

PRODUCT SERVICE BULLETIN

Issue date: 5 April 2011

Page 1 of 2

Bulletin number: SB AMMO050910/4 -This Service Bulletin replaces SB AMMO050910/3

Subject: Argus Cutters Manufactured till August 2007

Identification: Argus Cutter with manufacturing dates Aug. 07 or earlier and manufactured for the Argus AAD by Nobel Energetics

Background:

The original service bulletin with # SB AMMO050910/3 had been issued as a preventive measure.

The results of extensive tests with cutters manufactured up to August 2007 have shown no lack of performance. Aviacom therefore allows continued use of these cutters in all harness/containers with the cutter installed on the bottom of the reserve container (e.g. Wings) or below the pilot chute.

Pending investigation, the use of these cutters is not allowed if placed on top of the pilot chute (e.g. Mirage, Icon...)

Service bulletin:

Based on our testing and analysis, there is no longer a need to replace cutters placed below the pilot chute, so the mandatory cutter replacement is no longer required, and the previous bulletin does not apply for those configurations.

The previous bulletin, however, remains in effect for rigs with cutters placed above the pilot chute, requiring their replacement at the next repack. Due to factors beyond our control, the supply of replacement cutters has been delayed by the manufacturer of that component. We apologize for this situation. At present, it is permissible to swap the older and newer cutters between Argus AADs in different rigs, to insure that cutters above the pilot chute are returned to service with the newer version. We are continuing to test that configuration, and will issue a subsequent bulletin when we can confirm the best course of action for cutters placed above the pilot chute. At present, we can only authorize the newer cutters for the configurations where the cutter is placed above the pilot chute.

The cutter's manufacturing date can be identified by the cable tag:



Date of Manufacturing

All riggers must ensure themselves that the Argus is installed according to the manufacturer's guidelines as described in the installation manual.

It is up to each person to obey FAA 14 CFR § 105.43 (c):

"If installed, the automatic activation device must be maintained in accordance with manufacturer instructions for that automatic activation device".
("Title 14, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 105, section 43, subsection c".)

LOOP MATERIAL, SILICONIZING AND LOOP LENGTH ARE IMPORTANT TO ASSURE A CLEAN CUT.

Loop tension:

The reserve must be packed with a pilot chute pressure of minimum 5 kg or 10 pounds.

It is a riggers' responsibility. In other words: do use a short loop and keep in mind the loop stretch. Batteries have to be replaced after each scheduled repack, or after each activation, or every 500 jumps, whatever comes first.

Compliance date: Immediately

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