



## SERVICE LIFE OF PARACHUTE EQUIPMENT

### GENERAL

- In the USA, there is no Government-imposed Service Life on parachute equipment. As long as it is maintained in an airworthy condition and repacked in accordance with FAA Regulations, it has no legal "end-of-life."
- Outside of the USA, rules may be different – check your country's Aviation Regulations.
- Manufacturers may impose their own service life on equipment that they build.
- Parachute Riggers may choose to set their own maintenance limits at their own discretion.

### PARA-CUSHIONS AND SPORT EQUIPMENT

- Strong Enterprises does not impose an end of use (Service Life) on our Para-Cushion or Sport parachute systems. The continued airworthiness of your equipment is at the discretion of your Parachute Rigger's inspection during re-pack. Strong recommends returning your parachute to us every 5 to 8 years for complete inspection and any updates that may be required.
- Bear in mind that although an older parachute may still be airworthy, you may still want to consider a replacement. As a parachute system ages, many other things happen concurrently: a Pilot's age, weight, and physical condition may change; a change of aircraft may render a previously suitable model a poor fit; technological advances in fabric, webbing, hardware, and construction methods improve constantly. Airworthiness does not by itself imply suitability. We will be happy to help you assess the suitability of your current equipment based upon your needs.

## TANDEM EQUIPMENT

- Dual Hawk Tandem Harness/Container & Student Harness manufactured before 2008:
  - Must be returned to us (or one of our [Recertification Centers](#)) once in its 18-year (+/- 6 months) lifespan for re-certification; this must occur no later than 10 years from Date of Manufacture (DOM), +/- 6 months.
  - Each of these components reach end-of-life at 18 years (+/- 6 months) and must be taken out of service.
  
- Master Reserve manufactured before 2008:
  - Must be returned to us (or one of our [Recertification Centers](#)) once before 18 years from DOM; this must occur no later than 10 years from DOM, +/- 6 mos
  - At 18 years from DOM (+/- 6 mos), it needs to re-certified once again. It may then be placed back in service until 23 years (+/-6 mos) from DOM.
  
- TNT Harness Container & Patronus Reserve
  - Must be returned to us (or one of our [Recertification Centers](#)) every 10 years from DOM (+/- 6 months) for re-certification.
  - No end-of-life limit