

SAFETY NOTICE

Issued by Angus Pinkerton - Chairman of the Flying & Safety Committee 23 August 2011.

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If you hold a copy of the BHPA Technical Manual this notice must be inserted into it and retained until it is withdrawn or superseded on instructions from the Chairman FSC.

3.5MM MAILLONS FITTED TO WINGS FROM PARAMANIA MANUFACTURED SINCE MARCH 2011

During the second flight of a brand new Paramania Revolution 2 paramotor wing the pilot noticed one of his A riser maillons open up. He was able to carry out a safe landing.

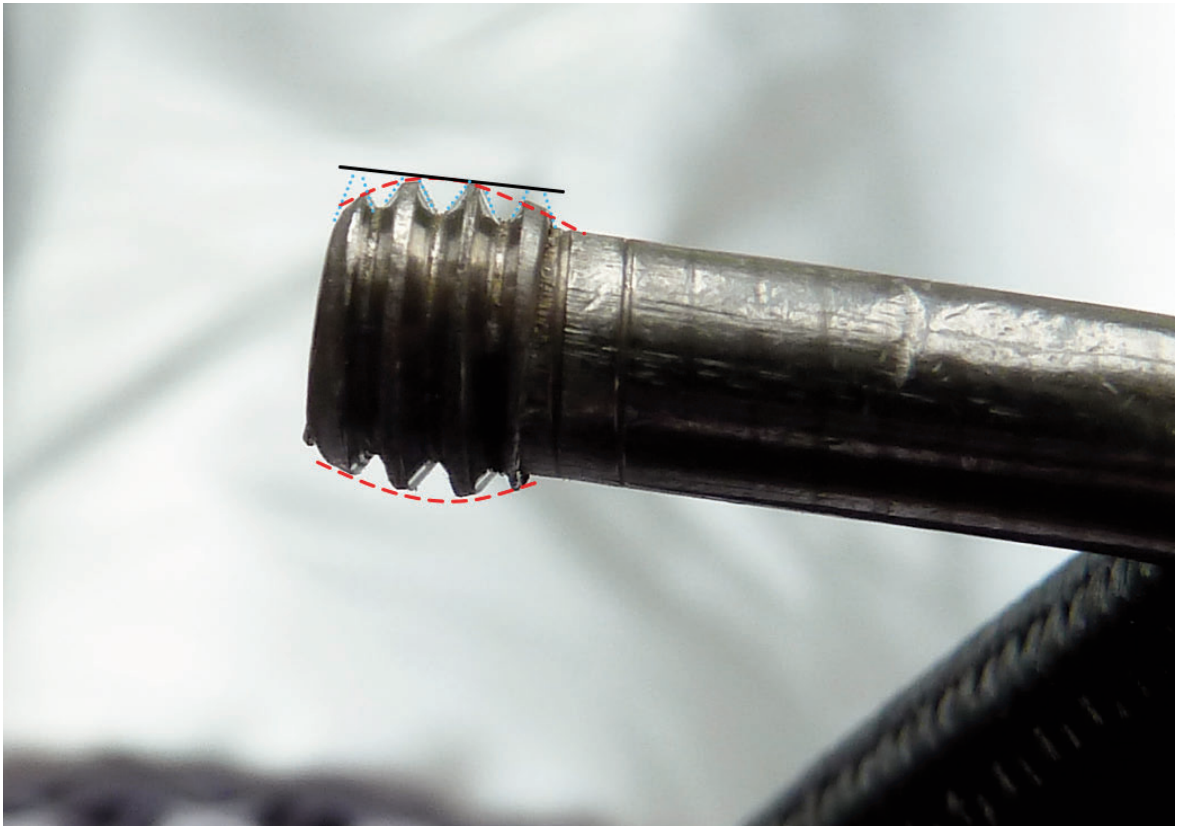
Initial inspection of the maillon showed that the nut was correctly done up and the bottom threaded section had been released.



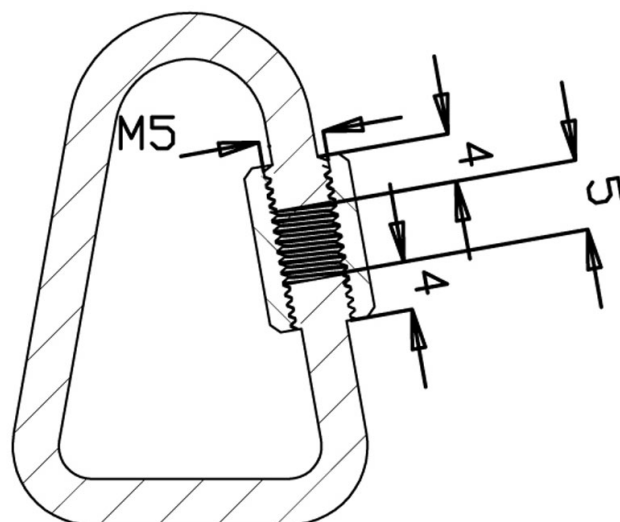
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Further detailed examination and testing of the failed maillon and other identical maillons has revealed that:

- a) The failed maillon had improperly formed threads on the lower threaded component (manufacturing defect).



- b) There is considerable variation in the finished dimensions of these maillons, particularly in the length of the nut and the size of the opening. On nearly all of the maillons examined the nut length was less than that shown on the design drawing, and the opening was larger. This has the effect of significantly reducing the number of threads actually engaged on the bottom threaded member. (The design shows four threads engaged over a 4mm length. On two of the maillons examined the actual distance engaged was less than 2.40mm.)



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- c) This particular maillon type is manufactured in Taiwan by 'Pro-Metal'. This maillon type has been fitted to other glider types from other manufacturers but, with the co-operation of the manufacturing company, all of the affected gliders have been accounted for. Improved quality control procedures have also been put in place to ensure that defective maillons do not get incorporated into new gliders in future.

The BHPA Flying and Safety Committee advise that any pilot who has a Paramania wing manufactured since the beginning of March 2011 fitted with 3.5mm maillons should contact their dealer for details of the checking and replacement procedures Paramania have established for ensuring the airworthiness of the maillons fitted to their wing.