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PARACHUTING IS DANGEROUS!

Parachuting equipment/ systems and their components sometimes fail to function properly, even when correctly assembled, packed and operated. Before you use this parachuting equipment and assembly, you must fully understand and accept that you risk serious, permanent injury and death each time you use this parachuting equipment.

Hard openings can cause equipment damage, severe injury or death. You risk serious injury or death each time you use this or any parachuting equipment and by doing so you will be deemed to have expressly and impliedly assumed this risk.

Proper training and/or experience are required to lower the risk of serious injury or death.

Prior to using this equipment, you must:

Read and fully understand this warning and the owners’ manual, supplemental information and packing instructions. You must follow all the manufacturers’ recommendations, including wing loading recommendations, and ensure that you have completed an appropriate ‘supervised/controlled instruction course’ in the use of the parachuting equipment and each of its components.

OR

Read and fully understand this warning and the owners’ manual, supplemental information and packing instructions. You must follow all the manufacturers’ recommendations, including wing loading recommendations, and have completed at least 100 ram air parachute jumps.

The risk of death, serious injury, canopy damage and hard openings may be lowered by strictly complying with all manufacturers’ recommendations and safe parachuting practices and by never exceeding the limits of your experience level and the maximum equipment limits, including the maximum limits for the Vortex container/harness of:

- Maximum Exit weight (jumper + clothing + equipment) : 125 kg or 275 pounds
- Maximum Opening Velocity: 150 knots (172 mph)

PRIOR TO ASSEMBLY, PACKING OR USE OF THIS PRODUCT, READ AND FULLY UNDERSTAND THE CONTENT AND ALL WARNINGS CONTAINED IN THIS MANUAL, AND CAREFULLY FOLLOW ALL INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE AND DURING PACKING AND USING THE PARACHUTE SYSTEM.
DISCLAIMER; LIMITATION OF WARRANTY ON PARACHUTE; LIMITATION OF REMEDIES; WAIVER AND RELEASE OF WARRANTIES

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RIGGING INFORMATION

PAY CAREFUL ATTENTION TO THE FOLLOWING ITEMS FOR THE SAFE OPERATION AND USE OF YOUR EQUIPMENT.

3-RING SYSTEM

Thread the 3 rings through each other in the correct sequence. Pass the soft white nylon loop through the small ring only.

Insert it through the riser grommet then through the housing grommet and lock in place with the yellow cutaway cable. (repeat on the other side)

Check both sides to make sure the white loop passes through the small ring only

NB Make sure the cutaway cable is trimmed and burned to the correct length.

RISERS AND TOGGLES

Make sure the risers are not twisted. Do a proper line continuity check on the main parachute. The brake lines must run clear all the way down through the slider grommets and the riser guide ring.

Attach the toggles in the correct manner. Put the loop (at the end of the steering line) through the zero grommet on the toggle. Loop the bottom end of the toggle through the steering line loop and pull it tight.

RAPIDE LINKS AND BUMPER STOPS

The rapide link must be finger tight, then tweaked by no more than one quarter turn with a spanner.

Pull the bumper stops securely down over the rapide links. Keep a constant check on the bumper stops, making sure that they do not move off the links and check for wear and tear on the lines and line bar tacks.

HOW TO FIT SOFT LINKS

Lay canopy out, nose down. Clear lines down to risers. Thread soft link as shown.

1. Back through the riser

2. Thread through the line loops. CHECK that no line loop has been missed!

3. Thread through the loop that holds the locking tab.

4. Pass the lock tab through the loop at the end of the soft link. Hold the riser and pull on the line set to tighten the loop below the lock tab

5. Turn the link to get the lock tab inside the riser end. Move the line loops on the link. Pull tension on the line group and the riser to set the link.

6. A hand tack through the tab will stop the link from turning until it takes a set.

CAUTION

MAIN AND RESERVE CANOPIES USE DIFFERENT STRENGTH LINKS
HOW TO FIT TOGGLES

CAUTION!

The finger-trapped loop is secured by the knot! Installing the toggle without the knot will allow the finger-trap to slip out and the toggle to come off!

The results if it comes off:

Under canopy, the steering line will fly free and trail out of reach. The jumper will NOT BE ABLE TO FLARE FOR LANDING.

While flaring for landing, a very dangerous LOW HOOK TURN IS PROBABLE.

Adjust the length of the toggle lines by repositioning the toggle loops, but, afterward ALWAYS SECURE THE FINGER-TRAPPED LOOP!!

CHECK YOUR EQUIPMENT ON A REGULAR BASIS

1. Make sure the cutaway cable is cleaned & lubricated. This should be done once a month or after every 50 jumps. Check the reserve closure loop. Do a full inspection of the reserve and follow the manufacturer’s packing instructions carefully. Check the 3 ring and flex the webbing.

2. Check the reserve packing card and make sure that the reserve is current.

3. Check the main closure loop regularly and replace it if it is worn.

4. Check the bumper stops for wear. Make sure the connector links are secure and the lines are undamaged. (Do not over tighten)

5. Keep an eye on the slider grommets and make sure they are smooth and firmly in place. Check the stitching on the slider and the bar tacks on the lines.

6. Use the correct stow bands on the deployment bag. Do not use standard elastics or tube stows on spectra or micro lines. Use the correct tube stows or elastics. Replace worn elastics or tube stows.

7. Do frequent line checks. Pay attention to the line attachment points and the link attachment points.

8. Inspect the main deployment bag, bridle and pilot chute thoroughly. Replace worn or torn equipment.

9. Check the reserve pin frequently and make sure it is not bent.

10. Keep your equipment dry and out of the sun and heat. Do not keep your equipment in the trunk of your car.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT YOUR DEALER:

Phone: 011 27 82 557 7378 (SA) Email: info@parachutesystemsusa.com
Phone: 1 843 2903662 (USA) Website: www.parachutesystemsusa.com
RESERVE PACKING TOOLS

1. Approx. 1.5m pull-up cord.
2. Packing pin attached to a bright ribbon
3. Packing Paddle
4. Small Twister Bar and Plate
5. Approx. 40cm, 1” Loop Velcro
6. Data Card with weight, speed and ADD info
7. Rifle Rod

RESERVE CLOSURE LOOP INFORMATION:

Vortex 100   -   65 mm
Vortex 120   -   65 mm
Vortex 135   -   65 mm
Vortex 150   -   65 mm
Vortex 170   -   70 mm
Vortex 185   -   80 mm
Vortex 215   -   80 mm
Vortex 285   -   80 mm

NOTE:
All measurements are taken from the top of the Cypres washer to the top of a pre-stretched closure loop.

HOW TO PACK A DECELERATOR RESERVE INTO A VORTEX

Always inspect the canopy before you start packing
Hang the reserve on the inspection bar and do a thorough inspection. Make sure the soft links are routed and fitted properly. If you have metal links make sure they are tight with a quarter spanner turn. Fit silicone bumpers and hand tack in place. Make sure the toggles are attached correctly and that the steering lines are running clear. Do a line continuity check. Clean and fit the cutaway cables before packing the reserve parachute.

NB. When packing with a Skyhook, make sure to pass the long yellow cutaway cable through the YELLOW lanyard ONLY, and then back into the hard housing that goes to the left hand 3 – Ring.
Make sure to fit a new reserve closure loop, that’s made from the correct material and that is the correct length.

Start by tying the base rings together with a pull-up cord.

Make sure that the steering lines are not twisted.

Stow the brakes and stow away the excess brake lines.

NB. Don’t push the toggles too far into the brake line loops.

Place a weight on the container and hang the canopy on a packing hook, separating the left and right line groups.
Find the middle of the canopy.

Work on one side by pulling tension between the A and B line groups and pushing the fabric back to form a loop. Repeat between B and C, C and D. Now repeat the whole process on the other side.

Clear all 3 stabilizers on both sides.

Place your forearm across the nose of the canopy and gently lay it down while keeping tension on the lines.

Start by gathering all seven cells, shake out the canopy.

Pull the slider back out of the way.

Start with the nose and pull out 3 cells, there after flake your 3 loop shaped folds. (The loops of the canopy between A & B, B & C, C & D.)

Take the stabilizer and pull it up at 45 degree angle. (The rear section of the stabiliser where it attaches to the tail.)

Flake the tail keeping tension on the lines. Repeat on other side of the canopy, starting again with the nose. (As above.)

Pull up the slider against the slider stops and quarter it.
Neaten the slider placement and the folded tail and by using your forearm push out all the air.

Fold up the tail section and fold all 3 stabilizers over the slider.

Do the same on the other side.

Pull down the trailing edge just covering the grommets and keep the tail centred. Grommets must be separated left and right and splayed slightly.

Fold the tail under the canopy on both sides and make it the width of the free bag. Prepare the free bag. At this stage make sure the label on the canopy has been filled in.

Place your hand +- 10cm from the bottom.

Fold the canopy back and over again.

Place your knees on the folded part.

Split the canopy and expose the centre cell only.

Dress the bunny ears equally on both sides.
Pull down the free bag underneath the “S” folded canopy.

Place the bunny ears into the free bag.

Spread the slider grommets and equalize the pack job on both sides of the free bag.

Now close the mouth of the free bag using 30mm bites through the shock cord elastic on each side. (Make sure the shock cord is still in good condition and its elasticity is still good.)

Place a +- 40cm looped Velcro tape with a warning tag attached in the opened line stowage pocket and fit the Velcro together. This is done to protect the lines while stowed.

Stow the remainder of the lines by Zig-zagging them into the line stowage pocket. Starting at the bottom of the pocket (left or right side), then work the lines neatly from side to side up towards the top of the pocket, make sure not to snag or trap the lines in or on the Velcro.

Leave +- 30cm of line from the soft links un-stowed. Carefully remove your Velcro packing aid and match the Velcro on the free bag pouch. (Make sure no lines are snagged in between the two Velcro pieces.)

When packing a Vortex WITHOUT a Skyhook take the Skyhook sub flap and tuck it under the closure loop base plate. Place a pull up cord through the closure loop.

NB If flap can’t tuck in, just place it on top.

With a Skyhook leave the flap out and place a pull - up through the closure loop.
Prepare the reserve container tray by making sure that the cutaway cable has been cleaned and fitted. (This makes it easier before the reserve container has been closed.) Pass the long yellow cable through the yellow loop only of the Collin’s Lanyard then back into the split hard housing going to the wearer’s left three ring.

Place the risers neatly into the pack tray. Make sure the risers are not twisted and pulled up tight over the shoulders. Try to place the rear risers slightly up on the wall of the reserve container. (Side Flaps.)

Route the pull up through the free bag and lock in place with your temporary locking pin.

Push the free bag bottom well into the bottom corners of the container, to fill as much as possible, make sure not to disturb the splayed risers. Check again you have routed the closure loop through the cutter of the AAD!!

Keep most of the bulk down in both lower corners of the container, create a channel in the middle of the free bag by pushing the reserve ears to the left and right sides.

S- Fold the bridle between the bunny ears to +- 15cm from the green tuck in loop for the Skyhook.

Close the Skyhook sub flap and lock it with the temporary locking pin. The bridal must come out to the wearer’s left hand side from exiting under the sub flap.

Place the green tab into the green binding tape keeper on the sub flap.

Bring over the Skyhook assembly.

Fit the red line on to the metal Skyhook under the clear Plastic and seal with one turn red riggers thread through the small hole in the plastic.
Make a S-fold in the red line as close as possible to the Skyhook and place the loop into the red keeper. (Red Binding tape channel on the sub flap.)

Make sure that the red line is still connected to the Skyhook and that the riggers thread is still in place. Check the orientation of the metal Skyhook and the arrow pointing to the reserve pilot chute.

Fold back the bridle and close the right flap.

Close the left flap.

Lock in place with temporary locking pin.

Locate the binding tape join and spring swage and position that under the top flap.

Insert a rifle rod and pull the pull up through the reserve pilot chute.

Compress the pilot chute at the same time keep the material and mesh clear of the spring coils. Roll/fold in the mesh and fabric straight across the top of the pilot chute cap, tuck it under and then pull it down and around the left and right sides of the cap towards the bottom as shown.

S-fold the bridle with short folds up and down between the pilot chute cap and reserve container wall. (Under the Starburst flap)

Place in the cavity created in the free bag.
Close the bottom starburst flap and lock in place with temporary locking pin. Take the excess red line and fold it under the top flap.

Make sure it’s not too high as that will make the starburst flap stand up, when closed.

Roll / Fold the material of the pilot chute neatly and fold it on top of the S-folded bridle.

Close top flap with temporary pin. (Flap 3)

Put the reserve pin through the reserve cable or blue reserve line and insert it into the closure loop.

(Do not push the pin all the way in.) Mate the Velcro on the flap to the Velcro on the pin lanyard. Reserve flap 3.

Remove the pull up cord carefully and seal with riggers thread and lead seal.

Check and count your tools and fill in all documentation.

NB: Check Routing of cutaway cable must pass through the yellow Collin’s lanyard ONLY in the case of fitting a SkyHook and RSL. SkyHook ->

NB: In case of fitting RSL ONLY check routing of cutaway cable must pass through the yellow Collin’s lanyard ONLY. RSL ->
HOW TO INSERT THE PARACHUTE INTO VORTEX HARNESS CONTAINER

Set brakes as shown.

Insert toggles and stow away excess steering line in elastic keeper.

PACK THE CANOPY ACCORDING TO MANUFACTURER’S INSTRUCTIONS.
Dress the canopy two inches wider than the deployment bag.

Place knees where the first fold would be.

Lift the parachute tightly over your knees towards your chest. Start rolling the parachute tightly.

Clear the bridle as you roll the parachute and roll to the floor. Release left knee and push your left hand under the fold as shown. Rotate the roll towards you keeping pressure from the top.

Get both knees on the roll.

Prep the bag with no twists in the bridle and kill line.

Pull the mouth of bag under the rolled canopy

Insert one corner of the pack job, then the other
Close the centre stow with a +/- 30mm bite of line. Continue closing the mouth of the D-Bag using +/- 30mm of line.

Stow the remaining lines leaving +/- 30cm excess to the risers as shown.

Prepare the container.

Bring the bag over the container and place on the floor with the lines towards the container.

Roll the parachute down and pull the mouth of the bag out as shown.

Equalize the canopy in the bag.

Stack the risers side by side and stow the lines neatly down the sides of the container as shown.

Bring the bag over.

Place in the container with lines at the bottom of the container up against flap 1 (bottom flap).

Keep the closure loop clear while placing the bag into the container as shown.

Rotate the bag into the container, with the lines towards the bottom of the container.

Push the top down and the corners one at a time, making sure the D-Bag lies flat as shown!!
Route the bridle out to the bottom right and close the bottom flap.
Pull it up and hit the flap with your other hand into place, and use your knees to assist.

Close the top flap (starburst flap)

Route the bridle to right bottom and close right flap.

Close left flap.

Close with the pin from bottom right side.
Fold pilot chute as shown.

Fold pilot chute as shown.

Route the bridle as shown. Tuck in about one and a half inches under right hand flap.

Insert pilot chute into the BOC pocket, and massage it flat into the pocket, filling the whole pocket.

Incase the case of FreeFly Hackie or Puff insert tuck tabs into position.

Route the bridle as shown, and center the tuck flap.

Tuck the excess bridle away. Close the bottom flap.

Tuck away the excess RLS lanyard into its pocket under the base ring.
FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT YOUR DEALER OR CHUTE SHOP:

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VORTEX
Owners’ Manual

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