

TECHNICAL & SAFETY COMMITTEE
INTERNATIONAL PARACHUTING COMMISSION (FAI)



Technical & Safety Information Notice No.	04/2011 Argus AAD W.N. 39
Date of Issue	23 May 2011
Subject Matter and Applicability	<p>Argus AAD Cutter – ‘San Marcos’ Incident</p> <p>On 14 April 2011 Aviacom issued the following statement:-</p> <p><i>Re: Argus Cutter investigation - Incident San Marcos TX.</i></p> <p><i>Skydive Supplies Europe was asked to investigate the cutter involved in the so called ‘San Marcos’ incident.</i></p> <p><i>The result of this investigation is published by Skydive Supplies. The initial inspection revealed a pinched loop that was cut on one side, and not cut on the other side. There were some loop fibers visible on the cut side.</i></p> <p><i>After opening a steel ball fell out of the cutter. This looks like a small steel ball, as used in ‘shot bags’. The cutter blade also showed a deformation at the place of the loop and was damaged in use.</i></p> <p><i>The blade could not perform its full stroke and thus not cut the loop completely.</i></p> <p><i>The loop material could not have caused any damage to the hardened stainless steel blade.</i></p> <p>For further information and the full report, with detailed photographs of the loop, cutter and steel ball, please contact Arnold Camfferman, Skydive Supplies Europe, The Netherlands, Full Report or contact them via email on arnoldcamffreman@planet.nl or Karel Goorts, Aviacom SA, info@aviacom.com</p> <p>Technical & Safety Officers are advised to familiarise themselves, and advise their parachute associations and federations, of the various notices and bulletins issued by parachute associations and federations, and manufacturers regarding the Argus AAD. Some of these notices and bulletins are noted in the previous Information Notice issued by the IPC Technical & Safety Committee, 03/2011 Argus AAD, W.N. 38, 31 March 2011.</p>

Compliance	Not applicable
Concerned Publication	See above.
Authority	Mr Karel Goorts, Aviacom SA.

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The Information Notices may result from:-

- 1 An incident or experience in the field being reported.**
- 2 A directive or notice issued by an aviation or government authority concerning parachuting operations or parachuting equipment.**
- 3 The issue of a notice by a manufacturer or by a National Parachuting Organisation.
In the case of equipment being the subject of the bulletin the reader is advised to check with the manufacturer regarding the current status or position of that equipment.**

Technical & Safety Committee of IPC, IPC and FAI accept no liability for the use or misuse of any information contained in this Information Notice. The reader assumes all liability.

The Technical & Safety Committee, International Parachuting Commission, can be contacted on e-mail - lmcnulty@skydiveireland.ie

**Liam McNulty, Technical & Safety Committee, International Parachuting Commission.
23 May 2011**