



PRODUCT SERVICE NOTIFICATION

ISSUE DATE: 22 April 2013

PRODUCT SERVICE NOTIFICATION #: 04222013

SUBJECT: The CPS-SOV3-MM and CPS-SOV3-TS **Droque Centerline** used with several models of the 54-inch drogue. The manufacturer highly recommends the addition of a 7-inch extension to the existing centerline when the system is used at the lower end of the weight/speed envelope. The 7-inch extension may be added to specific drogue models which fully collapse upon drogue release. Affected models are listed below.

STATUS: HIGHLY RECOMMENDED

IDENTIFICATION: CPS-SOV3-MM (Multi-Mission) and CPS-SOV3-TS (Tandem Sigma) Parachute Systems which use this fully-collapsing drogue centerline. The applicable drogue part numbers are listed below.

Droque P/Ns Affected

CPS-DRO-SIGMA-54-D-B

CPS-032-002-XXX

CPS-032-003-XXX

BACKGROUND: Recent reports indicate fully-collapsing 54-Inch drogues are not providing sufficient separation velocities to maintain consistent main canopy openings during specific deployment conditions. Field reports and manufacturer evaluations support this observation when the 54-Inch drogue is jumped in the "slick configuration" (solo jumper – no combat equipment) and is especially prevalent during sub-terminal deployments.

Separation Velocity = the speed D-bag departs jumper measured at full line stretch

The average separation velocity at line stretch should be approximately 50 feet per second.

A field retro-fit modification has been evaluated and approved by the manufacturer. A seven (7) inch extension is lark's-headed onto the lower section of the existing centerline. Use of this 7-inch extension will enhance the performance and safety of the parachute system when jumped in slick configuration (minimum 240 lbs AUW) at sub-terminal speeds.

The CPS-Tactical Training Facility has amassed over 14,800 jumps using the 7-inch extension since 2006. Evaluation jumps from 20K and 25K feet with the 7-inch extension, under minimum and maximum weights conditions (240-450 lbs AUW), have proven to yield excellent main canopy openings.

SERVICE NOTIFICATION:

All SOV3 - 54-inch drogues listed above are affected. To ensure your drogue is compatible with the 7-inch extension, perform the following test. Ensure the drogue is at its maximum collapsed position. Suspend the drogue by the Kevlar bridle, as shown in Figures 1 & 2 below.

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Fig-1 displays a drogue which is fully collapsed. Notice there is no blue fabric below the perimeter mesh. This centerline is too short. The manufacturer **highly recommends** the installation of the 7-Inch extension.

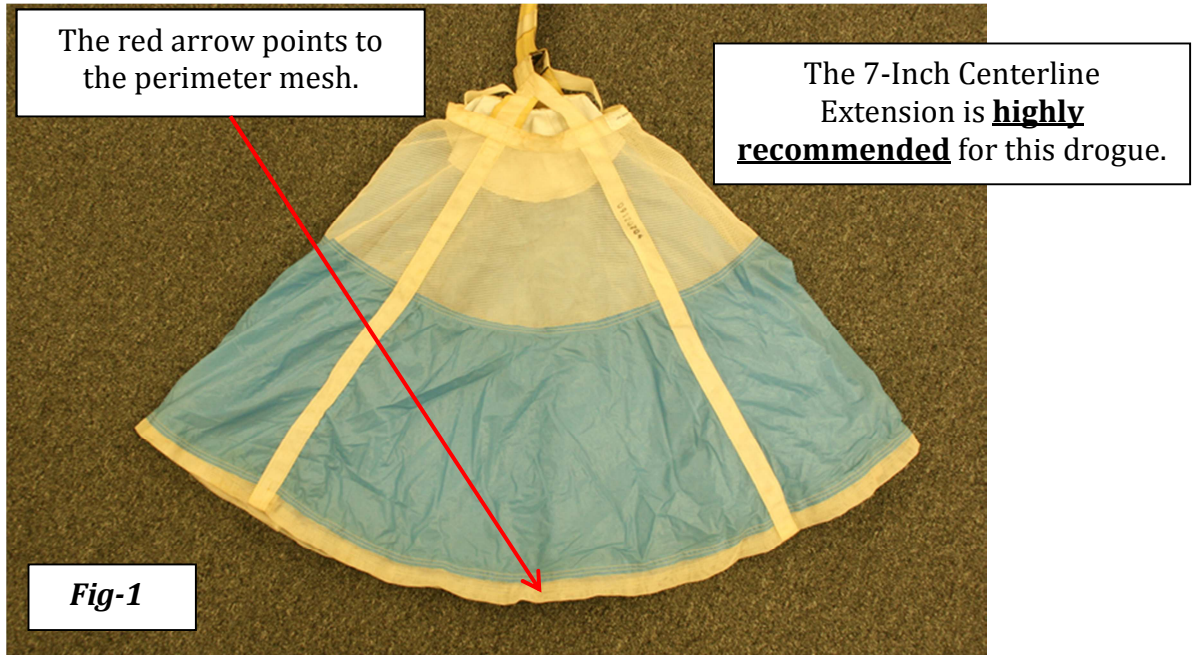
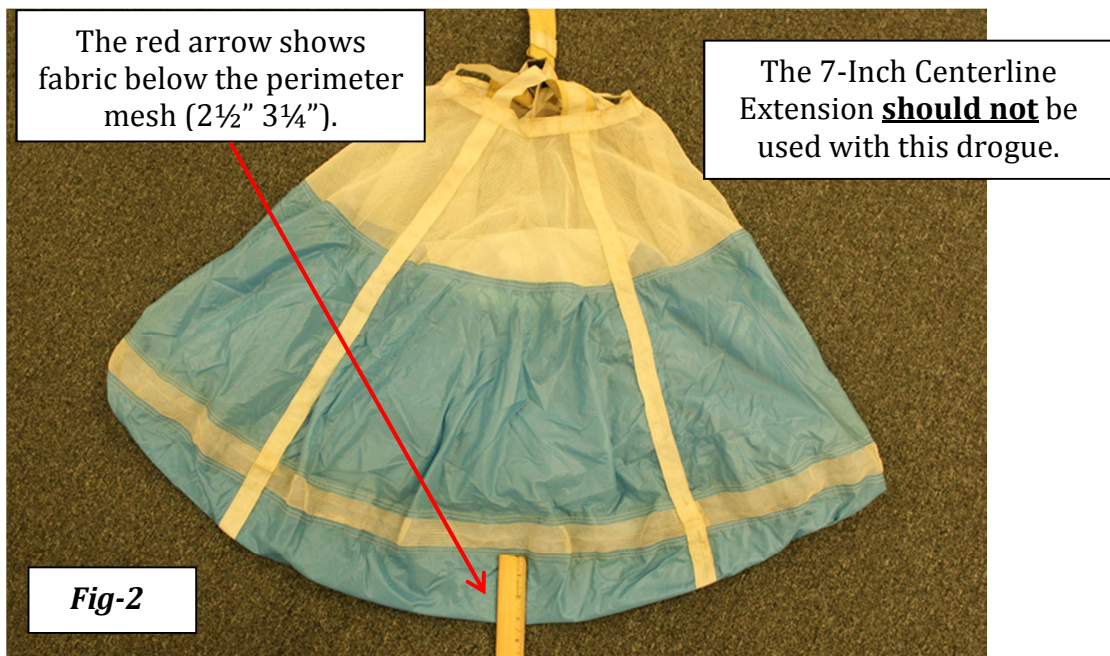


Fig-2 displays another drogue which is not fully collapsed. This drogue has over 3-inches of fabric showing below the perimeter mesh. The 7-Inch extension should **not** be added here.





SERVICE NOTIFICATION – Continued:

Contact your CPS Account Executive to obtain the 7-Inch Centerline Extensions and installations instructions. P/N: CPS-150-736

COMPLIANCE DATE: May 15, 2013 – Inspect your existing 54-inch drogues against the parameters specified above.

This PSN does not affect the use of other deployment capabilities of the SOV3-MM System, such as the 60-inch and 72-inch drogues, hand-deploy pilot chute, over-the-shoulder ripcord-deployed spring-loaded pilot chute or double bag static line (DBSL) configurations.

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DISTRIBUTION:

All Military Users of SOV3-MM/TS Parachute Systems
All Military Parachute Rigger Lofts servicing SOV3-MM/TS Parachute Systems
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