

## Technical Service Bulletin

67006, Life Preserver, Hammerhead, Black, CSF

<b>ISSUE DATE:</b>	June 12, 2014	<b>TSB NUMBER</b>	TSB-14-005
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### HAZARD / URGENCY RATING

	<b>DANGER – Injury possible if TSB not observed or followed</b>
	<b>WARNING – Product damage possible if TSB not observed or followed</b>
<b>X</b>	<b>CAUTION – Essential issue affecting operation, service, or parts</b>
	<b>INFORMATIONAL – Advisory which may be of interest</b>

#### APPLICATION:

This Technical Service Bulletin (TSB) applies to Hammerhead Life Preservers with the following part number and serial numbers:

67006, Life Preserver, Hammerhead, Black, CSF

SN: 67006-13-001 to 67006-14-1083

#### SUMMARY:

This Technical Service Bulletin cautions users of the above listed Hammerhead Life Preservers of potential pressure loss during inflation caused by improperly positioned or missing inflation cylinder sealing gaskets. Improper cylinder sealing may cause CO<sub>2</sub> to escape from the inflator during inflation, resulting in an underinflated or partially inflated life jacket, regardless if it is automatically or manually fired.

Tulmar is implementing a product improvement in which the gasket is being replaced with one providing more resilience and is less prone to inadvertently fall out of the inflator when the jacket is handled with the cylinder removed. As a result of a number of reported gasket “fall-outs”, Tulmar is raising awareness of this matter and recommends replacement of these gaskets on life preservers currently in service on an as-required or running change basis.

#### IMPACT:

CO<sub>2</sub> leakage at the inflator resulting in a non-inflated or underinflated life preserver may have severe consequences if the jacket is automatically fired while being worn by an unconscious user. Gasket replacement will reduce the potential of this event.

When replacing spent CO<sub>2</sub> cylinders, users are urged to pay special attention to the presence of and proper positioning of the current gaskets until such time they are replaced.

Hammerhead Life Preservers, p/n 67006, serial numbers 67006-13-001 to 67006-14-1083 were supplied with gaskets made of white, expanded PTFE material as shown in Figure 1. Repeated cylinder installations result in deformation of the gasket which may facilitate inadvertent gasket fall-outs.

When a gasket exhibits a tendency to fall out with little effort, it should be replaced.



**Figure 1, Inflator with white, expanded PTFE gasket**

## **ACTION:**

Equipment needed:

- a) 2X P/N 3243 Gasket (replacement)
- b) Misc Small tool (pointed or flat edged).
- c) 2X P/N 3168 CO<sub>2</sub> cylinder (new, as required)

1. Lay the life preserver onto a flat, clean surface, chassis side (handles and pull cords) facing upwards.
2. Expose the inflation units by grasping the head lobe and separating the hook and loop fastening strips at the center and on each side to unfold.



**Figure 2: Folded Head Lobe**

3. Open the cylinder webbing loops. Grasp the CO<sub>2</sub> cylinders and turn counter-clockwise to unscrew them from the inflators.

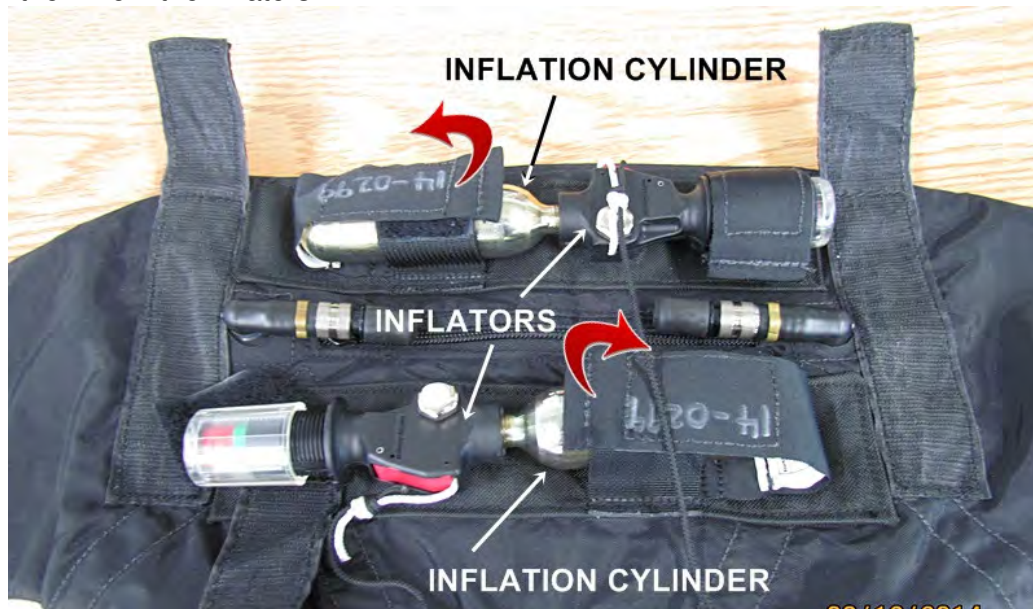


Figure 3, removing the inflation cylinders

4. Remove the white cylinder sealing gaskets from within the two inflators using a small tool.
5. One inflator at a time, insert replacement gaskets, Tulmar p/n 3243, ensuring the gaskets are well positioned at the bottom of the inflator cavities. Diligence will be required to ensure the edge of the gasket is well tucked into the lowest groove/thread.



Figure 4, Installing the replacement gasket

NOTE: After the gasket is replaced, it will be more difficult to visually check if a gasket is in place. An aware and attentive user will realize something is wrong when installing the cylinder; when the gasket is properly installed, resistance is felt during the last quarter turn of the cylinder. When the gasket is misplaced, resistance can be felt for as much as the last 2 turns of the cylinder. When the gasket is missing, no resistance is felt at all as the cylinder bottoms out.

6. Inspect, rearm and repack the life preserver according to the user's manual.
7. Record the jacket serial number and the action taken in a log book.

## CONTACT:

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