



PSB#090586
Stow Slider in Rubber Band Attachment to Center "B" Line Attachment
September 5, 1986

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Effective Immediately. Please stow main canopy slider in a rubber band which you have attached to the center "B" line attachment point. (Do not stow it to the tail.)

Reason. Occasionally, during main canopy deployment, the collapsing drogue exerts so much force on the deployment bag that some or all of the stowed suspension lines "slump" out of the rubber bands prematurely causing a reverse sequence (canopy first) deployment. A canopy first deployment usually works out OK. The main problem is that if the slider is not stowed, it too might slip down the suspension lines before line stretch causing a hard or off center opening. An off center opening can concentrate opening forces on one portion of the canopy or one line group. We believe this is responsible for several broken main rear risers which have recently been reported to us. Broken risers are obviously not very common. This problem took many thousands of drogue jumps to show up and we believe stowing the slider should prevent it.

I am working on a bag modification which I think may prevent line "slump" and will let you know as soon as it is "perfected". In the meantime, I urge you not to experiment with other "solutions" such as using bungee cord locking stows instead of standard rubber bands. In some instances, this could cause a bag lock which is a far worse problem than already exists.

Sincerely,
William R. Booth
President