



EASA Safety Information Notice

No.: 2007- 51

Issued: 19 December 2007

Subject: DGAC France Airworthiness Directives F-2007-025 and F-2007-026 about PARACHUTES DE FRANCE reserve canopies

Ref. Publication: DGAC France Airworthiness Directives F-2007-025 and F-2007-026.

Introduction: DGAC France released the referenced ADs (attached to this notice)

Regulation (EC) No.1592/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 July 2002 on common rules in the field of civil aviation and establishing a European Aviation Safety Agency, defines the functions and tasks allocated to EASA for the purpose of the implementation of this regulation. With regard to its regulatory frame, EASA's scope of responsibilities for parachutes is governed by regulation No.1592/2002 and not by CS-ETSO C23d (certification specifications for parachutes) whose technical content goes beyond EASA's remit.


As a consequence, parachutes within EASA's scope of responsibilities are those designed for wearing or installation on board of aircraft (themselves amongst EASA's remit) for use in case of emergency. It has been determined that the products addressed through the two referenced ADs are outside EASA's competences as they are reserve canopies used by parachutists.

However, this is a serious safety issue and this Safety Information has been released accordingly.

Applicability: PARACHUTES DE FRANCE reserve canopies

Recommendation: National Aviation Authorities of the EU member states may adopt the referenced ADs under their State of Registry responsibility.

Contact: For further information contact the Airworthiness Directives, Safety and Research Section, Certification Directorate, EASA.
E-mail: ADs@easa.europa.eu .

	AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVE No F-2007-025	Distribution: A	Issue date: December 19, 2007	Page : 1/2
Direction générale de l'aviation civile France GSAC publication	This Airworthiness Directive is published by the DGAC as the Airworthiness Authority of the State of Design for the affected equipment.		<i>Translation of « Consigne de Navigabilité » of same number. In case of difficulty, reference should be made to the French issue.</i>	
	<p align="center">No person may operate an aircraft to which an Airworthiness Directive applies, except in accordance with the requirements of that Airworthiness Directive, unless otherwise agreed with the Authority of the State of Registry.</p>			
Corresponding foreign Airworthiness Directive(s): Not applicable		Airworthiness Directive(s) replaced: F-2004-015 cancelled by its Revision 1		
Person in charge of airworthiness: PARACHUTES DE FRANCE		Type(s): Reserve canopies		
Type certificate(s) No. None TCDS No None				
ATA chapter: 25	Subject: Equipment/Furnishings - Temporary grounding of reserve canopies			

1. **EFFECTIVITY:**

Any reserve canopy manufactured by PARACHUTES DE FRANCE (PdF) between January 1st, 1987 and February 28, 1989 with serial numbers from 87 01 001 up to 89 02 xxx.

2. **REASONS:**

An investigation is going on to identify the root cause of an accident that occurred after a Minimax 5 reserve canopy opened.

A first analysis revealed that a specific stitching type could have contributed to secondary steering line edge attachment tape failure.

Failure of steering lines trailing edge attachment tapes may lead to canopy control difficulties.

Other reserve canopies manufactured by PARACHUTES DE FRANCE between January 1st, 1987 and February 28, 1989 can have such stitching types.


Reserve canopies does not fall anymore under EASA responsibility. So DGAC AD F-2004-015, approved by EASA approval No. 2004-0749, had to be cancelled and replaced by a French AD approved by DGAC. Therefore this AD replaces the AD F-2004-015 which is cancelled by its Revision 1.

3. **MANDATORY ACTIONS AND COMPLIANCE TIMES:**

Upon receipt of this Airworthiness Directive (AD), apply PARACHUTES DE FRANCE Service Bulletin (SB) No. 2/2003: inspect steering lines trailing edge attachment tapes of reserve canopies manufactured between January 1st, 1987 and February 28, 1989 with serial numbers from 87 01 001 up to 89 02 xxx.

As a preventive measure, and pending investigation final results, ground the reserve canopies presenting the following characteristics:

- double sewing without back-stitching over attachment tape in accordance with figure A of SB, or
- evidence of any kind of failure initiation on any part of the steering line attachment on and around the tape.

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4. REFERENCE PUBLICATION:

Service Bulletin PARACHUTES DE FRANCE No. 2/2003 dated December 19, 2003.

5. EFFECTIVE DATE:

Upon receipt from February 04, 2004 (effective date of AD F-2004-015).

6. REMARK:

For questions concerning the technical contents of this AD's requirements, contact:

PARACHUTES DE FRANCE SA,
2 rue Denis PAPIN, Jouy le Moutier,
95031 CERGY-PONTOISE Cedex
Phone number: 01 34 32 77 57 - Fax number: 01 34 32 73 17.

7. APPROVAL:

This AD is approved by DGAC.

	AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVE No F-2007-026	Distribution: A	Issue date: December 19, 2007	Page : 1/2
Direction générale de l'aviation civile France GSAC publication	This Airworthiness Directive is published by the DGAC as the Airworthiness Authority of the State of Design for the affected equipment.		<i>Translation of « Consigne de Navigabilité » of same number. In case of difficulty, reference should be made to the French issue.</i>	
	<p align="center">No person may operate an aircraft to which an Airworthiness Directive applies, except in accordance with the requirements of that Airworthiness Directive, unless otherwise agreed with the Authority of the State of Registry.</p>			
Corresponding foreign Airworthiness Directive(s): Not applicable		Airworthiness Directive(s) replaced: 2006-0160-E of EASA		
Person in charge of airworthiness: PARACHUTES DE FRANCE		Type(s): TECHNO 240 equipments		
Type certificate(s) No. None TCDS No None				
ATA chapter: 25	Subject: Equipment/Furnishings - Reserve parachute - Mandatory packing modifications slider and steering lines replacement			

1. EFFECTIVITY:

TECHNO 240-B, P/N R 01-240-B - All serial numbers - Reserve Parachute.

2. REASONS:

A slow deployment of the reserve canopy TECHNO 240-B has been detected. The opening altitude loss/opening time requirement is not met.

AD No 2006-0105-E is superseded as the manufacturer has issued a Service Bulletin, as mentioned below, solving the unsafe condition.

As DGAC France is the competent State of Design authority for products and for the airworthiness concern addressed through these Ads, this DGAC CN replaces AD 2006-0160-E which is cancelled by EASA.


3. MANDATORY ACTIONS AND COMPLIANCE TIMES:

The following measures are rendered mandatory before the next use, as from the effective date of this AD, unless already accomplished:

- replace the slider and the steering lines as defined by PARACHUTE DE FRANCE Service Bulletin BSV_06_001 and use only the packing method as defined by that Service Bulletin.

4. REFERENCE PUBLICATION:

PARACHUTE DE FRANCE Service Bulletin BSV_06_001 dated June 08, 2006 (or later approved revisions).

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5. EFFECTIVE DATE:

June 08, 2006 (effective date of AD EASA 2006-0160-E).

6. REMARK:

For questions concerning the technical contents of this AD's requirements, contact:

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