



Product Service Bulletin

Issue date: 11 December 2006

Bulletin number: SB AMM021206/2

Note:

This bulletin cancels and replaces SB AMM021206/1

Subject:

Mandatory cutter replacement

Identification:

Argus Cutter PN# ARG001CUT manufactured for Aviacom SA by Nobel Energetics.

Background:

As part of our evaluation program, the Argus was installed in an RTS M7 Mirage and made 46 jumps. Upon opening the reserve container the loop was frayed around the area where it passes through the cutter. The plastic insert was found to be damaged as well.

Any rig, especially those where the cutter is positioned on top of the pilot chute, and with a very small and tight (compressed) reserve container might face the same problem.

Because of this incident Aviacom has redesigned the cutter to eliminate the plastic sleeve in favor of a highly finished metal one. Intensive testing of this new cutter has not identified any further problems. In general the cutter on top of the pilot chute is safer.

Service bulletin:

Systems that have the cutter located ABOVE the pilot chute and have the "old style" cutter with the plastic insert, **MUST** have the cutter replaced with the "new style" cutter before the next jump.

All other systems must have the cutter replaced with the "new style" cutter before the next repack, but no later than June 30th 2007.

The 'old' cutter with the plastic insert must be returned to Aviacom SA for replacement. The new cutter will be shipped as soon as we have received the old one.

The new cutter is easily identified by the holographic seal on the body. The date of manufacturing is November 2006 or later.

Any senior or master rigger or foreign equivalent can unscrew the cutter and replace the old cutter with the modified one. The connector must be locked hand tight in order to ensure the water resistance.

Compliance date:

- Before next jump for all rigs with the cutter located above the pilot chute.
- At the next repack, but no later than June 30th 2007 for all others.

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- All dealers and owners/customers for whom addresses are on file.
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- IPC Technical Committee
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- National Aero Clubs-Parachuting sections

Comments

In order not to create confusion, all Argus cutters manufactured before November 2006 and not sporting a safety seal on the body must be mandatory replaced before June 30th, 2007. The cutters will be replaced free of charge.

Pictures

- 'Old' cutter with plastic insert
- Insert less cutter with safety seal and different shape

