

PRODUCT SERVICE BULLETIN

Issue date: 5 September 2010

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Bulletin number: SB AMMO050910/1

Subject: Mandatory cutter replacement

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

Background:

This service bulletin has been issued in response to a notice of the International Parachute Commission. The notice was re-published by the BPA, the USPA and taken into account by the APF. This notice continuous to create confusion and uncertainty.

It was a follow up of a fatality that occurred in Poland on 25 of July 2009. The Polish Authorities concluded in a preliminary report that the loop was only fully cut at impact. We formally disagree with these conclusions.

This service bulletin is published to make an end to this impasse and to err on the side of caution.

Service bulletin:

Systems that have a cutter of the manufacturing date August 07 or earlier must have the cutter replaced with a later model before the next jump.

Cutters manufactured as of September '07 use a different, hardened steel blade delivering a clean cut by loops with lesser tension.

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



Date of Manufacturing

Any senior or master rigger can unscrew the cutter and replace the old cutter with the approved one. The connector must be locked hand tight in order to ensure water resistance.

Compliance date: Before the next jump. The cutter will be replaced free of charge.

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