

### BRITISH PARACHUTE ASSOCIATION LTD.



# SAFETY INFORMATION

5/91

## TALON SKYHOOK PILOT CHUTE TALONETTE HARNESS/CONTAINERS

The attached Service Bulletin from Rigging Innovations concerning the above equipment is self explanatory and gives details of a problem which occurred with the equipment.

Tony Butler National Coach & Safety Officer

30th April 1991

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#### TALON SKYHOOK PILOT CHUTE SERVICE BULLETIN

DATE: April 25, 1991 SERVICE BULLETIN #: 1513

SUBJECT: TALON SKYHOOK PILOT CHUTE

TALONETTE HARNESS/CONTAINERS

STATUS: MANDATORY

IDENTIFICATION: Skyhook Pilot Chute P/N 2233

Talon harness/container models B-/4 & B-/6 Manfactured from Feb 1988 to present. See enclosed list for affected Serial Numbers.

BACKGROUND: On April 20, 1991, an incident occured which resulted in a total pack closure of the main with a pull-out deployment system. Upon activating the reserve ripcord, the individual experienced a pack closure on the reserve. After reaching back and pulling on the container, the reserve deployed at approximately 400' AGL, resulting in a total inversion of the round reserve and extensive damage to the canopy. However the individual landed safely. The equipment was subsequently taken to the harness/container manufacturer for examination. Upon close examination, the manufacturer was able to duplicate the situation in the loft. Additional testing indicates the cause of the problem to be a sub-standard spring in the Skyhook pilotchute.

In repacking the Talon, further investigation revealed the situation to manifest itself only when the main container is full as in a total malfunction. This appears to be primarily as a result of the tension placed on the very small and tight containers. As of this date, the problem appears to be limited to the Talonette models B-/4 & B-/6.

Additional tests with the original pilotchute and the main container empty, showed the pilotchute to function with a slight hesitation before clearing the container.

Tests using a new Skyhook with good spring tension functioned properly with the main full or empty.

<u>SERVICE BULLETIN:</u> Compliance with this Service Bulletin can be accomplished as follows:

#### SIMPLE FIELD TEST.

With both the main and reserve packed as if to jump, have the owner put the rig on and tighten it down. Lay on a table with the left main lift web off to the side and exposed to allow a free pull of the reserve ripcord. Assume a hard, head back arch and pull the reserve ripcord to activate the pilotchute. If the pilotchute clears the pack, it is of sufficient spring tension. If it does not, return the pilotchute to the manufacturer for replacement.

Upon completion of the tests, for those pilotchutes that pass the test, mark the top of the pilotchute using a felt tip marker with "SB-1513" to denote compliance with the Service Bulletin. Log compliance with the Service Bulletin on the packing data card. Next notify the manufacturer of the serial numbers of both the Talonette and the Skyhook Pilotchute for their records. It should be noted that this procedure can be performed by a qualified rigger and the rig re-closed and sealed without the need for repacking the reserve.

Since additional testing is continuing, it is felt that the Simple Field Test is sufficient to provide for an adequate level of safety based on the facts as currently known. However more comprehensive testing methods will be forthcoming as the investigation continues.

COMPLIANCE DATE: IMMEDIATE, BEFORE THE NEXT JUMP.

AUTHORITY: Any questions concerning this Service Bulletin may be directed to:

SANDY R. REID, PRESIDENT Rigging Innovations Inc. 236 East 3rd St Perris CA 92370 USA TEL: 714-657-1769 FAX: 714-657-0547

#### DISTRIBUTION:

- 1. All Rigging Innovations Dealers.
- 2. All Parachuting Publications.
- 3. National Aero Clubs
- 4. Military Parachute Organizations

#### ATTACHMENT:

Talonette Serial Number List.

### RIGGING INNOVATIONS INC - SERVICE BULLETIN #1513 TALON B-/ SERIES AFFECTED CONTAINERS 1988-PRESENT

SN	SN		SN	SN	_	_SN_
1399 14554 15885 16990 1717 1725 17885 17899 1717 17885 17899 17994 17993 17994 1818 17993 1818 1858 1858 1858 1858 1858 1858 185	2315 2316 2317 2318 2319 2320 2321 2322 2327 2329 2340 2352 2359 2366 2409 2413 2415 24415 24431 2471 2478 2483 2493 2495 2496 2497 2589 2599 2600 2611 2652 2671 2697 2714 2725 2803 2833 2855 2856 2860 2867 2894 2895 2908 2942 2951 2957 2970 2977 2982 2983 2984	!	29954 3010 30113 3013 30144 30144 30144 30144 30144 30144 30148 30144 30	3613 3623 3643 3653 3653 3653 3743 3743 3743 3743 3743 3843 3843 384	1903935545561152477045784014457032469230364601444	4296 4312 4330 4351 4359 4415 4426 4445