



# AUSTRALIAN PARACHUTE FEDERATION

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## **APF TECHNICAL DIRECTIVE No. APF TD05/2010 Argus AAD Issued 17<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2010 (This TD supersedes APF TD 04/2010)**

**Issue Date:** 17/12/2010

**Subject:** Continued use of the Aviacom Argus AAD in Australian parachuting equipment.

**Background:**

On the 15<sup>th</sup> November 2010 the APF issued a Technical Directive (04/2010) concerning Aviacom 'Argus' AADs. The TD was released due to concerns regarding the effectiveness of the AAD cutter after two incidents, namely one in Poland, the other in Portugal.

The Action taken in APF TD 04/2010 and effective immediately was as follows:

"In the interest of safety to its members, The APF Technical Advisory Group (TAG) has determined that the Aviacom Argus AAD is not to be used in any equipment used by APF members."

This superseded APF TD 03/2010 issued 12<sup>th</sup> July 2010 which stated that the Aviacom Argus AAD was not to be used in any equipment used by APF student or novice parachutists.

Aviacom has made a new cutter available to Argus users at no charge, which, in Aviacom's opinion removes any doubts as to the effectiveness of the cutter to sever the closing loop.

**Action:**

Following considerable research by the APF Technical Advisory Team, APF TD 04/2010 is rescinded.

APF TD 05/2010 allows the Argus AADs to be returned to service provided that:

- It complies with Aviacom Product Service Bulletin regarding mandatory cutter replacement. [SBAMMO050910/3](#) (Revision 3) Issued 7 December 2010
- It has approval for installation into the equipment by the Harness/Container equipment manufacturer as well as by Aviacom.

This notice is predicated on the assurances by Aviacom that their testing of the new cutter demonstrates to Aviacom that it meets their required performance criteria.

It is beyond the scope of the APF to independently test equipment used in skydiving and relies on manufacturers of equipment to meet relevant approved national performance standards and that equipment manufacturers approve the fitting of accessories such as an AAD to their equipment ensuring that it does not interfere with the equipment function.

**Rescind of this Technical Directive:**

Should further information come to light, the Technical Advisory Group may review this TD 05/2010.

**Compliance:**

Effective immediately.

**Authority:**

APF Technical Advisory Group

**Distribution:**

Through APF Technical Directive system  
APF Members  
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