

60448

Date: 7/12/99 12:54 AM

Sender: <SkyVoyeur@aol.com>

To: 9-NPRM-CMTS

Priority: Normal

Subject: Re: 180 day (or 6 month) repacks docket No. FAA-99-5483 - 53

---

To whom this may concern:

As a sport parachutist I believe the reserve repack cycle defined in FAR 105.43 should be lengthened to 6 months for these reasons:

1. Modern day fabrics and construction techniques makes it unnecessary to inspect reserves as often.
2. Tests by parachute industry experts have found that handling and repacking of reserve parachutes actually weakens and degrades their performance, thus a longer repack cycle enhances the safety of the reserve.
3. Several countries have instituted the 180 day or 6 month reserve cycle and found no decrease on safety.
4. A 6 month cycle instead of 180 days simplifies paperwork (eliminates counting days and possible mistakes by riggers or FAA inspectors), adds very few days, and is typical of how the FAA designates time periods in other areas of aviation. Examples are pilot biennial reviews, pilot medical, aircraft annual inspections.

Respectfully,

Gary Mancuso USPA # 121217



RFC822.TXT

1999 JUL 15 10 27

OFFICE OF THE  
CHIEF COUNSEL  
RULES DOCKET