



STRONG ENTERPRISES
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SB#18 Reserve ripcords with Soldered Tips On Cable Extensions

May 26, 1994

ITEM: Reserve ripcords with Soldered Tips On Cable Extensions

STATUS: Advisory

IDENTIFICATION: Two-cable reserve ripcords, Part No. 611290S (Martin-Baker handle) or 613290S (Mini-Dee handle), with cables extending beyond the pin designed for use Automatic Activation Devices. This bulletin applies only to those cables that have the tip of the cable extension soldered, and does not apply to those cables with electrically fused tips nor to those that have ball swages on the tips. These ripcords are generally used with large-hole Y-adapters and may be found on Strong Enterprises Mini-Hawk/Student Hawk, part no. 1165-3 (referenced inside the reserve cover flap as assembled in accordance with SE drawing no. 1152).

BACKGROUND: To be compatible with AAD's, the original reserve ripcord design was reconfigured with cables that extended beyond the tip of each pin and terminated with a ball swage. This was later manufactured without the ball, using solder to seal the cut ends of the steel cables. The process of de-greasing, fluxing, soldering and cleaning the cable may cause accelerated oxidation which may cause increased friction between the ripcord pin and the closing loop resulting in excessive pull force requirements, ie, "hard pulls."

SERVICE BULLITEN: Visually inspect the last 2 inches of each cable for signs of corrosion. If any is found, wipe clean with cloth rag. If owner desires, Strong Enterprises will, prior to 01 January 1995, exchange original ripcord with new electrically severed unit (exempt from this bulletin) at no charge beyond the inbound shipping.

QUALIFIED PERSONNEL: Senior or Master parachute rigger, or owner.

COMPLIANCE DATE: Inspect at each reserve repack.

DISTRIBUTION: Registered owners, PIA, USPA, Skydiving, Parachutist.

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