



PARACHUTES AUSTRALIA

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SERVICE BULLETIN No PA SB8802

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SUBJECT: THINBACK / SLIMPACK STICKY PACK MATERIAL

STATUS: MANDATORY

IDENTIFICATION: Thinback Model S5A, S005(A) and Slimpack S3(LS), S003(LS), S3(HS) and S003(HS).

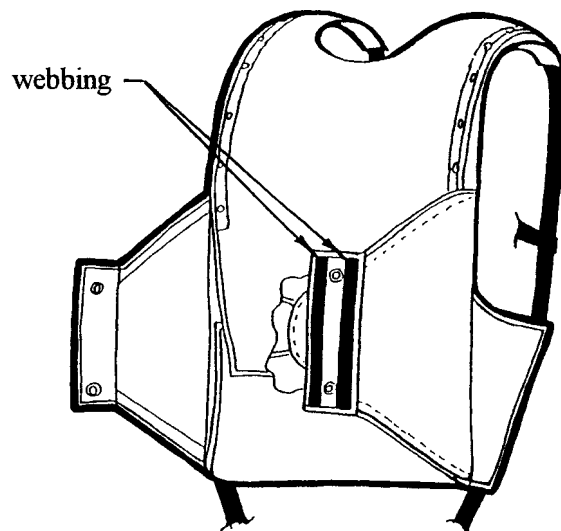
BACKGROUND: The Thinback and Slimpack Emergency Parachute pack and harness assembly has been manufactured for many years with Parapack, a smooth 7.25 oz denier cloth or Cordura, a textured 6.0 oz 500 denier or 10.2 oz 1000 denier cloth. Both have a urethane coated backing.

In January 1988, two Cordura Thinbacks in Germany experienced a delayed opening when the ripcord was activated for the periodic inspection and repack. In May 1988, in Australia, one constructed from 420 denier parapack fabric experienced a delayed opening under the same circumstances.

The potential for a delayed opening or total malfunction is attributable to the urethane coating on both side closing flaps sticking together during the in-service time interval between regular inspections.

Thinbacks and Slimpacks produced after January 1988 have the two urethane coated sides turned away from intimate contact with each other or have this modification incorporated at the time of manufacture.

MANUFACTURER ADVISORY: All Thinback and Slimpack emergency pack and harness assemblies which have urethane coated fabric on both side closing flaps in intimate contact with each other are to have two pieces of 25mm (1 inch) wide untreated webbing sewn to the right side closing flap as illustrated.



AUTHORITY: Managing Director Underline Designs Pty Ltd trading as Parachutes Australia

COMPLIANCE DATE: 1 July 1988 or at the first scheduled inspection thereafter.

DISTRIBUTION: Through APF Service Bulletin system