



2009 PIA Symposium

Seminar:

Packing the Vector III Reserve with the Staging Loop and Split Lanyard.

Demonstrated by Greg Rau and Jeff Johnston

This seminar will cover the following:

Our observations of reserve pack-jobs from the field:

- Too long reserve closing loop lengths.
- Poor canopy distribution- Too much material in ears can cause riser cover problems, not enough in the bottom will cause mushy corners, wrinkles in center flap.
- Excessive bulging at the bottom of the reserve container and loss of main container space due to not creating a space in the bagged canopy for the AAD.

Some key points this seminar will focus on:

- Inspection
- Reduction fold size
- Material/Bulk distribution
- Loop length/Silicone - 4 1/4" to 5" max
- Violence, knowing when and how much to apply
- Slider grommet distribution to facilitate room for AAD
- Using only a single pass of seal thread and tight knot on the Skyhook
- Turning the RSL pin sideways helps make pinning the reserve very much easier
- The use of clamps and packing paddles help to produce good sharp clean S-folds.

NOTE:

- The following packing techniques in this seminar are merely for reference purposes and not meant to replace the current manual.
- This seminar handout is part of a work in process. After the symposium, the instructions to follow will be completed and posted on the UPT's web site.



This seminar begins with the canopy already flaked and ready for reduction folds.



Fig. 1

Note the free bag is already prepped for packing.

Begin reduction folds by laying the tail over to the other side exposing the flaked/folded material between the A, B, C, and D line groups.



Fig. 2



A's to B's
B's to C's,
C's to D's.

Fig. 3

Repeat on opposite side.

We fold the A's to B's and B's to C's over together and then the C's to D's are folded under.



Fig. 4

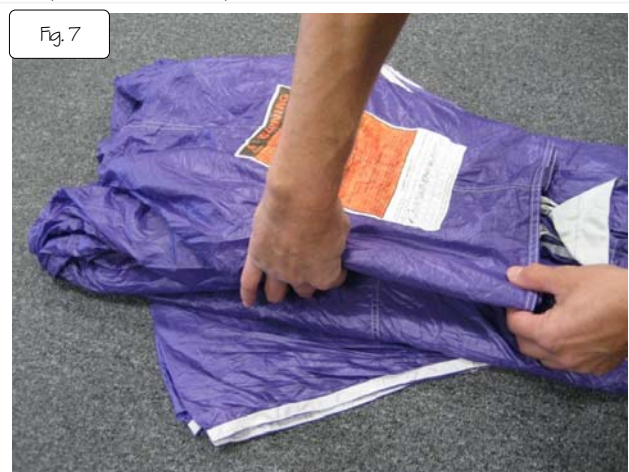
Folded C's to D's.

Folded A's to B's and B's to C's.

A good clean wind channel with all the lines to the center helps to assure a good clean deployment.



Pull out and use the width of the center cell to begin the cocoon, then folded under the C's to D's to produce a nice sharp cocoon shape.



The nose is now folded under as shown.



Bag size should be considered when cocooning and S-folding the canopy.



The use of 4 clamps and 2 packing paddles help to produce good sharp CLEAN S-folds.

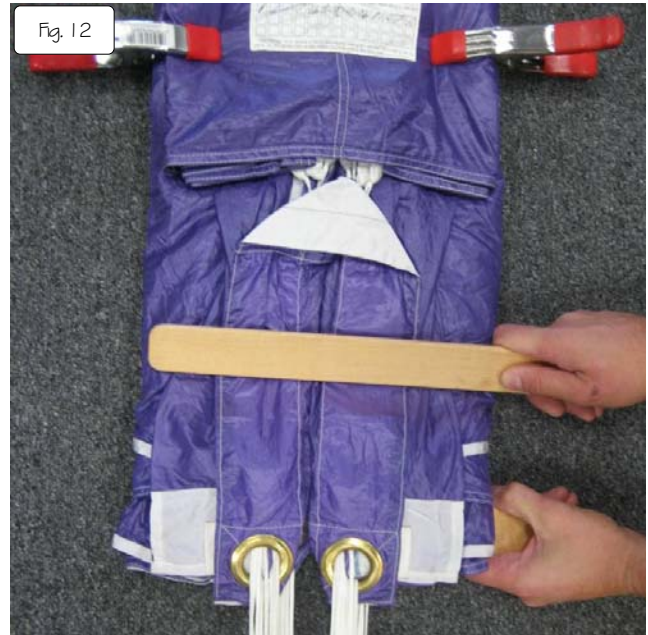


Fig. 11

Note the use of bridle line to hold the safety stow in place and the bodkin is in place.

The cocooned canopy should be as close in width to the bag as possible, but never narrower.

Begin S-folds as follows: (See fig's 12-18)



Place packing paddles accordingly to produce first folds.



Fig. 13

Leaving the top paddle in place, flip the entire canopy over the first s-folds.



Fig. 15



Fig. 16



Fig. 17



FLIP OVER.

NOTE: By aligning the packing paddle 1" past the bottom fold and maintaining this 1" after making the S-fold will produce room for an AAD and make it easier to fill the corners of the container.

Now gather back the short section of center cell to form this molar shape and slide reserve bag under (Note reserve bag should have a bodkin for drawing the loops through). Then slowly work one side of the canopy in at a time until the S-folded section is mostly in.



Fig. 18



Fig. 19

Before making the first locking stow, separate the slider grommets to make room for the AAD. Note the use of bridle line to hold the safety stow in place.



Fig. 20

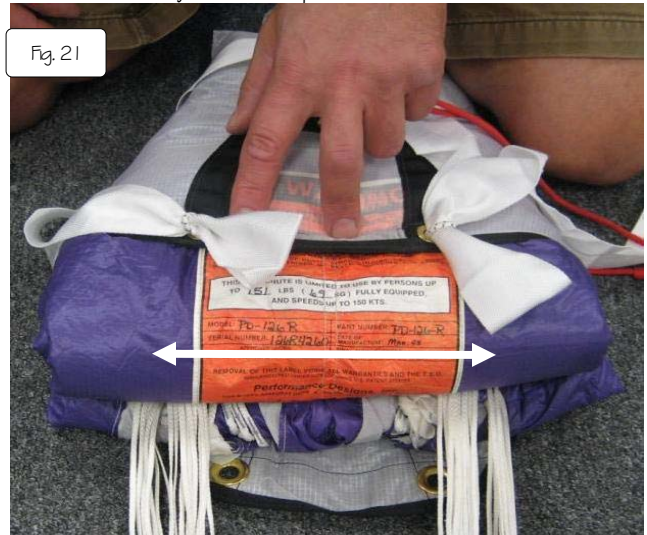


Fig. 21



Fig. 22

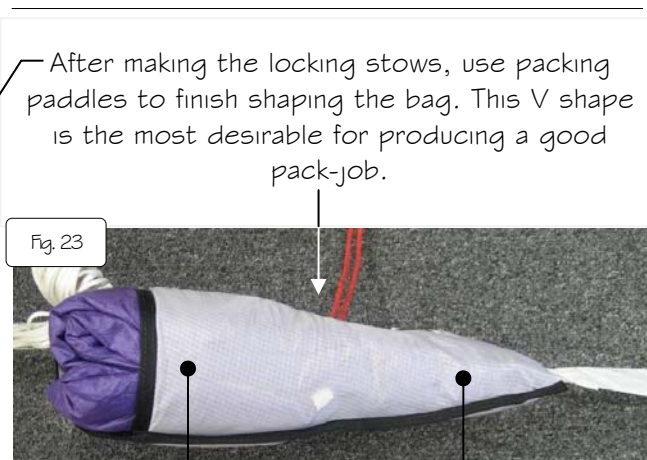


Fig. 23

After making the locking stows, use packing paddles to finish shaping the bag. This V shape is the most desirable for producing a good pack-job.

This section of the bag should be hard and this section soft.

Flip bag under 180° to expose the line stow pocket, attach a length of pile Velcro to protect the line and begin stowing the lines.



Fig. 24

By using a single length of Velcro to protect the lines also helps to hold the pocket open and keep the lines centered at the opening.



Fig. 25

Using a packing paddle can help to get the lines all the way down in the corners.

Using your finger to hold previous stows in place helps to keep them in place while making the next stows.



Fig. 26



Fig. 27

All but about 3" - 5" of line should be stowed and the Velcro carefully matted ensuring no hook Velcro is exposed.

Thread 1 ea. pull-up cord through the reserve closing loop and staging loop.
Note the use of color coded pull-up cord.

Fig. 28



Fig. 29



Use the bodkins to draw the pull-up cords through.

Fig. 30



Fig. 31



Firmly pull and separate the loops (Staging loop to the right and closing loop the left).

Your knee works well to make room for the PC.

Fig. 32



Fig. 33

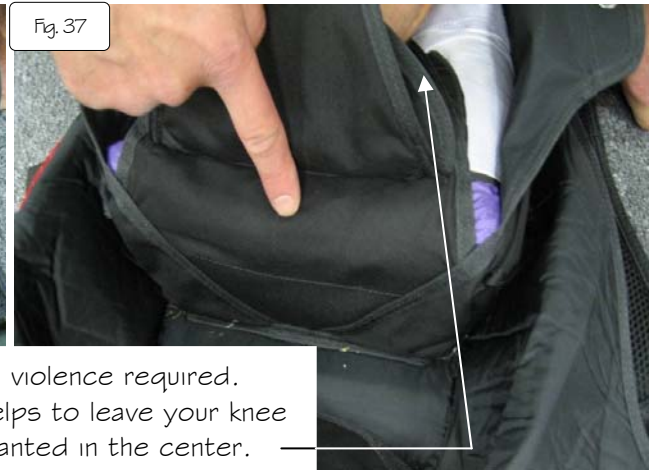


Thread appropriate pull-up cords through flap 1 (Staging loop to the jumpers left), close and pin flap # 1.

While keeping knee on center of the bag, carefully pop the corners of the bagged canopy into the corners of the container. Pushing too hard can result in moving bulk away from the corners.



Firmly push and work the AAD into the space previously made when separating the slider grommets.



Minimal violence required.
Note: It helps to leave your knee firmly planted in the center.

Setting the staging loop:

Begin by pulling the bridle line all the way to the top of the container as shown, and then fold in half.





Stow 1" of folded bridle as shown and tuck excess under.

Then fold remaining 6' in the V shape ending with the Skyhook in the location shown below.



Close flap 2 and set Skyhook



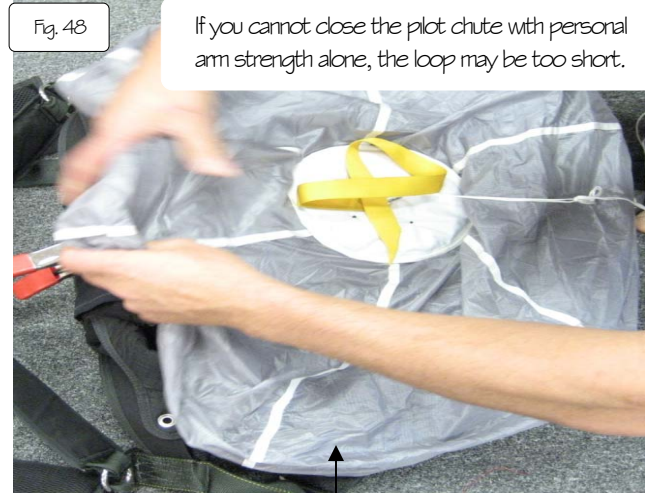
!!! IMPORTANT !!! When tacking the Skyhook, use only ONE PASS of seal thread and no slack.



Insert the green locking tab completely in its pocket and ensure all routing is per diagram.



Close and pin flap 2A. Fold remaining 5' of bridle on top of flap 1.



Thread pull-up cord through center of spring, compress keeping all fabric out of the spring and pin.

Accordion fold F1.11 canopy fabric all the way up to the pilot chute cap, thread pull-up cord through flap 3, close and pin.



Accordion fold front of PC same as the back.

Loosely roll right side under.



Thread pull-up cord through flap 4 and draw closed till grommets meet (but do not pin yet).



Applying substantial violence to the side wall with a good bashing while drawing flap 4 closed helps.

Repeat with flap 5 and pin this time.

Note:

More violence will be required to the side wall.



Remember to turn the RSL pin sideways/straight up; it helps make pinning the reserve very much

And Count Your Tools:

