

SERVICE BULLETIN SPSB008

DATE: February 8, 2013

SERVICE BULLETIN# SPSB008

OF PAGES: 5

SUBJECT: RELEASE CABLE TRIMMING

STATUS: MANDATORY INSPECTION

IDENTIFICATION:

SUN PATH PRODUCTS, INC MAIN CANOPY RELEASE HANDLES (PART NUMBER JP068-1) DELIVERED WITH SYSTEMS WITH DATE OF MANUFACTURE JANUARY 2009 THROUGH PRESENT (FEB 2013). IF THE DATE OF MANUFACTURE OF THE HARNESS/CONTAINER SYSTEM IS BETWEEN 1/2009 AND 2/2013, THE CABLE LENGTHS MUST BE INSPECTED.

BACKGROUND:

Sun Path Products, Inc. has determined that we have had a quality escape, which has lead us to believe that there may be a number of release handles that have been shipped to customers, which were trimmed incorrectly. These incorrect cable lengths could result in an out of sequence main release and reserve deployment causing an entanglement.

SERVICE BULLETIN: MANDATORY INSPECTION

Who can inspect: ANY FAA CERTIFICATED SENIOR OR MASTER PARACHUTE RIGGER OR FOREIGN EQUIVALENT.

What to inspect: Inspect all Sun Path manufactured JP068-1 **main release (cutaway) handle cable lengths** to ensure that they are trimmed properly and the cable lengths are in accordance with the procedure and specifications outlined below.

PROCEDURE

1. Open the main riser covers, locate and remove the excess yellow cable from the main riser tubes on both left and right main risers. Keep the Type IIa securing loop assembled and remove the snap shackle from the riser RSL ring. (*Disengaging the RSL is merely to clear the working area and will need to be reinstalled after inspection*)



SERVICE BULLETIN SPSB008

2. Ensure that the release handle is installed; Velcro mated and is all the way up to the top of the inside of the pocket.



3. Remove any slack in the cables by pulling upward on both sides slightly. (A short tug/or pull on the cable end should take out any slack that may be in the system)
4. Place the rig on the ground or chair and allow the yoke area to relax and ensure your housings are seated/routed as if being worn. Specifically the loop area on the left side behind the main ring cover.

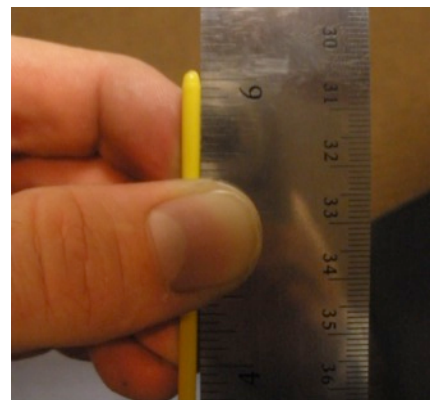


SERVICE BULLETIN SPSB008

5. NON RSL RISER: Place a ruler with the 0 (zero) at the center point of the grommet on the end of the housing with the numbers running up towards the cable end.
6. Lay the cable out flat against the ruler and record dimension from center of grommet to the end of the cable. Record your measurement and riser side (NON RSL = XX).



7. RSL RISER: Place a ruler with the 0 (zero) at the center point of the grommet on the end of the housing with the numbers running up towards the cable end.
8. Lay the cable out flat against the ruler and record dimension from center of grommet to the end of the cable. Record your measurement and riser side (RSL = XX).



SERVICE BULLETIN SPSB008

9. Compare your recorded dimensions and RSL configuration to the chart below.

| RSL CONFIGURATION/SET UP | NON RSL SIDE CABLE EXCESS | RSL SIDE CABLE EXCESS |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| SKYHOOK RSL ON WEARERS RIGHT SIDE | 5.5" +/- .25" 140mm +/-6mm | 6"+/- .25" 153mm +/-6mm |
| STANDARD RSL ON WEARERS LEFT SIDE | 5.5" +/- .25" 140mm +/-6mm | 5.5" +/- .25" 140mm +/-6mm |
| NO RSL | 5.5" +/- .25" 140mm +/-6mm | 5.5" +/- .25" 140mm +/-6mm |

Inspection Results:

If you find that your cables are out of specification/tolerance, please follow instructions below to properly trim the proper length and place back in service or to have the handle cables replaced.

Resolution:

A: CABLES MEET THE SPECIFICATION NOTED IN THE MATRIX ABOVE.

1. NOTE ON PACKING DATA CARD, SPSB008 COMPLETED
2. NO FURTHER ACTION REQUIRED

B. CABLES ARE OUT OF SPECIFICATION/TOLERANCE AND ARE FOUND TO BE IN EXCESS (LONGER THAN) SPECIFICATION/TOLERANCE.

1. MEASURE PROPER LENGTH AND MARK CABLE ACCORDINGLY.
2. REMEASURE MARK BEFORE CUTTING AND CONFIRM WITH CHART ABOVE. (MEASURE TWICE CUT ONCE)
3. WITH A GOOD PAIR OF CABLE CUTTERS, TRIM THE CABLE TO THE CORRECT LENGTH APPROPRIATE FOR THE RSL CONFIGURATION LISTED ABOVE.
4. WITH A LIGHTER FLAME, LIGHTLY SOFTEN THE END OF THE YELLOW SHEATHING AND BEFORE IT RE HARDENS, SMOOTH THE SOFTENED END OF YELLOW SHEATHING AROUND THE METAL CABLE ENDS WITH YOUR THUMB AND FOREFINGER. BE SURE THAT THE END RESULT IS A SMOOTH ROUNDED COVERING OF THE METAL CABLE.
5. GO TO <http://www.sunpath.com/spsb008fieldcorrection.htm> AND FILL OUT THE WEB FORM.
6. NOTE ON PACKING DATA CARD AND RIGGER LOG BOOK, SPSB008 COMPLETED.
7. NO FURTHER ACTION REQUIRED.

C. CABLES ARE OUT OF SPECIFICATION/TOLERANCE AND ARE FOUND TO BE SHORTER THAN PRESCRIBED SPECIFICATION/TOLERANCE.

1. GO TO <http://sunpath.com/spsb008replacement.html> AND FILL OUT THE WEB FORM TO INITIATE THE RETURN/REWORK PROCESS.
2. A METHOD OF PAID RETURN SHIPPING AND INVOICE (2 COPIES) WILL BE SENT OUT WITH THE REPLACEMENT HANDLE. THE ORIGINAL HANDLE MUST BE RETURNED TO SUN PATH PRODUCTS, INC. WITH ONE COPY OF THE INVOICE WITHIN 30 DAYS OF RECEIVING THE NEW REPLACEMENT HANDLE. IF THE ORIGINAL HANDLE IS NOT RETURNED AFTER 90 DAYS, FULL RETAIL COST OF THE REPLACEMENT HANDLE WILL BE APPLIED TO THE OWNERS ACCOUNT.

SERVICE BULLETIN SPSB008

3. UPON RETURN OF REPLACEMENT HANDLE AND AFTER PROPER ASSEMBLY, NOTE ON PACKING DATA CARD AND RIGGER LOG BOOK, SPSB008 COMPLETED.
4. NO FURTHER ACTION REQUIRED.

COMPLIANCE DATE: BEFORE NEXT JUMP

Note to Parachute Riggers: As a reminder, all cable lengths should be inspected at initial assembly and every inspection cycle to ensure proper timing of the intended deployment sequence is assured. Release handles can be interchanged between manufacturers and can be modified while in service between repack cycles. These, among many other variables validate the need to be diligent during inspections and to include verifying the proper release cable lengths along with any other manufacturer prescribed maintenance. Be sure to consult the operations/owners manual for the specific make and model of harness container system and follow the approved maintenance guidelines for each.

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