

NOTE: This issue does not impact the flight characteristics or safety of the parachute systems

RA and Hi-5 Family Reserve Deployment System Upgrade

To: Military Rigging Lofts and End Users

From: Airborne Systems Technical Authority – JC Berland

Date: June 30, 2020

Subject: Product Upgrade – Reserve Deployment System

Equipment: RA and Hi-5 reserve canopy deployment systems

Priority Level: Highly Recommended

Background: Airborne Systems is the industry leader in innovative parachute development and design. The reserve deployment system used in the RA series of harness container systems has been in service since 2006 and performing flawlessly. Over the last three years, during the development of our latest generation of parachutes, and thanks to more advanced video capabilities, some aspects of the reserve deployment that could be improved were identified. Additionally, we received customer feedback reporting difficulties in managing the reserve pilot chute during packing.

Improvement Description:

The reserve pilot chute has been redesigned to simplify packing and improve performance during deployment. The pilot chute is now built using a heavy gauged spring with additional stiffness. The reserve deployment bag is now reconfigured with overlapping closing flaps to ensure better canopy retention during deployment. Additionally, the four grommets on the closing flaps and two safety stows improve line retention during bag lift off.



As a result of these improvements, canopy packing procedures and closing of the reserve container are unaffected. The closing sequence of the flaps of the reserve deployment bag is the only change. An addendum to the manual is available to show flap closing sequence.



Action: For military groups with the legacy Reserve Deployment Systems, there is no immediate action needed. Airborne Systems will update the bills of material for the affected harness container



configurations with the improved Reserve Deployment System. As of today, any new system or spare part orders will be supported with the improved Reserve Deployment System. The new nomenclature is indicated below:

Parachute	PN	Description
RA-270	832041-0	DEPL SYS,RESV,2FLAP,RA-270,19" PC
RA-300/Hi-5 300	832145-0	DEPL SYS,RESV,2FLAP,RA-300/HI-5 300,19" PC
RA-360	832146-0	DEPLOYMENT SYS,RESV,2FLAP,RA-360,19" PC
Hi-5 370	832319-0	DEPL SYS,RESV,2FLAP,HI-5 370,19" PC

Customers that have questions regarding this notice or need assistance with ordering the new reserve deployment system and its components should contact Amanda Kelly Airborne Systems Inside Sales Operation Manager.

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*Rev. 1 – The photo of the legacy reserve deployment bag assembly updated.