

BRITISH PARACHUTE ASSOCIATION LTD.



SAFETY NOTICE 1/94

NOVA MAIN CANOPY GROUNDING

Below is the text of a 'Product Grounding and Recall Bulletin' issued by Glide Path International on the 13th January 1994 grounding all Nova Main Canopies.

The BPA is therefore grounding all Nova Main Canopies until further notice.

Glide Path Bulletin: 2 (January 13, 1994)

Product Affected: ALL NOVA MAIN CANOPIES

Statement:

Effective immediately, we are advising all Nova main canopy owners not to jump their Nova canopies.

We fully tested the Nova canopy before placing it on the market, and it performed safely during all of our testing. We are now aware that a few jumpers have suffered injuries or death while using the Nova. The reports that we have received are conflicting and we are unable to determine if the unexplained collapse of the Nova is due to gusty winds and ground turbulence or jumper error. Until we can discover what causes the problem (if a problem with the canopy exists), we are asking all skydivers to spread the word to all Nova owners to immediately refrain from jumping their Nova again.

We are a small corporation with limited finances, and we cannot unconditionally recall and replace all Nova canopies. We also are aware that a number of Nova owners are completely satisfied with the Nova and would not wish to change it for a different product. We still advise these individuals not to jump their Nova canopies.

Action to be taken:

It is our desire to offer some compensation to those Nova owners who wish to return this product. Accordingly, those who are interested in a replacement are advised that Glide Path has designed a new line of zero-porosity canopies, using an airfoil which exhibits high performance while retaining the solid stability of other Glide Path products. We are making the following offer to all Nova owners:

* Return your Nova to Glide Path and receive a 60% discount on our new zero porosity canopy. This offer is valid through April 30, 1994.

Please accept our apologies for any inconvenience this may cause you. We know that a grounded skydiver is not a happy skydiver, but we are doing everything in our power to get you safely back in the air.

* Foreign customers, please call for special instructions.

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Distribution: CCIs, Advanced Riggers, Council, Sport Parachutist

14th January 1994