



AEROLEX MARK 103/TYPE A PHASED BAN

Phase 1 - after October 31st 1997 the above unit must not be used at the vehicle end of the tow line as a method of quick release.

Phase 2 - after March 31st 1998 the above unit must not be used as a method of tow line quick release.

Introduction

As previous information has indicated, the Flying and Safety Committee has decided to phase out the use of the Aerolex Mark 103/Type A release unit as a means of connecting and disconnecting tow lines. Starting with the vehicle end the units must be replaced by an alternative unit before November 1st 1997. By April 1st 1998 the unit must not be used to attach either end of the tow line.

CFI's are responsible for complying with this instruction.

FSC Offer

The Committee is fully aware of the impact this will have on parascending clubs and has sought permission from the Executive Council to soften the financial strain by providing, on permanent loan, one alternative Sportlite release unit for every parascending club in the Association.

Your unit, modified for use at the vehicle end, is enclosed with this letter - please note that you do not have to pay for the unit but it remains the property of the BHPA and in the event of closure of your club the unit must be returned.

When fitting the unit you must ensure that the single fixing bolt is tight enough to prevent any movement - this point should be regularly checked for security and alignment.

Notes

1. The FSC is grateful for the cooperation given by Sportlite, but this instruction does not constitute extraordinary approval of the Sportlite replacement unit.
2. You do not have to use the Sportlite replacement; any one of the available alternatives will do.
3. Whichever unit you use, please monitor its use and report any unusual occurrence on the standard BHPA Incident Report Form.
4. The Technical Manual will be amended in due course to show the Aerolex Mark 103/Type A is unsuitable as a quick release.

For further information or clarification contact Tom Beardsley

Authority - FSC/08/97 Meeting C