



# **PARACHUTES AUSTRALIA**

22 Bosci Rd, Ingleburn NSW 2565 Australia ( P:O Box 969)  
Ph: + 61 2 98295355 Fax: +61 2 98291300

## **SERVICE BULLETIN No PA SB9401**

**Issued 1 May 1994**

**SUBJECT:** PARACHUTES AUSTRALIA S18 RSL RETRO-FIT

**STATUS:** ADVISORY

**IDENTIFICATION:** Part No. S018-SOS-( ), all serial numbers  
Part No. S018-TAS-( ), all serial numbers

**BACKGROUND:** The Australian Parachute Federation requires certain parachutists to use a parachute which incorporates either:

- (i) an Automatic Activation Device (AAD), or
- (ii) a Reserve Static Line

PA has issued instructions which allow the retro-fit of a RSL to the S18 parachute pack and harness assembly. The procedure following applies to both the Single Operation System (SOS) and Two Action System (TAS) versions.

**MANUFACTURER ADVISORY:** The installation shall be completed by an APF Rigger "B" or foreign equivalent. The following parts and materials are required:

- Elastic webbing MIL-W-5664 class 1, 38mm (1 1/2") width
- Hand tacking thread
- Bronze or stainless steel fixed bail snap shackle
- Ring RW-3 mini ring system medium ring
- Ring RW-4 mini ring system small ring
- Webbing MIL-W-4088 T1
- Webbing MIL -T-5038 T4 (1" width)
- Velcro hook and pile 25mm width
- Thread, nylon, size "E" or commercial equivalent

**Step 1.** Unpick the hand tacking securing the reserve ripcord housing at the handle end. In the case of the SOS version this also includes the cutaway housings. In the case of the TAS version also unpick the mudflap so it can be modified to close on the inside with velcro (in the same manner as the SOS). Some reserve housings have been cut down and have a 'star' ferrule glued to the ripcord handle end. If this is the case reverse the housing and reinstall so the smooth ferrule will be stowed in the elastic keeper.

**Step 2.** Make an incision in the inside back of the reserve container as shown in Fig.1 just large enough to allow the housing to pass from the inside to the outside. (Note: SOS version has the incision on the left side, TAS on the right side). It may also be necessary to un-pick



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the reserve housing at the other end to enable the end to be drawn through the incision. Tack the housing end where shown.

**Step 3.** Construct the Reserve Static Line to the dimensions in Fig.2. and the 'elastic housing end keeper' to Fig.3.

**Step 4.** Install the elastic housing end keeper in place of the webbing loop formerly used, as illustrated in Fig.4(a) and 4(b). It is important the housing is a loose fit, ie 1kgf required to pull the housing from the elastic.

**Step 5.** Install the cutaway housing ends into a webbing keeper (SOS version) and hand tack back in place.

**Step 6.** Modify the LH mudflap on the TAS version (to be the same as the RH mudflap on the SOS version as illustrated (when installed) in Fig.4(a)) so the housing can "strip away" from the chest strap.

**Step 7.** Modify the left riser for SOS version and right riser for TAS version by installing a RW-4 as illustrated in fig. 4(b) with 3 bar tacks or zig-zag stitching. Ensure the ring is positioned on the correct side of the riser, ie the side closest to the neck.

**Installation:** When installing the RSL proceed as follows:

- feed RW-3 on RSL over reserve ripcord housing
- install housing end into elastic keeper
- install reserve ripcord and/or red & yellow handle
- fold RSL onto itself and onto velcro of the yoke
- close reserve riser (side) flap over RSL (snap shackle outside)
- connect main riser to harness and shackle to riser ring

**AUTHORITY:** Managing Director Underline Designs Pty Ltd trading as Parachutes Australia

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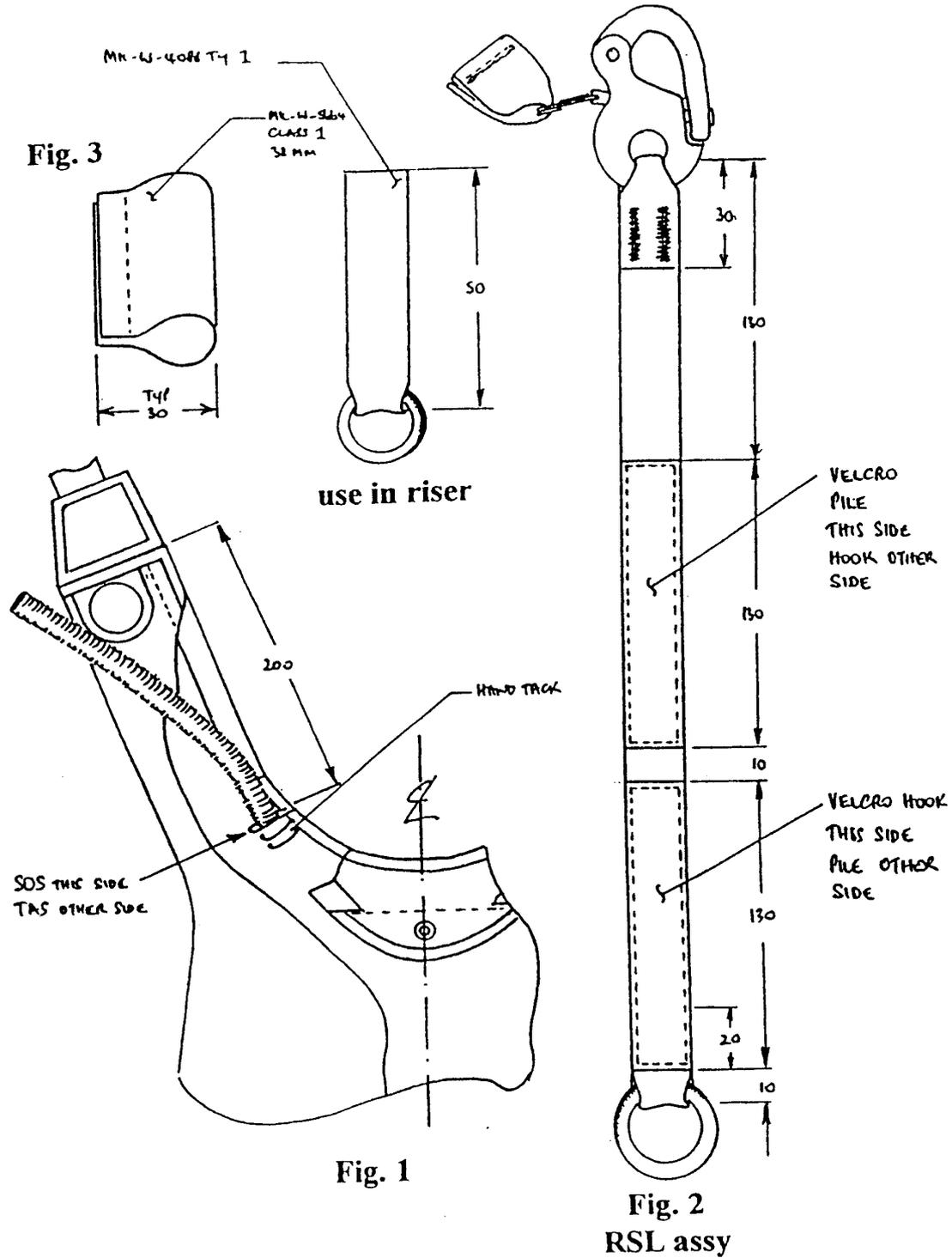
See figures 1, 2 and 3 on page 3 and 4(a) and 4(b) on page 4



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Fig. 4(a)  
for TAS

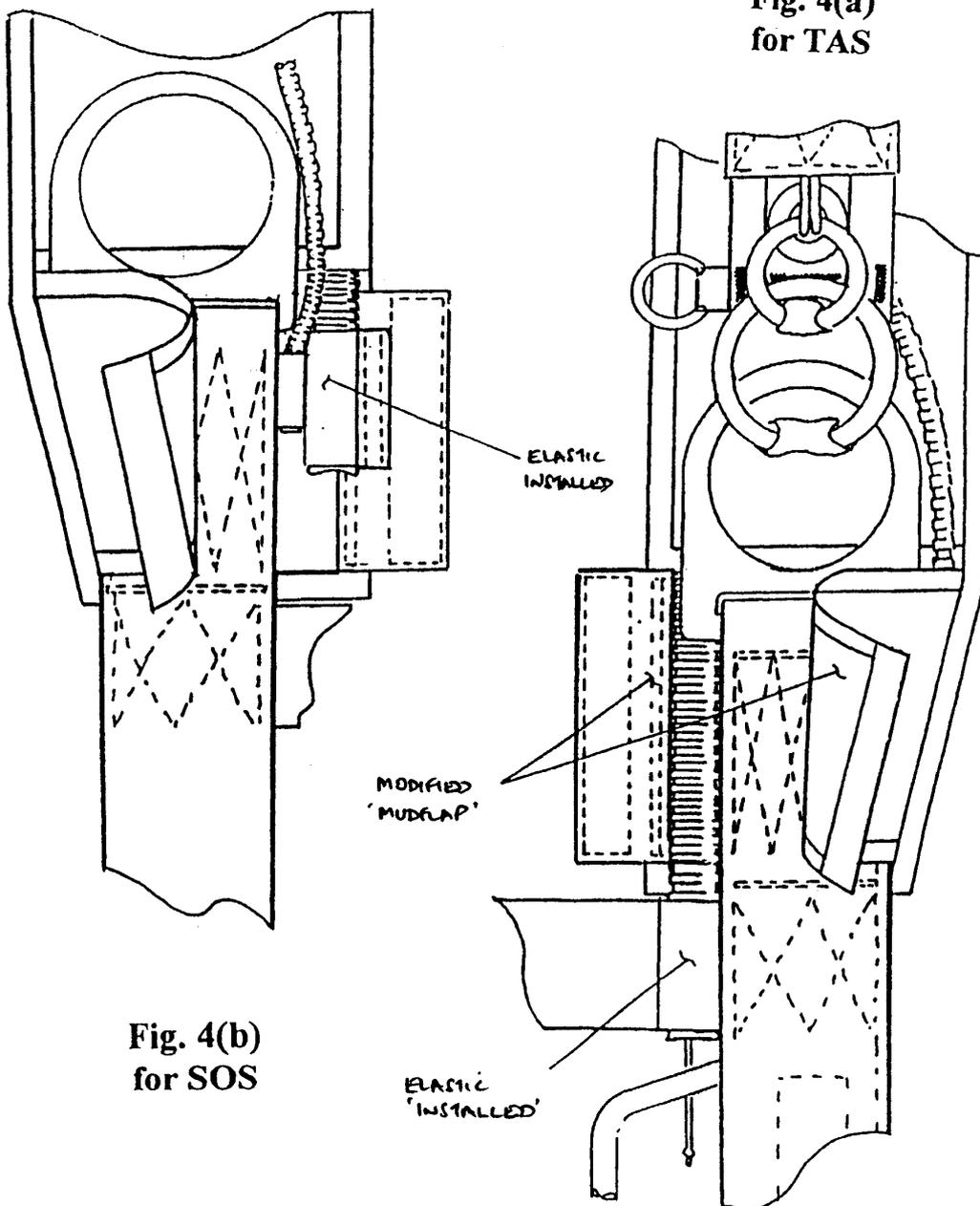


Fig. 4(b)  
for SOS