

Safety Bulletin - QUASAR II 18 April 2007

Issued by: Strong Enterprises

Type: Mandatory

Problem

Strong Enterprises has recently been made aware of a reserve pilot chute extraction scenario where it failed to clear the reserve container during a ground reserve extraction in a rigging loft. This scenario simulated a reserve activation with the main container closed and the main riser covers still in place. We were able to duplicate the same scenario again on our own, and began immediate and extensive testing and customer record review to determine what models and what configurations required attention. Repeated tests with the main tray open and riser covers off (simulating an open main to reserve cutaway), resulted in clean reserve pilot chute deployments clearing the reserve tray. The simulated scenario of a closed main container (main flaps closed and riser covers closed) however, reproduced the reserve pilot chute hesitation, and hang up of the base coil of the pilot chute on the bottom reserve flap.

To date, there have been no reports of live reserve activation issues from the field, in either the partial malfunction (open main tray) configuration, or the total malfunction (closed main tray) scenario.

Directive

We have determined however that despite the clean track record of the Quasar II reserve systems activated in the field, that we must **TEMPORARILY GROUND** all Quasar II systems, **EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY**, and modify the reserve tray configuration to ensure that the (main in container) reserve extraction scenario that currently exists does not pose a safety risk to our customers.

Solution

A solution is in place for the Quasar II reserve system and Strong Enterprises will provide this modification at no charge with compliance from April 18, 2007 to September 30, 2007. We are skydivers as well, and we regret the inconvenience that this recall may impose on our customers, and pledge to have every Quasar II received for upgrades, back in the mail within a 1 day to 2 week timeframe.