



CONNECTOR LINK COVERS/SLIDER BUFFERS

A fatal accident occurred where it is believed a parachutist who was trying to gain extra 'drive' close to the ground, pulled down on both front risers at or near the connector links, also pulling down the connector link cover(s)/slider buffer(s). The right hand cover/buffer may then have become loose allowing the riser to slip up through the cover/buffer, having the effect of releasing that riser, which would have caused a very sharp turn to the left. This happened just prior to impact, with fatal consequences.

Therefore, the BPA Panel of Inquiry, which followed the Board of Inquiry into the accident has recommended that all parachutists check their equipment to ensure that if the main parachute has connector link covers/slider buffers, they are in good condition and can not become inadvertently loose or disconnected.

Tony Butler
Technical Officer

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