



RECOMMENDED

Flight Trim Check for Xaos-27 Series canopies made between OCT 2010 and APR 2011

SERVICE BULLETIN SB111214

1) Effectivity

This Service Bulletin applies to Xaos-27 canopies manufactured between 01 OCT 2010 and 15 APR 2011

2) Non-Effectivity

This Service Bulletin does not apply to any canopies unless described above.

3) Identification

All Precision Aerodynamics canopies have a serial number containing eight digits. All Xaos-27 canopies have serial numbers whose first two numbers are "83". To date, four canopies are known to be affected by SB111214, although it is possible that there may be others. The canopies that are known to be affected have all been located and are identified with the following serial numbers:

83049461 83049462 83049465 83049466

4) Background

Systematically, each Xaos-27 lineset is custom made for its serial numbered canopy. At the request of, and in response to overwhelming input from advanced teams of sponsored athletes, competitors, and other users of Xaos-27 canopies, beginning 01 OCT 2010 we improved the canopy design by extending all line sets of the Xaos-27 series by 25cm (~10 inches) over the original trim specifications. The result of this of this extension smoothes the deployment sequence, controls the recovery arc and enhances the bottom end flare at the point of landing.

In the beginning of this change, the 25cm (~10 inch) extension was "added on" in the calculation process when the linesets were manufactured. In the case of the four canopies mentioned above, all of the linesets were made from a single "set-up" rather than being done in the traditional systematic fashion. On these four specific canopies, the "B2" lines were cut shorter than specified by a dimension of approximately 9cm (~3.5 inches). Each canopy contains 2 "B2" lines which are non-cascaded and located on the inboard seam of each endcell.

Several hundred jumps were made on these four canopies mentioned above by different jumpers without incident. On 20 May 2011 a jumper was severely injured when his canopy collapsed in during turbulent conditions at a low altitude, but the cause of the collapse has not been determined. We continue to evaluate and jump test canopies intentionally rigged with the replicated shortened "B2" lines without incident but these canopies exhibit slightly more "sluggish" performance when compared to specified rigging. Beginning April 15, 2011, programming was instituted to include the additional 25cm (~10 inches) into the production of new linesets without the need for manual calculation.

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Service Bulletins in 3 types:

1) MANDATORY

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2) RECOMMENDED

RECOMMENDED Service Bulletins contain information or modifications that are not considered MANDATORY at the time of issuance, but compliance is highly RECOMMENDED for the benefit of the user at an increased level of performance. RECOMMENDED Service Bulletins are identified by the black "RECOMMENDED" stamp in the upper right-hand corner of the Service Bulletin.

3) OPTIONAL

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