

SADIE ALERT

Publication Date:	17/07/09
Abstract:	Possible failure to inflate lifejackets by the secondary (manual) activation method
Activity Location:	Any
Activity Type:	Lifesaving Equipment Use
Keywords:	Lifejackets
Description:	<p>It has been identified that the manual inflation of Seacrewsader 275N lifejackets, manufactured by Crewsaver, may require an unacceptably high level of force to operate. Those lifejackets with moulded pull cords are more likely to be affected. This has been identified as an intermittent operational fault which does not affect the primary automatic inflation function.</p> <p>The twin automatic operation of both chambers is unaffected by the process and will work as the primary activation method in all cases.</p>
Lessons Learnt:	<p>A moulded plastic pull cord, as opposed to a nylon line, stretches significantly prior to the 120N maximum acceptable force being reached.</p> <p>The packing method can introduce a restriction to the release arm, increasing the force required to manually operate</p>
Recommendations:	<p>New procedures for packing have been issued by the manufacturer to approved service agents. These procedures include the replacement of the moulded plastic cord and a revised packing procedure which removes the potential restriction to the movement of the manual mechanism. Such modifications will be carried out during the next scheduled servicing of the lifejackets.</p>
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