



# RIGGING ADVISORY CIRCULAR

Issue Date: 01 July 1988

RAC No. 506 Rev. C

SUBJECT RESERVE RIPCORD HANDLE MATERIALS

STATUS Recommended

BACKGROUND Parachute Industry Association  
Technical Bulletin 240 (formerly PIA TB-100 and TB-200)  
recommends that the following materials NOT be used in ripcord  
components to be installed on reserve auxiliary or emergency  
parachute assemblies:

1. "Plastic" - to include all type of thermoplastic, thermosetting and filled varieties regardless of manufacturing methods.
2. Any other material likely to exhibit a catastrophic failure mode with no indication of impending failure.

PIA POLICY The Parachute Industry Association recommends that the affected equipment be retrofied with a steel (stainless or plated) component at the next repack or within 120 days.

This bulletin does not concern main parachute assemblies.

This bulletin is a recommendation based on cumulative industry experience to date. It does not carry the force of law.

This recommendation in no way voids or alters the requirements of AS-8015A as referenced in TSO-C23c or NAS-804 as referenced in TSO-C23b.

EFFECTIVE DATE Immediately

AUTHORITY Parachute Industry Association

DISTRIBUTION All APF Packers and Riggers

NOTE that the term "Plastic" is deemed to include fibre glass and resin and similar materials.