



SAFETY NOTICE

Issued by Angus Pinkerton - Chairman of the Flying & Safety Committee 11 January 2002.

All paraglider pilots, Instructors, Coaches and Safety Officers must READ, DIGEST AND TAKE ACTION on the contents of this Notice and keep it for future reference.

If you hold a copy of the BHPA Technical Manual this notice must be inserted into it and retained until it is withdrawn or superseded on instructions from the Chairman FSC.

PARAFLY CARABINERS

We repeat the DHV Safety Notice issued on December 14th 2001: In Germany an Austrialpin Parafly Automatic harness carabiner recently broke on launch. Investigation revealed that in all probability the nickel-chromium surface finishing had initiated fatigue cracks to the aluminium carabiner material. Over the period of use (continuous usage over a period of three years in DHV test flights) the cracks had increased to the point of total failure.

In agreement with the manufacturer, the DHV advise that all bright-chrome finished Parafly Automatic carabiners should no longer be used. Austrialpin have manufactured the Parafly Automatic with other surface finishes (including bright-polished aluminium and various anodised finishes) but it is exclusively the bright-chrome version that is affected. Harnesses with these carabiners fitted are known to have been sold in the UK.

