

# User's Guide



Dieses Handbuch ist in Deutsch erhältlich.  
Ce manuel est disponible en français.  
Dit Handboek is ook in het Nederlands verkrijgbar.  
Este manual está disponivel em Português.  
Este manual está disponible en español.  
Questo manuale è disponibile in italiano.  
Ez a kézikönyv magyar nyelven kapható.  
Tento manual je k dostání v češtině.  
Ta instrukcja jest dotstępna w jêzyku polskim.  
Эту книгу- описания можно получить на русском языке.  
Türkçe kullanıcı el kitabı bulunmaktadır.  
このマニュアルは英語版もあります。  
提供中文版说明书。  
هذا الدليل التشغيلي متوفر باللغة العربية

Congratulations on your choice of CYPRES, the safest and most accurate AAD currently available. Like most skydivers, you probably assume you will always have time to deploy your reserve canopy yourself, and that situations requiring use of an automatic activation device always happen to others. We do hope you will never have such trouble, and that your CYPRES will never have to try to save your life.

Should CYPRES ever decide to cut your reserve closing loop, it will most likely happen at a moment which, no matter how experienced and cautious you are, justifies that you haven't left your safety to chance.

*Airtec GmbH & Co. KG Safety Systems*

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## 1. Function

### 1.1 Design philosophy

CYPRES, which is the acronym of „CYbernetic Parachute Release System“, is an automatic activation device which meets all needs, requirements, and desires of today’s skydivers. Once it is installed, you can’t hear it, you can’t feel it and you can’t see it.

The operation is easy: If you jump from your DZ into your DZ just switch it on prior to the first jump of the day. It is not necessary to switch it off, because CYPRES will do this itself.

The weather is constantly checked by CYPRES over the day by measuring the air pressure twice a minute. This means that the unit is always calibrated to the precise ground level.

The various CYPRES model parameters have been chosen to cover the needs of the vast majority of skydivers, and also not to restrict them during common skydiving operations. Close to 100 Million jumps since 1991 have proven the proper design of these parameters. (Special activities may require special consideration or CYPRES settings.)

Vertical speed of 35 meter per second, which is approx. 70% of typical freefall speed, at a low altitude causes CYPRES to take action.

The CYPRES family of AAD’s work with remarkable reliability. To date CYPRES units have saved the lives of far more than 3000 skydivers, without a single unit ever refusing to activate and cut through the loop when the conditions were met.

CYPRES is surely the most reliable piece of skydiving equipment ever produced.

#### **WARNING**

CYPRES is not able to open your reserve. It is only intended to sever your reserve closing loop. CYPRES is strictly a backup device and does not replace proper training or timely execution of emergency procedures. It may display a wrong status, fail whenever and for whatever reason and may cause injury or death. If you are not comfortable with these risks you must not use CYPRES. You must make sure that the loop passes through the cutter’s passing hole. If you loan, rent or sell your CYPRES to somebody it is your responsibility to inform him about the above circumstances.

The CYPRES 2 combines tried and true quality and reliability with new achievements, technology and discoveries made during all the years of continued research and development since 1991.

Compared to the CYPRES 1 the CYPRES 2 offers numerous additional features and attributes including:

- unit is waterproof for up to 24 hours down to a depth of 5 feet (1.5 meters) in fresh or saltwater
- power supply of CYPRES 2 costs zero money for the user. There is no need to observe a replacement date, record the number of jumps made, monitor the voltage during self-test, watch for a 'low bat' sign, purchase a battery, or have a rigger open or repack the reserve for this reason.
- several unit information are accessible from the display: flight counter, serial number, next maintenance due date, settings
- reminds you when the maintenance date is near
- smaller and lighter
- robust, rigger friendly case, with rounded corners and edges, and in addition it is waterproof

- extended maintenance window: +/- 6 months from month of manufacture, no down-time during the busy part of the year regardless of month of manufacture
- self-test is completed in 10 seconds

The handling of the CYPRES 2 is simple:

After you have purchased it, your rigger installs it correctly into the factory integrated CYPRES set up and it is ready to work for 4 years.\*

Then you have the maintenance done and it is ready for another 4 years.\*

Then you have another maintenance done and it is ready for another 4 years. \*

\* Please switch it on at the DZ before the first jump of the day and change the filter if you have landed in water. Always respect the total contents of this User's Guide.

## 1.2 Components

CYPRES consists of a control unit, a processing unit and one release unit (cutter) for 1-pin reserve container or two release units (cutters) for 2-pin reserve container.

### SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

Do not pull, lift, carry or throw CYPRES by the cables



control unit



processing unit



release unit  
(cutter)

### 1.3 How CYPRES works

Every time CYPRES is switched on, it measures the air pressure several times in a short period of time, takes the average value as the value for ground level, thus „zeroing“ itself. This happens during the integrated self-test.

While it is in use, CYPRES constantly checks the air pressure while on the ground and, if necessary, adjusts to changing weather conditions. Even though you might need to reset your altimeter before a jump, CYPRES takes care of itself. This very accurate calibration is the basis for CYPRES to recognize exactly the activation altitude and speed.

The processing unit contains a factory programmed microprocessor that is capable of real-time calculations of the jumper's altitude and rate of descent based on barometric pressure.

By monitoring this data, certain criteria are generated from which conclusions are drawn. Should the conclusion be that the jumper is in a dangerous situation (i.e. still in freefall at a low altitude) the processing unit triggers the release unit to initiate the reserve container opening sequence.

The release unit (cutter) system for the reserve container is completely independent of the rig's primary system, because it does not pull the ripcord pin out of the closing loop, but rather cuts the loop inside the reserve container to initiate the opening sequence.

The reserve closing loop has to pass through the cutters passing hole.

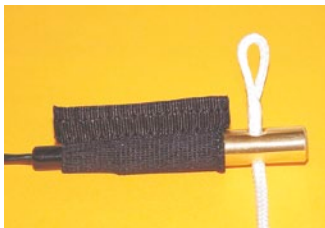
Initiating the opening sequence of a reserve container by cutting the loop is a method invented and patented by the founder of Airtec, Helmut Cloth, in 1987.

The CYPRES' activation system has these advantages:

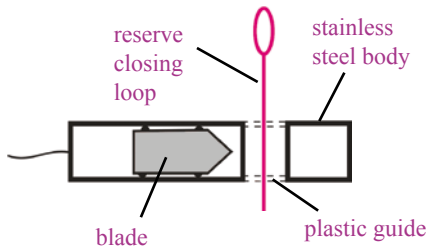
- The reserve container opening sequence can be initiated in two different ways. One method is by the jumper manually pulling the reserve release handle. The other method is by CYPRES when it automatically cuts the closing loop.
- Mechanical components are reduced to a single movable piston in the release unit.
- The activation system is located inside the reserve container where it is not exposed to excessive shock or other adverse influences.

- The system is unobtrusive and can be installed so that it is undetectable from the outside.

Release unit  
(cutter) with  
elastic keeper



Functional diagram:



The distance which the piston moves in case of an activation is approx. 5 mm.

The release unit (cutter) is a unique design specifically developed for CYPRES. Features include a completely self-contained enclosure to avoid expelling anything during activation.

During an 18 month long investigation by BAM (Bundesanstalt für Materialprüfung), Berlin, 99 release units were tested. The result is that BAM and the U.S. DOT have classified the CYPRES as being non-hazardous.

Due to its high reliability and other properties, the CYPRES release unit is currently being used in aerospace applications (satellites).



## 1.4 Power supply

No user attention or cost is needed to the power supply of CYPRES 2.

The unit is designed to function from the date of manufacture until the first maintenance, from the first maintenance to the second maintenance, and from the second maintenance until the end of warranty time without limitations concerning the number of jumps. If CYPRES 2 should cease to function due to a faulty power supply prior to the maintenance due date, Airtec will take care of this with the highest priority.



**actually**

no scheduling

no shipping costs

no battery costs


no installation costs

no repack costs

no downtime

## 1.5 Operational safety

There are two important points to remember regarding the operational safety of CYPRES:

1. CYPRES self-tests automatically every time it is switched on. After every switch-on procedure, CYPRES executes a self-test routine during which all important internal functions are checked. A positive outcome to this self-test should assure you of a trouble-free operation for up to 14 hours. When the display unit shows , the self-test has been completed successfully. If the self-test has resulted in errors or discrepancies, CYPRES will not assume operating mode but will switch itself off after displaying an error code. This error code indicates why the self-test process was aborted (see chapter 5).
2. CYPRES has fail-safe error detection. Two processes are activated in CYPRES once the unit has been switched on: a primary working process and an independently operating

controlling process that monitors the working process continuously. In case of errors while the working process is active, the backup controlling process will switch the unit off.

Depending on the type and potential impact of the error, CYPRES can either be switched on again or it will stay in shut-down mode permanently. With certain error codes (see error code list in chapter 5), it is not possible for the user to reactivate the unit. In such cases, CYPRES must be sent to the manufacturer or service center for inspection and adjustment.

### **WARNING**

**Malfunction can result in false activation / no activation:** Every technical device can fail. So everything imaginable can happen with the CYPRES, including, but not limited to: displaying a status which is not true, failing to function, or functioning at a wrong moment or at a wrong occasion. Such inappropriate act can easily injure or kill you or others. If you or your friends or relatives are not willing to accept these uncertainties and risks, then you must not use CYPRES.

## 2. Product overview

CYPRES 2 is available in five models:

- Expert CYPRES 2
- Student CYPRES 2
- Tandem CYPRES 2
- Speed CYPRES 2
- changeable MODE CYPRES 2

### Converting models

A conversion between the four CYPRES 2 models Expert - Student - Tandem - Speed is possible.

This procedure has to be performed by the manufacturer or the service center. This includes new settings, a new color corresponding button, a new label, and a complete functional test.



All of this will be executed on your request and at no charge.

### Use in a 1-pin reserve container and the use in a 2-pin reserve container

All CYPRES can be used in both container types. With the plug-and-socket cutter connection a swap from 1-pin cutter to 2-pin cutter or vice versa can be simply done by unplugging and plugging-in without opening the unit and without the use of any tools. (See chapter 6)

### Feet / Meter version

Every new CYPRES can either display altitude in feet or meters. If your CYPRES does not meet your personal preference, see chapter 4.4.5 for changing the scale of the dropzone offset from feet to meter or vice versa. Once you have set it, leave it as long as the unit is in your use.

(If your CYPRES does not show  or  on the display when changing the dropzone offset, then it is an older version that is not capable of switching the scales.)

## 2.1 Expert CYPRES



The Expert CYPRES can be recognized by the red button on the control unit.

It activates the release unit when it detects a rate of descent higher than approx. 78 mph (35 m/sec) at an altitude of approx. 750 feet (approx. 225 meters) above ground level (AGL). In the event of a cutaway CYPRES will operate down to approx. 130 feet AGL. Below approx. 130 feet (approx. 40 meters) AGL opening is no longer useful. For this reason, CYPRES ceases operation below approximately 130 feet AGL.

### **⚠ WARNING**

**High speed at low altitude:** If you exceed the vertical speed of 78mph (35 meters per second) at an altitude below 1000 feet (300 meters) under your main canopy, then your Expert CYPRES will cut the reserve closing loop. That can cause injury or death. Never do that.

## 2.2 Tandem CYPRES



The Tandem CYPRES can be recognized by the blue button with the imprint „Tandem“ on the control unit.

It activates the release unit when it detects a rate of descent higher than approx. 78 mph (35 m/sec) at an altitude of approx. 1900 (approx. 580 meters) feet AGL.

Like the Expert CYPRES, the Tandem CYPRES ceases operation below approx. 130 feet (approx. 40 meters) AGL.

For your information: 35 meters per second is approximately 70% of freefall speed.

## 2.3 Student CYPRES



The Student CYPRES can be recognized by the yellow button with the imprint „Student“ on the control unit.

It activates the release unit when it detects a rate of descent higher than approx. 29 mph (13 meters per second). The activation altitude is split. In the case of rate of descent being approx. that of free fall, the opening altitude is at approx. 750 feet (the same as with Expert CYPRES). However, should the rate of descent be lower than that of freefall but still above the limit of 29 mph (e.g. with partially opened canopy, or after a cutaway), then Student CYPRES activates the release unit when the altitude falls below approx. 1000 feet (approx. 300 meters) above ground level. The student will then have more time to prepare for landing. Like the Expert CYPRES, the Student CYPRES ceases operation below approx. 130 feet AGL.

Unlike the Expert and Tandem CYPRES models, we recommend that the Student CYPRES be switched off in the aircraft prior to descent if the jump is aborted and the student will land with the plane, because the vertical speed of a descending jump plane will exceed the activation speed of Student CYPRES.

### **⚠ WARNING**

**Vertical Speed:** Be aware that it is possible to exceed a vertical speed of 29 mph (13 meters per second) under a fully inflated canopy!  
Don't do that when using a Student CYPRES. That can cause injury or death.

### **⚠ WARNING**

**Activation on board:** If a jump plane is descending with students still on board, switch the Student CYPRES off before reaching 1500 ft (450 meters) above ground. If this is not possible, the descent rate of the plane must not exceed 1500 ft/min below 1500 feet above ground. Close open doors.

## 2.4 Speed CYPRES



The Speed CYPRES can be recognized by the red button with the white imprint „Speed“ on the control unit.

It will activate the release unit when it detects a rate of descent higher than approx. 102 mph (approx. 46 m/s) at an altitude below approx. 750 feet (approx. 225 meters) above ground level (AGL). Unlike the Expert CYPRES, the Speed CYPRES ceases operation below approx. 330 feet (approx. 100 meters) AGL.

The Speed CYPRES is designed to allow extreme canopy piloting. The high activation speed plus the feature that the unit ceases operation below 330 feet are tailored for this discipline.

The Speed CYPRES is designed to activate reliably in all „regular“ free fall situations (without special equipment or pilot chute) when no canopy or drogue is out.

Although the 35 m/s (78 mph) vertical speed required for an Expert CYPRES to activate had not

been reached under canopy for decades, nowadays an increasing number of skydivers try and manage to exceed that speed using low turns and small canopies.

The number of fatalities involving fully open parachutes show that these actions truly enhance the risk of skydiving dramatically.

Please take all these facts into consideration and use common sense before making a choice.

Airtec will modify your CYPRES 2 into a Speed CYPRES 2 free of charge, see section 2.

### **⚠ WARNING**

**For some activities, the Speed CYPRES may not be suitable.** For instance, already the Expert CYPRES might not activate during a wingsuit jump because the vertical speed can be too low, and there is even less chance that a Speed CYPRES will activate. Speed CYPRES will activate under an open main if the vertical speed is pushed above 46 meters per second near or below the activation altitude. In case you exceed this vertical speed, then have your Speed CYPRES switched off.

## 2.5 changeable MODE CYPRES



The changeable MODE CYPRES can be recognized by the magenta button with the white imprint „changeable MODE” on the control unit.

The user can switch this unit between the modes Exp - Stu - Tan - Spe on his own. The device parameters are identical with the ones from the CYPRES models **Expert** - **Student** - **Tandem** - **Speed**. All handling is fully identical to these models - except of changing the mode.

When the unit is on, the current mode is always indicated by a digit below the appropriate engraved mode.

Note:

Default delivery setting of new changeable MODE units is: Type Expert, scale feet, user selectable altitude adjustment A0 (see chapter 4.4.2)



### **⚠ WARNING**




**Inappropriate mode can result in false activation / no activation.**

Using an inappropriate mode is most likely to injure or kill you or others.

Always use the unit in the appropriate mode.

Never, under no circumstances and for no reason, use the device in an inappropriate mode.

To change the mode:

1. switch the unit on and run through the unit information sequence (press and hold the button when the  appears at the end of the switch-on procedure, see chapter 4.5.)
2. release the button when solely the indicating digit is shown 
3. press and hold the button immediately
4. the LED turns on
5. release the button when the LED turns off
6. now the digit moves from left to right 
7. click the button when the digit is below the desired mode
8. the unit shuts itself off
9. repeat 1 to 8 to accomplish the setting

The mode will only change when the procedure 1 - 8 is identically done two times. Otherwise the unit will remain in its current mode.

## **WARNING**

### **Malfunction can result in false activation / no activation:**

Every technical device can fail. So everything imaginable can happen with the CYPRES, including, but not limited to: displaying a status which is not true, failing to function, or functioning at a wrong moment or at a wrong occasion.

Such inappropriate behavior can easily injure or kill you or others.

If you or your friends or relatives are not willing to accept these uncertainties and risks, then you must not use CYPRES.



### 3. Installation

During the first years after introduction of the CYPRES AAD it was necessary to establish a testing and evaluation procedure for the installation of this new AAD into the existing harness/



container systems, as there was no such AAD concept on the market.

The installation had to be tested and approved. This was solely done at Airtec GmbH & Co. KG in Germany until 2012. Airtec GmbH & Co. KG undertook this task in preference to the harness/container

manufacturers to find out the best and safest possible installation for each system.

The resulting installation instructions, in all its variations, originated from the different construc-

tions of the different harness/container systems, should not create any negative influence on the original function of the CYPRES unit, which is the cutting of the reserve closing loop. It had to be assured that the initiation of the reserve opening (severing the closing loop) did not hinder the reserve development in any way.

All CYPRES installations should be performed and approved by the harness/container manufacturer in collaboration with the AAD manufacturer.

Should you wish to install a CYPRES into a container which does not have a CYPRES set-up, you should contact the harness/container manufacturer for advice and instructions.

#### **NOTICE**

„Each parachute manufacturer approves the installation of the AAD on their equipment.“ 12/04/13 AC No:105-2E Page 4 part 2.b. of Advisory Circular of U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Aviation Administration

#### **⚠ WARNING**

**Retrofit:** Comply with the specific retrofit instructions of the harness/container manufacturers.

CYPRES can be assembled into rigs with existing setups. Please refer to the harness/container manufacturer if in doubt.

It is necessary to place the processing unit into the pouch so that the cables lay flat on the bottom of the pouch. Control unit cable and cutter cable(s) must be placed without tension.

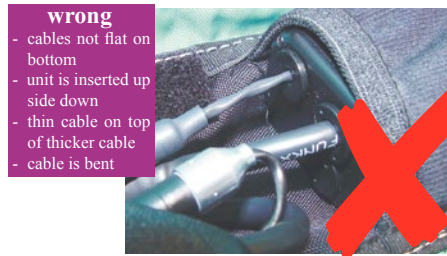
Excess cable is stowed in the flat part of the pocket underneath the velcro-adjustable flap. If you have to stow both the thinner cutter cable and the thicker control unit cable, be sure to place the thicker cable so that it lays on top of the thinner one. Cables should be placed in a circle in order to avoid twists. Always avoid pulling, bending, twisting, or kinking the cables.

## **⚠ WARNING**

**Inappropriate installation can result in inappropriate container opening performance.**

That can cause injury or death. Never install a CYPRES by trial and error.

Removal of CYPRES can be done by the owner without any problems. Do not pull on the cables, instead push the processing unit, cutter and control unit from their keepers.



## 4. How to operate CYPRES 2

### 4.1 Handling the control unit

The button on the control unit should be pressed with the fingertip; please do not use a fingernail or any other object. Use a short click action in the middle of the button.



You should familiarize yourself with switching CYPRES 2 on and off (see chapter 4.2) and changing the dropzone offset (see chapter 4.4.1) prior to use.

The button is the only means the user has for controlling CYPRES 2 functions. For a skydiver necessary handling is reduced to the following actions:

- switching on
- switching off
- increasing dropzone offset
- decreasing dropzone offset
- viewing the flight counter  
viewing the serial number  
viewing the next maintenance date
- adjusting the activation altitude
- changing the scale, feet / meter

The following sections provide thorough descriptions of these procedures.

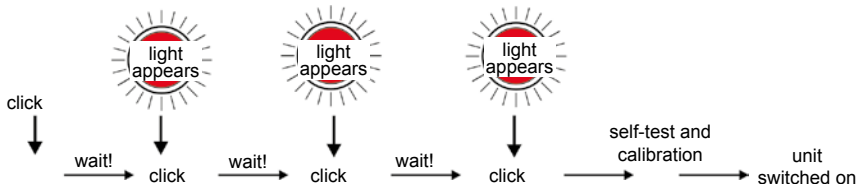
## 4.2 Switching CYPRES on

CYPRES is switched on by pressing the button (pushbutton switch) four times with very short clicks. Start the switch-on cycle by clicking the button once. After approx. one second, the red LED-light will glow. You must acknowledge the red light immediately by clicking the button again. This sequence - a click following appearance of the red light - will be repeated two more times. After a total of four clicks, CYPRES goes into self-test mode.

If you do not act promptly after seeing the LED-light, or if you push the button too soon, CYPRES will ignore the switch-on attempt.

This four-click initiation cycle has been designed to avoid accidental switch-on.

Once the switch-on procedure is finished, the unit will run through its self-test. Initially, the display will show the number **10**, and then a count-down ending in **0'**. When the **0'** with the arrow down is shown, the unit should be functional for the next 14 hours. After 14 hours have passed, the unit will switch itself off automatically. A manual switch-off is always possible using the button. If the self-test is not successful, an error code is shown for approximately 2 seconds. The meaning of this error code can be seen in chapter 5. The manual switch-off sequence is the same as the switch-on procedure (click, light, click, light, click, light, click). This routine is designed to avoid accidental switch-off.



### 4.3 When to switch on or reset

As a rule, CYPRES has to be switched on at the takeoff site on the ground. Just prior to donning your rig is an ideal time. It should never be switched on inside an aircraft, helicopter, balloon, etc.

To reset CYPRES, switch off and then on again. The unit will then re-calibrate and „zero“ itself to this elevation.

When the takeoff airfield and intended dropzone are in the same location, and all jumping activity is restricted to that place, an initial switch-on at the dropzone will suffice for any number of jumps, provided they all take place within 14 hours. Should any of the following situations occur, CYPRES must be reset before the next jump:

- The dropzone is missed and the landing takes place in an area with an elevation greater than 30 feet (10 m) above or below the dropzone level. Or, on the return journey to the dropzone the ground elevation changes similarly.
- The unit is taken away from the airfield/dropzone by vehicle or on foot and later brought back again.

- If the total time for a flight or a flight with jump (takeoff to landing) exceeds one and a half hours, CYPRES will function normally, but must be reset after landing as the weather could have changed the ambient air pressure significantly in the meantime.

General recommendation: If in doubt, reset CYPRES.

When the takeoff airfield and intended dropzone are in different locations, CYPRES must be switched on at the departure airfield. Prior to each jump, on return to the airfield from the dropzone, it must be reset again before takeoff.

When the takeoff airfield and intended dropzone are at different elevations, CYPRES must be switched on at the departure airfield and adjusted to the elevation of the dropzone (see chapter 4.4.1). This is extremely important when making demonstration/display jumps. Prior to each jump, on return to the airfield from the dropzone, it must be reset before jumping again.

## 4.4 Changing settings

### 4.4.1 Dropzone Offset

You must set the dropzone offset whenever the airfield and the dropzone where you intend to land are at different elevations.

CYPRES allows for adjustments of up to plus/minus 3000 feet, or plus/minus 1000 meters. If an adjustment has been made, either „meter“ or „ft“ is shown on the display. If „meter“ is shown, the displayed value is in meters. If „ft“ is shown, the value is in feet.

Switch on CYPRES only at the takeoff site on the ground. In order to make the dropzone offset adjustment, simply leave your finger pressed firmly on the button when you press it for the fourth time during switch-on. CYPRES will continue with its self-test, and once it has finished, it will display 30 feet  $30\text{ft}$  (or 10 meters) with an arrow pointing up ( $\blacktriangle$ ). If you are going to jump to an elevation which is 30 feet higher than your take off, then release the button.

If you keep it pressed, then CYPRES displays 30 feet  $30\text{ft}$  (10 meters) with an arrow pointing

down ( $\blacktriangledown$ ). If you are going to jump to a 30 feet lower elevation, then release the button.

If you keep pressed, then CYPRES displays 60 feet  $60\text{ft}$  (20 meters) with an arrow pointing up ( $\blacktriangle$ ). If you are going to jump to a 60 feet higher elevation, then release the button.

If you keep pressed, then CYPRES displays... This carries on until 3000 feet (1000 meters).




DZ 360 feet above airfield



DZ 360 feet below airfield

So you have the possibility to adjust to a higher or lower landing elevation of up to 3000 feet (1000 meters) in a real simple way.


The dropzone offset that you select will remain indicated on the display, and CYPRES will adjust automatically for this change during the next jump (only).

Even the shortest release of the button during the self-test cycle causes an interruption in the process and CYPRES will ignore further attempts to change the dropzone offset. In such cases the unit will run through its self-test and end with  on the display, ready for operation (without adjustment). Simply repeat the procedure as necessary.

If you need to make changes, you have to start over again by switching off then back on.

Once you have made a dropzone offset adjustment, it will be displayed until the jump has been made, or until CYPRES switches itself off or is switched off by you.



On landing, CYPRES will accept the new ground level as its actual „Ground Zero“ reference, when the preset altitude has been hit precisely or if the landing elevation is lower than the one set. This action can be observed by noticing that immediately after the landing (within a maximum of 30 seconds), the preset dropzone offset is automatically replaced by .

It would then be possible to take off from and land at this location again under canopy without doing any further adjustment.

But, if you take off at this location and jump into a dropzone with a different elevation you have to do another dropzone offset adjustment.

If the landing elevation is higher than set, the unit will not change to zero display right away. In such a case, CYPRES must be recalibrated to the correct Ground Zero by switching it off and on again prior to the next jump. Do this on the airfield where the aircraft will take off.

In case you want the same dropzone setting, that you have used on your last jump to another elevation: your CYPRES 2 makes it easy for you. It automatically offers you this value immediately after the end of the self-test and before it starts to offer the regular steps. You can choose this setting again by just releasing the button while you see its value on the display.

## **WARNING**

**Dropzone Offset:** It is necessary to do a dropzone offset adjustment before each individual jump, whenever the airfield and the dropzone where you intend to land are at different elevations. Not doing so can cause injury or death.



#### 4.4.2 User-selectable activation altitude

CYPRES 2 offers (since 01 2013) users the option of increasing the activation altitude up to 9 steps of approximately 100 feet (30 meters) each. The steps are named “A 1” thru “A 9” (“A” for altitude). “A 1” indicates approximately a 100 ft. (30 meters) increase to the standard CYPRES activation altitude, “A 2” indicates approximately a 200 ft. (60 meters) increase to the standard activation altitude, etc.

If selected, the **A 1** thru **A 9** is displayed during the self-test countdown between the “10” and the “0”. (For example, if “A 1” is selected, the self-test countdown will be: 10; 9; 8; 7; 6; 5; 4; 3; 2; A 1; 0 )

indicating 100 ft (30 m) increase to activation altitude *during self-test*



Also, after the self-test is complete, the selected number (1-9) will blink on the far left location of the display.

Note: All activation altitude references in this User's Guide are based on the standard setting with no user-selectable activation altitude selection.

Note: The CYPRES 2 disarm altitudes of approx. 130 ft (40 meters), [approx. 330 ft (100 meters) on a Speed CYPRES 2], do not change with user-selectable modification.

Note: Default delivery setting of new units is A0.

indicating 100 ft (30 m) increase to activation altitude *after self-test* (operating mode display)



## SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

**Opening altitude:** Always plan your main container opening altitude and skydive to have your main canopy functionally open (fully open, flying, controllable, even landable) a minimum of 1000 ft. above your CYPRES activation altitude. For example, if your CYPRES activation altitude is 750 ft above ground level then your minimum functionally open altitude is 1,750 ft. above ground level; if your CYPRES activation altitude is 850 ft. above ground level then your minimum functionally open altitude is 1,850 ft. above ground level, etc. Take into consideration your altitude loss during main canopy deployment (opening characteristics of main canopy, main container opening characteristics, type of skydive, reaction time, etc.)

## SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

**Making a decision:** The decision to increase the activation altitude, and by how much, is the user's choice and decision, and may be taken in consultation with the reserve & main canopy and harness/container manufacturers.

### **WARNING**

**Higher / lower activation altitude:** The higher the CYPRES activation altitude, the more likely that a two-canopy out scenario will occur if your main canopy is deployed low. The lower the CYPRES activation altitude, the greater the possibility of your reserve not being fully inflated at a sufficient altitude. Both scenarios can cause injury or death.

### **WARNING**

**An inappropriate activation altitude is likely to injure or kill you or others.**

Always use this unit set at the appropriate activation altitude. Never, under no circumstances and for no reason at an inappropriate activation altitude.

### **WARNING**

**Malfunction: A malfunction can easily injure or kill you or others.**

Every technical device can fail. So everything imaginable can happen with the CYPRES, including, but not limited to: displaying a status which is not true, failing to function, or functioning at a wrong moment or at a wrong occasion.

If you or your friends or family are not willing to accept these uncertainties and risks, then you must not use CYPRES.

### 4.4.3 User-selectable activation altitude setting procedure

If you decide to select a different CYPRES activation altitude, you must enter the unit information area by pressing the button down immediately when the zero has appeared at the end of the self-test, and then keep it pressed down (see User's Guide section 4.5).

- After your CYPRES 2 has shown the flight counter, the serial number, the next maintenance date, it shows the feet or meter setting\*. The next information you will see is the current Activation Altitude Setting ( **A0** , **A1** etc.).
- After ½ second release the button and immediately press it again.
- The LED (red indicator light) will turn on.
- When the LED turns off, immediately release the button.
- Then you see the sequence A 0; A 1; A 2; A 3; A 4; A 5; A 6; A 7; A 8; A 9; (repeated) on the display.
- Click once on your choice of number and CYPRES will shut down.

Next for safety purposes (to make certain that this setting is never changed accidentally), you have to repeat this same procedure once more, confirming the new setting.

During the confirmation, if you do anything else other than the identical procedure, your attempt is invalid and you will have to start over again (performing the procedure two times).

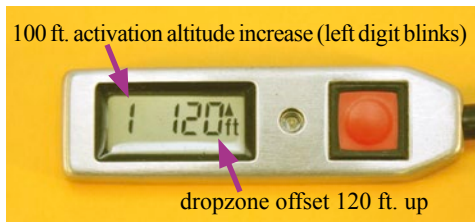
Once a User-Selectable Activation Altitude has been set on your CYPRES, it remains in effect until another setting is selected. During the self-test your CYPRES will indicate this setting by displaying it ( **A1** to **A9** ) at the appropriate time during the self-test countdown. After the self-test is complete, the selected number (1-9) will blink on the very left location of the display as long as your CYPRES is on.

The procedure takes 80 seconds and can not be unintentionally executed.

**Because of the variables involved, it is the user alone who bears all responsibility and consequences of the activation altitude setting. Airtec GmbH & Co. KG, the manufacturer of the CYPRES device, does not take any responsibilities thereof.**

#### 4.4.4 User selectable activation altitude & dropzone offset feature combined

The User-Selectable Activation Altitude feature (sections 4.4.2 & 4.4.3 and the Dropzone Offset feature (section 4.4.1) can be used independently or in combination. When used in combination, the selected Activation Altitude Setting number blinks on the very left location of the display, and the Dropzone Offset (up to +/- 3000 ft. or +/- 1000 meters) is shown on the right side of the display when CYPRES is on.



#### 4.4.5 Changing the scale

If your CYPRES 2 Dropzone Offset scale is set in meters and you want feet or vice-versa, you must enter the unit information area by pressing the button down immediately when the zero has appeared at the end of the self-test, and then keep it pressed down (see User's Guide section 4.5). After your CYPRES 2 has shown the flight counter, the serial number, the next maintenance date, it shows the feet or meter setting\*.

- Just release the button ½ second after the current feet or meter setting is displayed,
- immediately press it again,
- release it when the LED turns off,
- then click on your choice of feet or meter and CYPRES will shut down.

This procedure only needs to be done one time.

(Note: For units produced or updated after 01/2013 this procedure replaces the one described in the last paragraph of User's Guide Section 4.4 edition 1/2012 and earlier.)

\*Feet or meter selection option not available on CYPRES 2 manufactured prior to August 2005.

## 4.5 Access to unit information

CYPRES 2 provides an easy way to view

1. the flight counter,
2. the units serial number,
3. the next maintenance date\*
4. the scale meter or feet
5. the user selected activation altitude

To view the unit informations press the button immediately when the **0** appears at the end of the switch-on procedure and hold it.

Each value is displayed for 5 seconds, then the next value shows up.

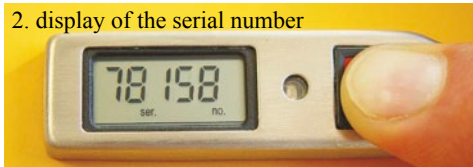
You can stop the information sequence whenever you want by just releasing the button.

\* After the 8 year maintenance has been performed, the words 'maint. no' and the date of the total lifetime (end of life) is shown.

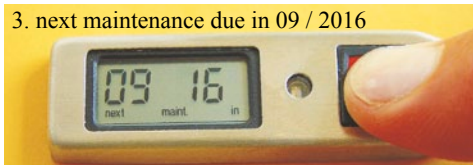
### 1. display of the flight counter



### 2. display of the serial number



### 3. next maintenance due in 09 / 2016



### 4. display of the scale feet (meter)



### 5. user selected activation altitude setting



## 4.6 CYPRES 2 and Water jumps



CYPRES 2 allows water jumps without removal of the unit. CYPRES 2 is waterproof for a duration of up to 24 hours down to a water depth of 5 feet (1.5 meters). This is achieved through a water-resistant casing, sealed plug connections, a sealed cutter, a sealed control unit, and a special filter. The filter allows precise measurement of the air pressure and at the same time keeps water away from the inside of the unit. As long as there is no contact with water, the filter never needs to be replaced by the user. After water contact, the unit must be switched off immediately after exiting the water. The filter must be replaced before next use.

The CYPRES 2 filter changer tool is made from stainless steel, specifically for the purpose of filter removal and replacement. Filter replacement (see chapter 4.7) can be done by your rigger (packer). After water contact, the rig and the reserve must be dried according to the manufacturers instructions. After that the rig and CYPRES 2 with the new filter can be used again.

## 4.7 Changing the filter



### **CAUTION**

The unit must be switched off before filter change.

**Filter Removal:** Hold the CYPRES filter changer on the non-slotted end and push it straight (without tilting) onto the filter up to the stop position.



Tightly grip the filter changer, twist off by turning in a counterclockwise direction and remove the filter. If there is water in the casing (behind the filter), thoroughly dry

it with an absorbent soft cloth. Remove the old filter from the filter changer by pushing with your finger or with the eraser end of a pencil. Discard it.

**Filter Installation:** Place the new filter with the labeled side toward and into the slotted end of the filter changer up to the stop (flush) position. Do not angle.



Hold the filter changer by the non-slotted end, gently slide the filter fitting into the unit holding it straight without tilting. Turn the filter changer clockwise, initially there will be little resistance. Continue turning the filter changer until it slips on the filter. (The filter stops turning but the changer continues to turn.) Remove the filter changer from the filter by pulling straight back.

### **CAUTION**

Do not use other tools!

## 5. Error Display

If there is an error condition detected during the self-test countdown, CYPRES 2 shows an error code on the display for approx. 2 seconds, then it switches itself off. (Display goes blank).

Error code number / error code description:

**1111** or **2222** : One or both of the attached release units are not correctly electrically connected to the unit. The reason may be a cable break, the cutter plug could be disconnected, or the release unit(s) may have activated.

**3333** : Excessive variations in ambient air pressure have been measured during the self-test period. The unit is unable to obtain consistent values for the ambient air pressure at ground level. Possible reasons could be that an attempt to switch CYPRES on has been made in a car driving uphill or downhill, in an elevator or in a flying aircraft.

The switch-on procedure can be performed several times after a **3333** error was displayed. If **0\*** is displayed, the unit has successfully gone through the self-test.

Additional error codes for units produced / serviced on or after January 2013.

**Pd0** Power Down

**CH5** Checksum Error

**P5E** Pressure Sensor Error

After one of these three error codes appears, the unit switches off and cannot be switched on again. Please discontinue use and send the unit in for service. If other error codes appear in the display, if the unit switches itself off and can not be switched on again, if the unit does not switch off after 14 hours, if there is no red light when the button is pressed, or if anything else unusual occurs please record the error code and contact Airtec or SSK before further use!

### **WARNING**

**Malfunction: A malfunction can easily injure or kill you or others.**

Every technical device can fail. So everything imaginable can happen with the CYPRES, including, but not limited to: displaying a status which is not true, failing to function, or functioning at a wrong moment or at a wrong occasion. If you or your friends or family are not willing to accept these uncertainties and risks, then you must not use CYPRES.



## 6. Changing the release unit(s)

After an activation the release unit can be changed by any rigger (packer) via the plug-and-socket connection.

### Disconnecting the release unit:

Hold plug and socket by their aluminium grips and pull them apart using a smooth straight motion. Do not twist!



1-pin Cutter



### Connecting the release unit(s):

Hold plug and socket by their aluminium grips. Place the plug directly in front of the socket and connect them by pushing together with a smooth straight motion until it is completely seated.

Do not twist!



It is easy to change a 1-pin CYPRES to a 2-pin CYPRES or vice-versa, by swapping cutter types.

2-pin Cutter



## Notes:

1. CYPRES 1 field replaceable cutters (no aluminum grip) can be used with CYPRES 2 They will function properly, however this combination is not water-resistant.

CYPRES 2 cutters (identified by aluminum grip) can be used with any CYPRES 1 with the field replaceable cutter connector. They function properly - but this combination is not water-resistant.

2. Release units (cutters) are numbered via a heat shrink tubing placed on the cable. This number identifies the cutter. A table of cutter numbers with corresponding dates of manufacture are available at [www.cypres.cc](http://www.cypres.cc)

3. It is possible that the cutter plug could separate from the socket after a CYPRES activation. In the rare combination of this and a water landing, the socket must be dried out before further use. Do that by tapping the open end of the socket flat onto a flat surface such as a table top. Once

no additional water comes out while tapping on the table top, store the CYPRES with the open end of the socket hanging downward for another 24 hours in a dry area, to allow the socket to dry out completely. When completely dry, insert the plug of the new cutter.

4. Use a one-pin cutter in a one-pin container and a two-pin cutter in a two-pin container.

### **WARNING**

**Non serviced cutter:** Do not use release units (cutters) after the Lifetime Warranty period. Release units (cutters) also require technical service (maintenance) every four years. Please send cutters more than four years old, that have not been attached to a CYPRES during maintenance to Airtec or SSK for a free no-charge inspection prior to use.

## 7. Technical service

The extremely reliable function of CYPRES is based on 4 facts: exclusive use of carefully pretreated and approved parts, strict detailed manufacturing procedures, continuous quality control and monitoring through the manufacturing process, and regular periodic technical service (maintenance). 4 and 8 years after the original date of manufacture, maintenance procedures according to the manufacturers guidelines are necessary. There are 4 primary reasons for the maintenance:

1. Deviations between nominal and actual values are corrected to ideal values. Every detail is observed. It is common that signs of wear and tear are corrected and sometimes even 'cosmetic' treatment is done.
2. The technical condition of each unit is analyzed. The fact that a very high percentage of units are returned for the periodic maintenance gives the ability to see statistical trends and to predict potential problems at a very early

stage. The advantage: often it's possible to prevent situations by modifications during the maintenance procedures, rather than having to fix problems with downtime later.

3. Experience shows that during a period of 4 years, changes and improvements do happen. Applicable updates are performed during maintenance. Such updates may have the background of technical improvements, or enhancement of knowledge, or may result from environmental changes or changes in the sport (e.g. new disciplines), which Airtec is always researching and taking into consideration.
4. The most important part of the maintenance is the individual pre-adjustment of each unit for the next 4 years. A unit will not be returned before a high confidence level is reached regarding the prediction of the unit's proper function for the next 4 years.

The maintenance has to be performed 4 and 8 years after the original date of manufacture. The earliest possible date for the CYPRES 2 maintenance is 6 months early, the latest 6 months after the month of manufacture.

A delayed maintenance has no advantage. It does not save any cost as the Lifetime Warranty remains the same. It's smart to choose a suitable time during the 13 month window for sending the unit in for maintenance, rather than waiting until the last possible moment, or until the beginning of the next season.

Because of the 178,000+ maintenance procedures performed to date on CYPRES, and lots of improvements incorporated into the design of CYPRES 2, Airtec has determined that it is possible to extend the maintenance window to 13 months on CYPRES 2. This maintenance window gives you more freedom, and avoids maintenance down-time at the wrong time of the year - please use this new feature wisely!

At any time it's possible to check the date of the next maintenance. (See chapter 4.5)

If the unit enters 6 months before maintenance due date, the maintenance date (next maint. in month / year) will automatically be shown at each self-test. 6 months after the due date the display will change to: 'next maint. now'.



All displayed dates are only a reminder. Please choose a suitable date during the 13 month time frame for a convenient performance of the maintenance. According to experience, the number of maintenances and the necessary time to do them increases February-May. For quicker service, a date between June and January is a better choice.

After the 8-year maintenance, CYPRES2 should be airworthy for the complete Lifetime period.

CYPRES2 maintenance cost is a flat-rate (always the same), even when a unit requires extensive repairs. During the CYPRES 2 Lifetime, the skydiver should not have any operation costs other than the 2 maintenance fees (except for an activated cutter or filter).

Please contact your local CYPRES Dealer or Service Center concerning the maintenance. The list of Airtec Dealers is available at [www.cypres.cc](http://www.cypres.cc)

The CYPRES Service Center for the USA, Canada, South America and other Western Hemisphere countries is:

SSK Industries, Inc.,  
1008 Monroe Road  
Lebanon, OH 45036 - USA  
Tel: ++ 1 513 934 3201  
Fax: ++ 1 513 934 3208  
email: [info@cypres-usa.com](mailto:info@cypres-usa.com)  
[www.cypres-usa.com](http://www.cypres-usa.com)



## 8. Important Notes

### 8.1 Important notes for jump pilots

- A Student, Expert or Speed CYPRES will not work if the aircraft is exited before it reaches 1500 feet (450m) above the airfield takeoff elevation and 1500 feet (450m) above the intended dropzone elevation. In the case of a Tandem CYPRES 3000 feet (900m) has to be reached.
- After take off please ascend at more than 180 feet per minute (1 meter per second) for at least 30 seconds.
- Never descend to an altitude below the airfield takeoff elevation.
- If CYPRES has been adjusted to a dropzone elevation above airfield takeoff elevation and the aircraft has climbed above the intended dropzone elevation, it must not descend below the intended dropzone elevation again.
- If CYPRES has been adjusted to a drop zone elevation altitude below the airfield takeoff elevation, the aircraft must not descend below the intended dropzone elevation.

A simply rule: Never descend below the elevation of the takeoff airfield or the intended DZ!

- When using an aircraft capable of pressurization, make sure that the cabin remains open when the turbines are started up. Leave a window, a door, or the ramp open a bit until after lift-off. It has to be ensured that the cabin pressure cannot build up above the air pressure on the ground. (Hint, skydivers altimeters should never go below „0“.)

It is the skydiver's responsibility to make sure that jump pilots are informed of these circumstances that will interfere with the proper function of CYPRES. Should a jump pilot be unable to comply with these requirements, or should you discover after a jump that the requirements have not been met, you should switch CYPRES off and on again prior to the next jump. Note that the above conditions will only lead to a low, or no activation - therefore there is no risk of a high activation. Take care to not exceed the activation velocity near

or below the activation altitude(s) when descending with skydivers. Our measurements indicate that extraordinary rates of descent are achieved in turbine aircraft, as the pilot is concentrating on max airspeed, and typical aircraft VSI instruments are heavily damped and “peg” at 3,000 ft./minute.

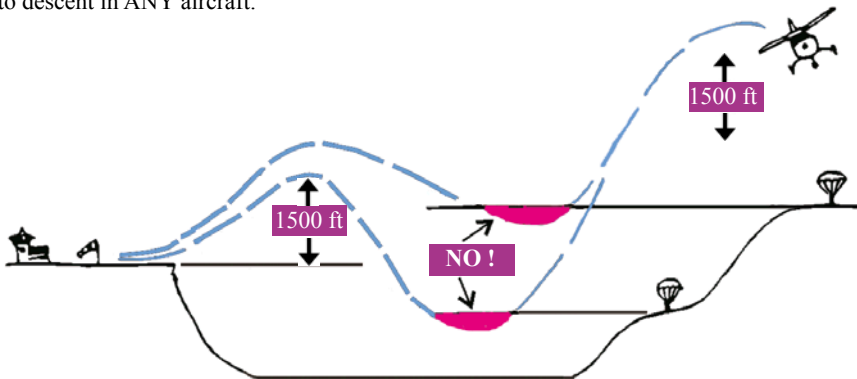
Note: in the case of Student CYPRES, always make sure the jumpmaster has switched them off prior to descent in ANY aircraft.

## ⚠ WARNING

### Flight limitations:

- Never fly below the airfield takeoff elevation
- Always go above 1500 feet (450 meters), for Tandems 3000 feet ( 900 meters)
- If dropzone offset has been adjusted, never fly below the intended DZ elevation

Not respecting the limitations can cause injury or death.



## 8.2 Important notes for users

- CYPRES must not be used for parascending or paragliding/sailing.
- CYPRES cannot be used for base jumps (jumps from fixed objects), and must be switched off prior to making a base jump.
- A Student, Expert or Speed CYPRES will not activate if the aircraft is exited before it reaches 1500 feet (450m) above the airfield and intended DZ. In case of a Tandem CYPRES 3000 feet (900m) must be reached.
- A two canopy scenario can be generated via a CYPRES activation, if the main deploys too low.
- CYPRES is shielded against radio transmitter signals. Extreme concerted efforts have been taken to protect CYPRES 2 from „radio pollution“. Although the extraordinary shielding system of CYPRES 2 has been investigated thoroughly, it is impossible to have 100% protection. It is still recommended to avoid strong radio transmitters. Please contact Airtec if you have questions.
- A release unit that has activated builds up a high internal pressure and will remain pressurized. Never attempt to open it by force. It can, however, be stored safely for an indefinite period of time, provided that it has not been damaged.
- The reserve container closing loop must be under a tension, caused by the pilot chute spring, of at least 10 pounds (approx. 5 kg).
- A good reserve pilot chute is an important safety factor. On systems with an internally-mounted pilot chute, we recommend that owners equip their rigs with one that has been Airtec tested and subsequently qualified by the h/c manufacturer in collaboration with Airtec. Typically the rig manufacturer delivers these pilot chutes with the rig. If there is any doubt, if in doubt, please contact your h/c manufacturer.
- Don't forget: After water contact shut your CYPRES 2 off and change the filter.
- Make sure that the reserve closing loop passes through the cutter's passing hole.



## 9. Repacking of reserves

**The following tips are only brief suggestions. Please contact the harness/container manufacturer for advice and detailed packing instructions for riggers (packers or equivalent) concerning the CYPRES AAD Installation and rigging specifications.**

### General:

The reserve container closing loop must be under a tension, caused by the pilot chute spring, of at least 10 pounds (approx. 5 kg).

Please closely check the grommets at each repack. Grommets with rough edges ultimately will destroy any loop. Replace damaged grommets immediately. Use original CYPRES loops / loop material, pull ups, and discs when a CYPRES is installed in the container. Even if you do not have an AAD in your container, a CYPRES loop will markedly improve your safety. The use of CYPRES accessories (loops, discs, setups) with other brand AADs is prohibited as we have not performed any compatibility tests.

LOR-loops for Parachute de France rigs are an original PdF spare part and can be purchased only from PdF dealers. Non adjustable loops which are attached to a CYPRES disc and are mounted in containers with internal pilot chute should be replaced at each repack. After attachment to the disc, CYPRES loops should be treated with CYPRES loop silicone on the upper 4 centimeter. The loops provided by Airtec are impregnated on the first 4 centimeters already.

### 1-Pin Pop Top:

Please check the loop carefully and replace if necessary. On all adjustable loops, silicone should not be used. The adjustment will not remain fixed.

### 2-Pin Pop Top:

Please contact the harness/container manufacturer for advice and detailed packing instructions for riggers (packers or equivalent) concerning the CYPRES AAD Installation and rigging specifications.

### Tips for Riggers (packers):

The ‘Packer’s Kit’ is available from CYPRES dealers. It contains a lot of things that make life easier, including:

A filter changer, 50 meter spool loop material, finger trapping needles, discs, temporary pins, silicone, a user’s guide and the ‘AAD Rigging Tips’. For specific instructions, please contact your h/c manufacturer.

## SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

**Repack:** Please follow your country's requirements concerning repack cycles and authorizations for reserve pack jobs.

## 10. The CYPRES Loop and Disc System

Previous reserve container closing loops were made from old parachute suspension lines or similar material consisting of Kevlar, Dacron, Spectra etc. They were often thick, rough and became stiff while under tension in a packed container for a long period of time. As a result these loops could delay the reserve container opening or even avoid it after the ripcord was pulled because they became trapped between the grommets.

A number of skydivers died because the reserve flaps did not open in time.

To fasten the reserve closing loops in the container bottom riggers and packers used normal metal washers. Sometimes these washers had sharp edges. A loop which is under a lot of tension in the container could be damaged and cut accidentally by those sharp edges. Especially from vibration in a car or in an aircraft.

Skydivers were killed by premature reserve openings, caused by fraying loops. Even an aircraft crashed because of a premature reserve opening.

Our intention is to make skydiving safer, so we

worked on this issue. In 1991 and 1992 we designed a loop and disc solution to reduce these risks as much as we could.

The CYPRES loop is woven like a tube, so it can be inserted into itself to create the closing loops eye. At the same time it is only 11/16 inch in diameter (1.8 mm), is extremely flexible and has an extra smooth surface to make it extremely slippery. In addition CYPRES loops are treated with a special silicone on the upper 1.5 inch (4 centimeters) to maximize the smoothness of its surface giving it even less friction when passing through the reserve container grommets and the cutter.

Although the loop is really narrow, its breaking strength is in excess of 408 lbs (185 Kp).

The CYPRES disc (often called a smiley because of its looks) is a small piece of artwork. It is a round aluminium disc with no sharp edges. Within its surface it has 3 passing holes.

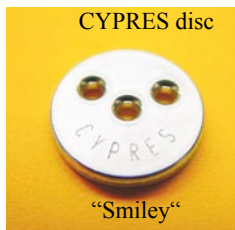
The fingertrapped loop is threaded through the middle hole and then through the left hole, the loop then gets threaded through the right hole, and knotted.

With this, the knot only realizes one third of the force when the loop is under tension. Without reducing the extreme tension the knot will shrink and pull it through the disc.

The three holes have no sharp edges. It is a very extensive procedure to manufacture this disc, but loop tearing has reduced to almost zero by using this product.



- extremely flexible
- extremely slippery
- breaking strength: 408 lbs
- diameter: 11/16 inch



- no sharp edges
- minimal loop tearing

Both the loop and disc together as a system has certainly made skydiving significantly safer during the last two decades. Totally separate from CYPRES. Since the system was introduced to the scene in 1992, approx. 900,000 discs and well above 3,000,000 loops have been manufactured by Airtec and given to rig manufacturers, riggers, and packers worldwide to improve safety in the sport. Nowadays it's unlikely to find a rig worldwide, with a reserve container that is not closed by the CYPRES Closing Loop System.

In addition to making its technical effect inside the reserve container, this CYPRES Loop System has another advantage. It reduces the necessary pull force on the reserve ripcord handle by up to 50%. A huge help for all those skydivers who, for one reason or another, have difficulties with the pull force.

Like to view the genuine CYPRES Loop System? Take a look at your reserve container; it will most likely be there.

## 11. Abbreviated User's Guide

**Switch CYPRES on only when you are at the dropzone on the ground !**

When airfield and dropzone are at the same place, always switch CYPRES off and back on again when:

- CYPRES arrives at the dropzone by any means other than under an open canopy (e.g., by car, or by walking back from landing away from the dropzone.)
- total flight time (leaving the ground until back to the ground) was longer than 1.5 hours.

If airfield and dropzone are at different locations:

- Before every jump, switch CYPRES off and then back on at the airfield where your aircraft takes off from, and change the dropzone offset as appropriate.

General recommendation: If in doubt, reset CYPRES by switching it off and on again.

## 12. Switching Rigs

Switching your CYPRES to another CYPRES ready rig will require only a few moments of work for your rigger. If the container swap requires a change in the number of release elements (cutters), this can be done quickly on-site by unplugging the old cutter and swapping with the required type cutter (1-pin or 2-pin). It is not necessary to send the CYPRES to the manufacturer. The necessary cutter can be purchased at any CYPRES dealer.

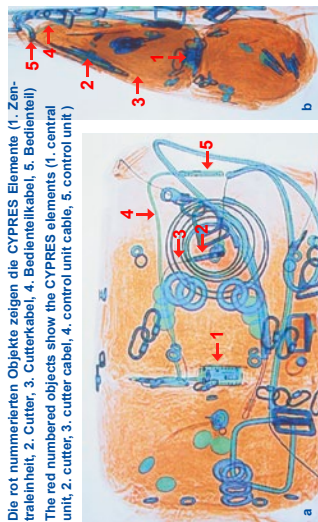
### 13. Regarding Air Travel

A CYPRES equipped rig may be transported in freight and passenger airplanes without restrictions. All its components (e.g. measuring technique, electronics, power supply, loop cutter, control unit, plugs, cables, casing) as well as the complete system, contain parts and materials that are approved by U.S. DOT and other agencies worldwide, and are not subject to any transport regulations.

Because of the size of a rig we recommend to check it in as normal luggage and to not take it on board as hand luggage. In case of questions or objections of the security personnel, please use the card shown on the right which you'll find in the back cover of this book. The card shows an X-ray of a complete rig with CYPRES 2. Depending on type and design of the rig the X-ray on the security's screen may vary.

The Parachute Industry Association and the USPA have worked with the Transportation Security Agency concerning traveling with parachutes.

Refer to USPA's web site ([www.USPA.org](http://www.USPA.org)) for the latest recommendations and documents.



original card located in the back cover

If you've lost the card, you can get a new one from Airtec or SSK.

## 14. Technical Data

Data common to Expert, Tandem, Student, Speed and changeable Mode models:

Length, width, height of the processing unit:	approx. 85 x 43 x 32 mm
Length, width, height of the control unit:	approx. 65 x 18 x 6,5 mm
Length, diameter of the release unit:	approx. 43 x 8 mm
Cable length of the release unit (including release unit):	approx. 500 mm
Storage temperature:	+71° to -25° Celsius
Storage pressure:	200 to 1070 hPa ( 5.906 to 31.597 In.Hg)
Working temperature:	+63° to -20° Celsius *
Maximum allowable humidity:	up to 99,9 % rel. humidity
Waterproof:	up to 24 hours down to a depth of 5 feet (1.5 meters)
Dropzone offset adjustment limits:	±3000 feet or ±1000 m
Operating range below / above sea level:	-1500 feet to +26,000 feet (-500 m to +8000 m)
Functioning period:	14 hours from switch-on
Power supply:	lifetime warranty**
Maintenance:	4 and 8 years from date of manufacture***
Warranty Period:	12.5 years from date of manufacture**

\* These temperature limits do not mean the outside (ambient) temperatures but rather temperatures inside the processing unit. Therefore, these limits won't have any meaning until the processing unit itself has reached the temperatures in question. In actual fact, these limits will rarely be reached due to the location of the CYPRES in the reserve container, and the insulating properties of the processing unit pouch and parachute canopies.

\*\* If required maintenance has been performed.

\*\*\* According to the present knowledge base.

### Special data for EXPERT CYPRES:

Cable length of control unit: ..... approx. 650 mm  
Volume: ..... approx. 139 cm<sup>3</sup>  
Weight: ..... approx. 188 grams  
Activation altitude: ..... approx. 750 - 130 feet  
..... (approx. 225 - 40 meter)  
Activation speed: ..... approx. > 78 mph (35 m/s)

### Special data for TANDEM CYPRES:

Cable length of control unit: ..... approx. 650 mm  
Volume: ..... approx. 139 cm<sup>3</sup>  
Weight: ..... approx. 188 grams  
Activation altitude: ..... approx. 1900 - 130 feet  
..... (approx. 580 - 40 meter)  
Activation speed: ..... approx. > 78 mph (35 m/s)

### Special data for STUDENT CYPRES:

Cable length of control unit: .... approx. 1000mm  
Volume: ..... approx. 144 cm<sup>3</sup>  
Weight: ..... approx. 205 grams  
Activation altitude: approx. 1000 / 750 - 130 feet  
..... (approx. 300 / 225 - 40 meter)  
Activation speed: ..... approx. > 29 mph (13 m/s)

### Special data for SPEED CYPRES:

Cable length of control unit: ..... approx. 650 mm  
Volume: ..... approx. 139 cm<sup>3</sup>  
Weight: ..... approx. 188 grams  
Activation altitude: ..... approx. 750 - 330 feet  
..... (approx. 225 - 100 meter)  
Activation speed: ... approx. > 102 mph (46 m/s)

### Special data for changeable MODE CYPRES:

Cable length of control unit: ..... approx. 650 mm  
Volume: ..... approx. 139 cm<sup>3</sup>  
Weight: ..... approx. 188 grams  
Activation altitude: ..... according to set MODE  
Activation speed: ..... according to set MODE

In the event of a cutaway, activation will not occur until CYPRES has verified all necessary parameters.

## SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

**Activation altitude:** All activation altitude references in this User's Guide are based on the standard setting with no User-selectable activation altitude selection.



## 15. Warranty

Airtec GmbH & Co. KG provides a 2 year warranty on all CYPRES models and parts within. In spite of that Airtec has always repaired all defects during the entire service life of each CYPRES free of charge, except for damages done intentionally, due to negligent, or use without the required maintenance.

The manufacturer reserves the right to decide whether the unit will be repaired or replaced. Neither repair nor replacement will affect the original warranty.

When a CYPRES 2 unit is returned to the manufacturer or service center, it must be packed in the original box or an equivalent shipping package.

No claims will be accepted if the unit has been damaged or has been opened by an unauthorized individual, or if an opening of the processing unit, release unit (cutter) or control unit has been attempted.

## 16. Disclaimer

In designing and manufacturing CYPRES, the aim of Airtec GmbH & Co. KG Safety Systems, is that the device should not accidentally sever the loop but should try to sever the reserve closing loop when the activation criteria are met.

All investigations and experiments performed during the product's development and all laboratory and field tests accompanying trial and production phases have indicated that CYPRES meets both these goals. However, as an electro-mechanical device the possibility of CYPRES malfunctioning cannot be excluded. Such may cause injuries or death. We accept no responsibility for damages and consequences resulting from any malfunction.

Airtec GmbH & Co. KG Safety Systems also accepts no responsibility for damages or problems which are caused by the use of non-original Airtec parts and supplies.

The use of CYPRES is voluntary, and does not automatically prevent injury or death. Risk can be reduced by assuring that each component has been installed in strict compliance with the manufacturer's instructions, by obtaining proper instruction in the use of this system, and by operating each

component of the system in strict compliance with this User's Guide.

Automatic activation devices (AADs) sometimes display a wrong status, fail to operate or operate properly, and sometimes activate when they should not, even when properly installed and operated. Therefore the user risks serious injury or even death to themselves and others during each use.

By using or allowing others to use CYPRES, you acknowledge that you accept responsibility for the proper use of the device, as well as accepting the consequences of any and all use of this device.

Airtec GmbH & Co. KG Safety Systems, their Dealers, Service Centers, and Agents total and complete responsibility is limited to the repair or replacement of any defective device.

CYPRES is strictly a backup device, and is not intended to replace proper training or timely execution of appropriate emergency procedures. If you, your friends, or family are not in agreement of these disclaimers please do not use CYPRES. Please note that even though CYPRES has an extraordinary track record, your results may vary.

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## 18. Packing List

In addition to the CYPRES 2 unit and the user's guide, the following items will be delivered:

For 1-pin CYPRES 2:

- 2 1-pin Loops
- 1 pull up
- 1 disc

For 2-pin CYPRES 2:

- 1 2-pin Loop
- 2 pull ups
- 2 soft bodkins
- 2 discs

## Trade Marks

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AIRTEC GmbH & Co. KG Safety Systems, Mittelstraße 69, 33181 Bad Wünnenberg, Germany, tel: +49 2953 98990 fax: +49 2953 1293

CYPRES 2 User Guide as revised 1 / 2014. Subject to change without notice. This revision replaces and supercedes all previous versions. See [www.cypres.cc](http://www.cypres.cc) to verify / obtain the latest version.

Printed on chlorine-free bleached paper.

If your rig is lost or stolen it maybe helpful to have this data:

## Container

Manufacturer + Model:

Size / Color:

Options:

Serial Number:

Date of Manufacture:

Purchased from:

Date:

## AAD

Model:

Serial Number:

Date of Manufacture:

Purchased from:

Date:

## **Main Canopy**

Manufacturer + Model:

Size / Options:

Color / Pattern:

Serial Number:

Date of Manufacture:

Purchased from:

Date:

## **Reserve Canopy**

Manufacturer + Model:

Size:

Color / Pattern:

Serial Number:

Date of Manufacture:

Purchased from:

Date:





**SAFETY REGULATION GROUP**

Dangerous Goods Office  
Aviation House  
Gatwick Airport South  
West Sussex RH6 0YR  
United Kingdom

Direct Dial 01293 573800  
Direct Fax 01293 573991  
E-Mail [dgr@srg.caa.co.uk](mailto:dgr@srg.caa.co.uk)

Switchboard 01293 567171  
Fax 01293 573999  
T elex 878753

**CIVIL AVIATION  
AUTHORITY**

Our ref 10A/216/02

6 April 1998

**TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN**

**CYBERNETIC PARACHUTE RELEASE SYSTEM (CYPRES)**

In the opinion of the United Kingdom Civil Aviation Authority, the Cybernetic Parachute Release System (CYPRES) Automatic Activation Device may be regarded as not subject to the provisions of the International Civil Aviation Organization's Technical Instructions for the Safe Transport of Dangerous Goods by Air, and may therefore be carried without restriction.

Yours sincerely



**G. A. LEACH**  
Deputy Head, Dangerous Goods Office  
Flight Operations Technical

In case someone from the security personnel has concerns:

10



U.S. Department  
of Transportation  
**Research and  
Special Programs  
Administration**

400 Seventh St., S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20590

The US Department of Transportation  
Competent Authority for the United States

CLASSIFICATION OF EXPLOSIVES

Based upon a request by Gerard Fetter on behalf of Airtec GmbH, Mittelstrasse 69, 3181 Wunnenberg, Wunnenberg, Germany, the following items, which have components that appear to conform to the definition of an explosive, have been examined in accordance with Section 173.56, Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations (49 CFR) and have been found to be not regulated as an explosive. Although it is the responsibility of the shipper to make classification determinations of materials other than explosives, we suggest that these items be classed as follows:

U.N. PROPER SHIPPING NAME AND NUMBER: Not Regulated as an Explosive

REFERENCE NUMBER                      PRODUCT DESIGNATION/PART NUMBER

Ex-0003152

Electrical Rope Cutter ESKV 11

Approved by:

Robert A. McGuire  
Associate Administrator for  
Hazardous Materials Safety

AUG 8 2000

\_\_\_\_\_  
(DATE)



CIVIL AVIATION  
SAFETY AUTHORITY  
AUSTRALIA  
GPO Box 2005  
Canberra City ACT 2601  
Telephone (06) 2685602  
Facsimile (06) 2684892

F96/2664

Mr John Chapman  
Technical Support Officer  
Australian Parachute Federation  
PO Box 144  
Curtin ACT 2605  
Facsimile: 285 3989


Dear Mr Chapman

CLASSIFICATION OF "CYPRES CUTTERS"

I refer to your letter of 11 July 1996 requesting a determination by CASA on the dangerous goods status of the "Cypres Cutters" contained in the reserve parachutes used by your members.

I am able to advise that the "Cypres Cutter" described in the letter from the German Authorities for Material Research and Tests as "Electrical Rope Cutter ESKV 11" does not meet the criteria for classification as a Class 1 explosive. The devices may be carried on aircraft unrestricted whether fitted to a reserve parachute or carried separately.

Yours sincerely

  
Peter Fletcher  
Inspector (Air Cargo)  
Flying Operations Branch

19 July 1996



## Das Luftfahrt-Bundesamt Sachgebiet Gefahrgut informiert

### Sicherheitssystem für Fallschirmspringer

Es wird darauf hingewiesen, dass der pyrotechnische Gegenstand im Sicherheitssystem für Fallschirmspringer „CYPRES“ komplettiert mit den Bestandteilen:

#### **Elektronische Seilkappvorrichtung ESKV11 (Electrical Rope Cutter ESKV 11)**

**KEIN** Gefahrgut im Sinne der Transportvorschriften ist.

Auf den folgenden Seiten finden Sie die Bescheinigungen der / des:

- Bundesanstalt für Materialforschung und -prüfung (BAM), Deutschland
- U.S. Department of Transportation, USA
- Civil Aviation Authority, United Kingdom
- Civil Aviation Safety Authority, Australia
- Civil Aviation Authority, New Zealand
- Direction générale de l'aviation civile, France

Transport par Air du CYPRUS,  
dénommé Electrical Rope Cutter ESKV 11,  
en bagage de soute ou en fret aérien

Validité permanente

En application de la réglementation relative au transport par voie aérienne des marchandises dangereuses telle que publiée dans les Instructions Techniques de l'OACI (Doc 9284 - AN/905 - Edition actualisée), le matériel expérimenté sous l'appellation commerciale CYPRUS et dénommé "Electrical Rope Cutter ESKV 11" n'est pas considéré comme marchandise dangereuse pour le transport aérien.

Par conséquent, son transport par voie aérienne ne nécessite pas d'autorisation spécifique délivrée par la DGAC.

Néanmoins les mesures de contrôle de sécurité applicables aux vols commerciaux peuvent entraîner des contraintes supplémentaires. Aussi, ce matériel (Opéré) dûment reconnu et identifié comme composant de parachute utilisé lors d'entrainements et de compétitions, n'est pas transporté en bagage soute, mais, incorporé au parachute pour être transporté en bagage de soute ou en fret aérien.

Paris, le 29 MAI 2007



Joseph LE TONQUEZE  
Le Chargé de Mission  
Marchandises Dangereuses

S-A-765-03/3 (DW1174609-0)

16 March 2009

Kate Willis  
Skydiverzone Limited  
P O Box 91  
DANNEVIRKE 4942

Dear Kate

**CYPRES Automatic Activation Device**

Your letter dated 16 March 2009 regarding the carriage of the above items on passenger aircraft refers.

This is to advise you that based on the Material Safety Data Sheet supplied by Airtec GmbH, Germany issued 3 September 1997, and the report from the German Authorities for Material Research and Tests Tgb. No II-4582/97, I am satisfied that these articles do not meet the classification criteria for dangerous goods.

These articles may therefore be carried without restriction on passenger and cargo aircraft.  
Yours sincerely



Max W Evans  
Aeronautical Services Officer



## Parachuting

**Skydiving rigs with and without Automatic Activation Devices (AAD) are permitted as a carry-on or as checked luggage.**

Typically, a rig will move through the checked luggage or carry-on security screening process without need for physical inspection. However, TSA screeners have a duty to thoroughly inspect any item that raises suspicion. If screeners determine that it is necessary to open a rig for complete inspection, then the owner of the rig must be present and will be allowed to assist. **For this reason, skydivers are advised to add at least 30 minutes to the airline's recommended arrival window when traveling with their parachute.**

The following recommendations are provided to assist skydivers traveling with parachutes:

### Checking the Parachute as Luggage

- Pack the rig separately without any other items in the bag. Additional items, if suspicious, could trigger an inspection of the entire bag.
- Screeners will not unpack a parachute without the owner present to provide assistance. This means that the passenger will be paged and asked to return to the ticket counter, so they can be present for inspection. Depending on the size of the airport and passenger volume, it is likely that the checked rig will be screened within 30 minutes. Remain in the area of the air carrier ticket counter and pay close attention to airport announcements for up to 30 minutes after checking in.
- If a TSA cannot locate the parachute owner, the undecared parachute will not be transported on the flight.
- Parachute owners may assist TSA screeners to unpack and repack the rig.

### Carry the Parachute on the Aircraft

- Pack the rig separately without any other items in the bag. Additional items, if suspicious, could trigger an inspection of the entire bag.
- If a further search is required, all efforts will be made to search the item without out opening the chute(s).
- If a chute is opened, the owner can assist. The search may be done in a location away from the checkpoint to provide adequate space for the search, and space for the owner to repack the rig.

**Parachutists should thoroughly inspect their parachutes at their destination to ensure that it has not been tampered with or damaged in a manner that renders it unsafe.**

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**CYPRES 2**  
Reliability made in Germany

