

## French Parachuting Federation

Safety Circular No 110 – May 19<sup>th</sup> 2006. – Parachutes de France Quick 3.1 Reserve Pilot Chute.

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Problem: entanglement of the spring spirals of a reserve pilot-chute 3.1 manf. by PdF

Circumstances: during a normal reserve repack, on popping the container, the spring failed to jump out but curved to one side due to the spring tangling in the spirals.

There have been several reports of this situation concerning the 3.1 pilot-chute, despite the instructions to pack the p/c with material between the spring spirals.

This bulletin contains precise instructions for compressing the spring and closing the container.

We also wish to establish clear statistics of the occurrence of this situation. Please record and report any instances of:

- \* spring entanglement of any p/c springs
- \* spring entanglement after the application of these instructions

Instructions for the reserve repacker:

Immediately stop any further jumping of the equipment concerned

Pop the reserve on a packing table without restriction the deployment in any way

(it is not necessary to perform a complete repack)

If no problem with the p/c deployment is evident re-close the container and note on the packing card the check of the p/c. note: this action does not extend the repack date of the reserve parachute

If a problem is found due to entanglement of the p/c spirals

- a) ground the p/c and record the s/n of the p/c
- b) contact the seller or manufacturer for advice and action (also advise the APF who will forward the info to the French Federation)

Recommendation:

To re-close the system after popping the reserve p/c, first check that the loop is the correct length. Then position the p/c with the first 2 spirals having no material between them. As you work up first with the netting, then with the p/c material, feed the fabric upwards and evenly into the spirals of the spring as it is compressed. (see the figure below).

Most important: compress the p/c vertically WITHOUT allowing it to move the spirals of the spring horizontally which allows the spirals to slide between each other.

Note: The last line about not allowing the p/c to slide around during compression is the most important (and probably applies to all systems).