



PARACHUTES AUSTRALIA

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SERVICE BULLETIN No. PA SB9403

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SUBJECT: LINE STOWAGE BANDS FOR DIAPERS ON PA EQUIPMENT

STATUS: MANDATORY

IDENTIFICATION: Parachutes Australia Pty Ltd. brand reserve and emergency parachute canopies equipment fitted with a diaper. This includes:

X228 reserve part number P003 where fitted with a diaper;
X300 reserve part number P004 where fitted with a diaper;
Hobbit reserve part number P010 where fitted with a diaper; and
all Aerolite reserves part number P015().

BACKGROUND: In 1986 a X228 Reserve while being unpacked in order to conduct a periodic inspection was found to malfunction. The rubber band securing the top locking stow stretched to the degree that it was able to entangle with the second locking stow preventing the diaper from releasing.

Although this incident could not be duplicated PA changed the packing procedures applicable to its equipment fitted with a diaper to require the use of nitrile rubber "O" rings in place of rubber bands on the locking stows.

PA has now evaluated 'tube stows' and has determined these to be a suitable substitute for nitrile "O" rings.

MANUFACTURER ADVISORY: Packers and Riggers may use either:

- appropriately sized 'tube stows', or
- nitrile "O" rings (with an inside diameter of 35 to 40mm)

on locking stows of Parachutes Australia brand equipment fitted with a diaper.

COMPLIANCE DATE: After 1 August 1994

DISTRIBUTION: Subscribers to the APF Service Bulletin service.