

From: Kim Hardwick [mailto:kim@apf.asn.au]
Sent: Tuesday, 17 June 2008 12:58 PM
To:
Subject: Director of Safety Statement re Vigil

Statement from the Director Safety Re Vigil use in Student Equipment.

In recent weeks it has been brought to the APF's attention that there has been a number of unexplained unintentional firings of Vigil units. Several agencies around the world have issued statements advising the problem and recommending or mandating the discontinued use of certain units. The APF specifically approves AADs for student use.

Advice from the Director Riggers is that AAD/Vigil has not been able to isolate or rectify the problem and therefore cannot guarantee that the problem has been programmed out of the Vigil 2. In the interests of our student's safety and the APF's obvious exposure should one of these events occur in the air and cause injury or worse, I have withdrawn approval for the use of Vigils in student equipment. Experienced jumpers can make their own informed decision as to their use after reading all the information available. Should AAD be able to isolate the problem and sufficiently assure us that the problem is rectified we may reconsider the approval in the future.

Regards

Paul Osborne
Director Safety
Australian Parachute Federation
PO Box 446 El Arish Qld 4855.
Ph 07 4068 5259
Fax 07 4068 5295
Mob 0417 713 166

Distribution
APF Clubs
APF ASO's
Chief Instructors
APF Secretariat