



# PROPOSED AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVE



**Number: 1978**

Issue date: 05 May 2021

In accordance with the CAA Continuing Airworthiness Procedures, the CAA is proposing the issuance of a CAA Airworthiness Directive (AD), applicable to the aeronautical product(s) identified below.

All interested persons may send their comments, referencing the PAD Number above, to the e-mail address specified in the 'Remarks' section, prior to the consultation date indicated.

Design Approval Holder's Name:

**Survitec Group Limited**

Type/Model Designation(s):

**Life Raft Heliraft 18R MK3**

**TCDS:**

ETSOA

**Superseded AD:**

Not Applicable

**ATA 25**

**Equipment / Furnishings – Life Raft - Inspection**

**Manufacturer(s):**

Survitec Group Ltd. t/a RFD Beaufort Ltd.

**Applicability:**

Survitec Group Limited (hereafter referred to as "Survitec" in this AD) Life Raft with packed assembly P/N 00051054 (Port) and 00051055 (Starboard).

**Definitions:**

For the purpose of this AD, the following definitions apply:

**Affected part:** Survitec Life Raft Heliraft 18R MK3 with packed assembly P/N 00051054 (Port) and 00051055 (Starboard).

**Serviceable part:** Survitec Life Raft Heliraft 18R MK3 with packed assembly P/N 00051054 (Port) and 00051055 (Starboard) that have been serviced in accordance with Alert Service Bulletin 25-197-A.

**The SB:** Alert Service Bulletin 25-197-A, Version 1 dated 19 June 2020.

<b>Reason:</b>	<p>While carrying out life raft deployment test, the life raft did not inflate properly and the main seam of the buoyancy chamber ruptured.</p> <p>Investigation determined that this issue was most likely caused by adhesive degradation as a result of harsh environmental conditioning over time.</p> <p>This condition, if not detected and corrected, could lead, in case of ditching, to failure of the life raft to inflate correctly, possibly affecting the safety of occupants during such an event.</p> <p>To address this potential unsafe condition, Survitec issued Alert Service Bulletin 25-197-A, to provide inspection instructions.</p> <p>For the reasons described above, this AD requires a one-time inspection of the seam and a life raft stretch test.</p>
<b>Effective Date:</b>	<b>(TBD upon issue of final AD)</b>
<b>Required Action(s) and Compliance Time(s):</b>	<p>Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously: Check affected life raft as per Survitec Alert Service Bulletin 25-197-A Version 1 or later revisions.</p> <p><b>Inspection(s):</b> (1) Within 12 months after the effective date of this AD, perform inspection and functional check of life raft in accordance with Alert Service Bulletin 25-197-A.</p> <p><b>Corrective Action(s):</b> (2) If, during any inspection and functional checks as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, discrepancies are detected, remove and replace the affected part with a new or serviceable part.</p> <p><b>Parts Installation:</b> (3) Do not install an affected part on any aircraft unless the part has been inspected and functionally checked in accordance with Alert Service Bulletin 25-197-A Version 1 or later revisions.</p>
<b>Reference Publications:</b>	Alert Service Bulletin 25-197-A Version 1 RFD CMM 25-61-574.

<b>Remarks:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. If requested and appropriately substantiated, CAA can approve Alternative Methods of Compliance for this AD.</li><li>2. This Proposed AD will be closed for consultation on 04 June 2021.</li><li>3. Information about any failures, malfunctions, defects or other occurrences, which may be similar to the unsafe condition addressed by this AD, and which may occur, or have occurred on a product, part or appliance not affected by this AD, can be reported to the CAA aviation safety reporting system. This may include reporting on the same or similar components, other than those covered by the design to which this AD applies, if the same unsafe condition can exist or may develop on an aircraft with those components installed. Such components may be installed under an FAA Parts Manufacturer Approval (PMA), Supplemental Type Certificate (STC) or other modification.</li><li>4. Enquiries regarding this Proposed Airworthiness Directive should be referred to: <a href="mailto:Continued.Airworthiness@caa.co.uk">Continued.Airworthiness@caa.co.uk</a></li></ol>
-----------------	--