



**AAD sa/nv**  
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## **Product Service Bulletin**

**Issue Date:** 10 October 2009

**Bulletin Number:** PSB-5

**Subject:** Vigil Cutters type 3

**Status:** Advisory

### **Identification:**

Vigil AAD, All Cutters produced in December 2007  
Part Number: 9582006  
Date of Manufacture: **12 - 07 - 2 (mm/yy/Batch)**  
See pict.

### **Background:**

After an activation of the cutter, the cutter body separated from its base.  
This occurred on the 19th September 2009 in Cerfontaine (Belgium).



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### **Service Bulletin:**

Following notification by AAD of this incident to our cutter manufacturer, we were informed that this incident was caused by an error during the final crimping of the cutter body to its base.

This permitted the internal pressure to move the detonator and its base backwards, instead of pushing the cutter knife forward.

With this scenario, the knife was not able to do its job and stayed in its original position without cutting the closing loop.

**This cutter was part of a production batch of 199 pieces, produced in December 2007.**

The manufacturer of our cutters has assured AAD that this is an isolated case and that this has never occurred before in the millions of cutters and detonators that they have produced for its customers including NASA and the US Armed Forces.

We want to confirm that 2 cutters of that batch were activated by us for test purpose and worked to specification. (See picture 2).

**In the interest of safety, AAD has decided to recall all cutters from this batch and to replace all those cutters free of charge.**

This also will enable us to personally examine the entire batch before sending it back to the factory for a detailed analysis, this will allow us to confirm that this is an isolated incident.

### **Compliance Date:**

Because of the cutter manufacturers assurances this can be done at the next repack cycle.

## **Authority:**

Yann Bronnec / Edwin Bollaerts / Jo Smolders  
P.R. Manager / Office Manager / Managing Director

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## **The Distribution list shall include but is not limited to:**

- All owners of Vigil Cutter With DEC 07 production date.
- All AAD dealers.
- Parachute Industry Association.
- All Parachuting publications.
- Federations.
- All National Aero Clubs, Parachuting Section.
- IPC Technical Committee.



Picture 1



Picture 2



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