

### SUBJECT : Inflation Cylinder Valve Connector

#### Affected Military Life Vests:

Atlantis Life Vest (ALV), Combat Swimmer Assault Vest (CSAV), and Combatant Diver Vest (CDV).

#### Problem:

An early version of the black plastic **Fixed Collar Handwheel** that attaches to any Aqua Lung Life Vest bladder may develop cracks and break. Life Vests sold by Aqua Lung America between Jan 2007 thru Mar 2012 are affected. The **Fixed Collar Handwheel** (hereafter "**Collar**") is one of eight components that make up the **Inflation Cylinder Valve Connector** assembly PN101314Z (Mag version) and PN101314 (Non-Mag version) (hereafter "**Connector**").

In April 2012, the **Collar** was modified to reduce cracking and facilitate better sealing by changing the polymer blend and increasing the wall thickness where cracks occurred on the previous version.

#### Corrective Actions:

1. Inspection of Life Vests - End users are to inventory their Life Vests to determine which **Collar** is used on their Inflation Cylinder Valve **Connectors**. The correct version **Collar** will have a date stamp as shown in Figure 1. If a date stamp is present, these **Collars** are ok for continued use.



Figure 1. Date Stamp indicates the correct/good **Collar**.

2. Aqua Lung will retrofit all unmarked **Connectors** with new **Collars** and return them to you at no cost – **BUT FIRST** :

- Visually inspect all of **Collars** for cracks or breaks in the plastic.
- Keep enough **Connectors** that satisfactorily passed the visual inspection to continue dive ops
- Return the rest of the **Connectors** found damaged and/or without date stamp to Aqua Lung America's Service & Repair Division.  
*Do not attempt to disassemble **Connector**.*
- Until all your **Connectors** are retrofitted, perform pre-dive and post-dive visual inspection on **Connectors** in use for cracks or damage.
- You may send your **Connectors** to Aqua Lung in batches until all retrofits are completed.

#### Return Procedure:

1. For each shipment of **Connectors**, Email the following person(s):

**Russell Buckingham – Aqua Lung America Service and Repair Supervisor** : [rbuckingham@aqualung.com](mailto:rbuckingham@aqualung.com)

**US MILITARY ONLY: Also copy Theresa Lang, Naval Special Warfare Diving ISEA** : [Theresa.lang@navy.mil](mailto:Theresa.lang@navy.mil)

2. In your email include:

- Primary and secondary POC for this effort (include phone number)
- Return shipping address, including valid street address (no APO's or FPO's)
- Total quantity of **Connectors** you are returning in this shipment
- Identify the number of packages you will be shipping  
*(This will determine how many pre-paid shipping labels you will receive)*

3. You will receive an email back from Aqua Lung with your pre-paid shipping label(s) attached in the form of an PDF.

4. Once received, the Service and Repair Division will turn around your retrofitted **Connectors** as quickly as possible.

**Note 1** : Please be patient as we are pressuring our parts manufacturer to expedite enough **Collars** to support this important retrofit.  
Please retain enough **Connectors** so as not to impact your ability to continue diving operations.

**Note 2** : This no cost retrofit expires Aug 31, 2015

For further technical support or to provide input on any of the information presented please contact:

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