

PIA Technical Bulletin 200

Parachute Industry Association Publications

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Plastic Ripcord Handles

PIA recommends that the following materials NOT be used in ripcord components* to be installed on reserve, auxiliary or emergency parachute assemblies:

1. "Plastic"- To include ALL types of thermoplastic, thermosetting and filled varieties regardless of manufacturing methods.
2. Any other material likely to exhibit a catastrophic failure mode with no indication of impending failure.

(* handles, cables, pins, termination balls and/or equivalent components.)

Notes:

1. This recommendation in no way voids or alters the requirements of AS- 8015A as referenced in TSO-C23c or NAS-804 as referenced in TSO-C23b.
2. This bulletin is a recommendation based on cumulative industry experience to date. It does not carry the force of law.
3. This bulletin does not concern main parachute assemblies.
4. PIA recommends that the affected equipment be retrofitted with a steel (stainless or plated) component at the next repack or within 120 days.

Note: This Technical Bulletin was formerly published as TB-100.

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