

PSB#052192  
Removal of RSL Attachment Ring on Type-17 Mini Risers  
May 21, 1992

PRODUCT RECALL

ISSUE DATE: 21 May 1992

SUBJECT: This bulletin affects all Type 17 (Mini 1") main risers with reserve static lines (RSL) attached which were manufactured by Relative Workshop of DeLand, Florida, USA. STATUS: MANDATORY

BACKGROUND: Type 17 (Mini 1") risers have been in use for more than six years. Recently, however, the shock loading these risers are being subjected to has become much greater due to one or all of the following reasons:

- 1) Jumpers are falling faster due to tighter jumpsuits, and are jumping smaller canopies which, because of their smaller square footage and/or zero porosity fabric, open faster. (Faster fallrate plus faster opening equals greater opening shock.)
- 2) Microline, unlike Dacron, will not stretch. Consequently, much more of the opening shock is now transmitted directly to the risers instead of being absorbed by the suspension lines.
- 3) Microline, due to its small bulk, may not always be held securely by standard rubber bands or Tube Stoes. (This condition may be aggravated by too small a line bight.) This may cause out-of-sequence deployments, hard openings and uneven riser loading.
- 4) The new generation of collapsible, zero porosity pilot chutes may cause accelerated bag-snap and line-dump which also result in out-of-sequence deployments, hard openings and uneven riser loading.
- 5) The practice of rolling all of the nose in the same direction will often cause one side of the canopy to inflate before the other, which again results in uneven riser loading.

These Type 17 (Mini 1") risers are designed to withstand loads up to 2500 pounds. It is apparent that newly designed canopies with Microline used by heavier jumpers occasionally exceed this design limit. These risers, on average, appear to be stronger than the canopies they are attached to.

Scores of canopies have blown up during this period without 'damaging Type 17 (Mini 1") risers. While a main canopy breaking may be unsettling, breaking a Type 17 (Mini 1") riser with a reserve static line (RSL) may be fatal. It may deploy the reserve canopy into the now malfunctioning main canopy.

**REQUIRED ACTION:** Immediately disconnect the reserve static line (RSL) from the Type 17 (Mini 1") main riser. Have a currently rated parachute rigger cut the reserve static line (RSL) attachment ring off the riser. Then attach the snap shackle end of the reserve static line (RSL) around either the adjacent short or long cutaway housing. You may continue to jump the system set up this way until you install replacement Type 8 (1-3/4") risers set-up for reserve static line (RSL). These are much stronger and have never broken in use. Contact Relative Workshop or your dealer with the serial number of your system and we will supply you with Type 8 (1-3/4") risers at no cost, if your reserve static line (RSL) was installed by Relative Workshop.

(If your reserve static line (RSL) is an after-market installation, we will supply you with the recommended Type 8 (1-3/4") risers at a reasonable cost.)

**REMEMBER:** This bulletin only affects those Type 17 (Mini 1") main risers with reserve static lines (RSL) attached which were manufactured by Relative Workshop. It does not affect Type 17 (Mini 1") main risers without reserve static lines.

**COMPLIANCE DATE:** Immediately, prior to the next jump.

**DISTRIBUTION:** Skydiving publications worldwide. USPA, PIA, Relative Workshop dealers.