

BRITISH PARACHUTE ASSOCIATION
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SAFETY NOTICE

A recent fatality has raised the question of the importance of regular maintenance of parachute equipment. Contributing factors to the accident were:-

- 1) The velcro mating the hand deployed pilot chute to the base of the container was badly worn and ineffective.
- 2) The Canopy (Crusair) was too small for the main container (Jalbert 252 size).

The combination of a loose container with no tension on the 'Packing Loop' and a bridle line able to be lifted by the slipstream, allowed the curved pin to be extracted prematurely and open the main container (causing a 'horse shoe' type malfunction).

It is essential that all velcro be replaced when showing signs of excessive wear and that compatibility between container and canopy be maintained.

Jim Sharples
Chairman Safety & Training
Committee

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