has determined there is no possible link between the two in as much as the one detected at Corowa did not follow the usual route of manufacturing and inspection. PDeF consider the omission the result of human error.

MANUFACTURER ADVISORY: Parachutes De France request all users of Atom harness/containers to visually inspect the presence of the two stitch patterns securing the harness rings, before the next jump.

APF POLICY: As specified by the manufacturer. If the stitching is missing the equipment must be withdrawn from service and PDeF notified for instructions for rectification. A notation attesting to the inspection shall to be recorded on the parachute log card by the owner.

COMPLIANCE DATE: Immediately

AUTHORITY: Export Manager  
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DISTRIBUTION: All APF Packers  
All NZPF Parachute Technicians