



## EASA Safety Information Notice

**No.:** 2008-21

**Issued:** 11 March 2008

**Subject:** FOLA Airsafe Life Vests Type A-190 or A-290

**Ref. Publication(s):** Luftfartsstyrelsen (Swedish Civil Aviation Authority) Airworthiness Directive 1-201, issued 27 February 2008, effective date 1 March 2008; and FOLA Airsafe Service Bulletin 9-387 rev. A.

**Introduction:** Luftfartsstyrelsen, representing the State of Design of the affected equipment, issued the referenced AD (attached as page 2 of this notice) following the discovery that life vests of type Airsafe A-190 and Airsafe A-290 may have an error on the zippers from assembly at the factory. If an incorrect zipper is installed, this could lead to an uncontrolled inflation of the life vest.

According to Article 15(1) of Regulation (EC) No 1592/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 July 2002 on common rules in the field of civil aviation and establishing a European Aviation Safety Agency, EASA has only taken over Member States obligations that are related to design approval. As a consequence, EASA is only authorised to issue ADs related to design approval. EASA has determined that the above referenced unsafe condition is not related to design approval, as it is the result of manufacturing non-conformity and that the type design is therefore not affected. However, this is a serious safety issue and this Safety Information has been issued accordingly. National Aviation Authorities of the EU member states may adopt the referenced AD under their State of Registry responsibility.

**Applicability:** All aircraft that have these life vests installed. It should be noted that this type of equipment is often carried on board as 'personal equipment' and may therefore not be installed on the aircraft.

**Recommendation:** This Safety Information Notice is for information only.

**Contact:** For further information contact the Airworthiness Directives, Safety Management and Research Section, Certification Directorate, EASA.  
E-mail: [ADs@easa.europa.eu](mailto:ADs@easa.europa.eu) .

## **SWEDISH AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVES (SAD)**

### Section 1. Swedish Manufactured Aeronautical Products

<b>AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVE NO:</b>	<b>1-201</b>
<b>APPLICABILITY:</b>	FOLA Airsafe life vests type A-190 or A-290
<b>SERIAL No:s AFFECTED:</b>	ALL
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	Inspection of the zipper on the life vest valise
<b>BACKGROUND:</b>	Valises for life vests of type Airsafe A-190 and Airsafe A-290 may have an error on the zippers from assemble at factory. If an incorrect zipper is installed this could lead to an uncontrolled inflation of the life vest.
<b>REFERENCE DOCUMENTS:</b>	FOLA Airsafe Service Bulletin 9-387 rev. A or later revision
<b>ACTIONS:</b>	Perform actions described in FOLA Airsafe Service Bulletin 9-387 rev. A or later revision
<b>COMPLIANCE TIME:</b>	To be performed within three months from the effective date of this Airworthiness Directive
<b>EFFECTIVE DATE:</b>	1 March 2008
<b>DECISION:</b>	LS 2008-0762

**LUFTFARTSSTYRELSEN / Swedish Civil Aviation Authority**

The actions contained in this directive and reference document(s) have been classified as mandatory for aircraft on Swedish register

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Title <b>Life Vest type A-190, A-290 Inspection of the valise zipper</b>	Document number <b>9-387</b>	Revision <b>A</b>	Prepared <b>PM</b>
	Date <b>2008-02-20</b>		approved <b>TH</b>

ATA Chapter 25

# 1 Planning information

## 1.1 Effectivity

Life Vest

Airsafe Type A-190

MSU 3/92

Airsafe Type A-290

MSU 8/97

## 1.2 Reason

Valises for life vests of type Airsafe A-190 and Airsafe A-290 may have an error on the zippers from assemble at factory.

This Service Bulletin informs users how to inspect the life vest in order to identify zippers that haven't been prepared at the opening areas.

Unprepared zippers can lead to a non-controlled inflation of the life vest.

## 1.3 Description

This service bulletin gives instruction for:

- Inspections of the zippers
- Actions to be taken depending on the inspection result.

## 1.4 Compliance

Mandatory

To be performed within 3 months after effective date of this SB on life vests manufactured or serviced before February 2008.

This service bulletin is under the Swedish CAA and EASA consideration for an Airworthiness Directive and/or a Safety Information Notice.

## 1.5 Approval

This Service Bulletin is approved under the authority of POA no SE.21G.0010

## 1.6 Manpower

Estimated time to complete this service for operator is 0,5 hours. 1 person required.

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Revision	B	C	D	E	F
Date					

**1.7 Material**

None

**1.8 Tooling**

No special tool required.

**1.9 References**

None

**1.10 Other publications affected**

Not affected.

**2 Accomplishment instructions****2.1 Inspection**

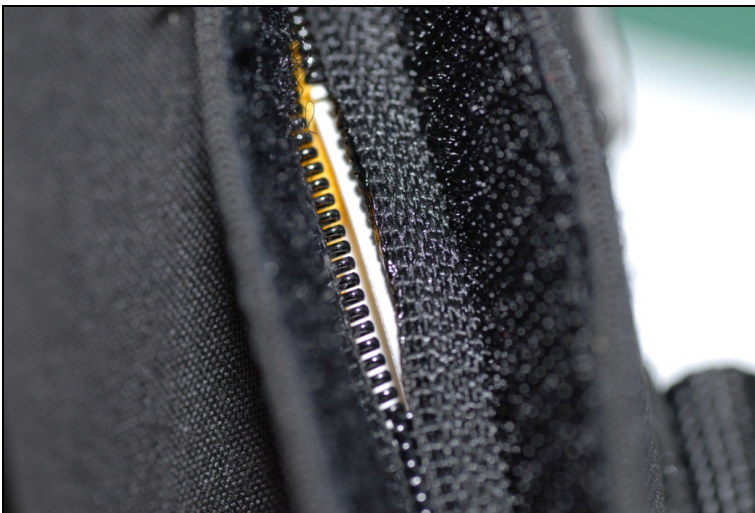
- 1) The valise has a zipper covering the outer edge. Near both ends there are opening areas consisting of removed “hooks” on one of the zipper halves. Inspect these by gently opening the Velcro just above the red inflate handles marked “jerk to inflate”. Check that the zipper opening areas has a length of about 2,5 cm.



*Pic 1. Inspect the 2 opening areas near both zipper ends.*



*Pic 2. The zipper opening area is placed inside the Velcro close to the inflate handles.*



*Pic 3. Close up shows that one part of the zipper shall lack the "hooks" for a length of about 2,5 cm.*

**Notice that both ends of the zipper shall be inspected. This is done by inspecting under the Velcro on both sides of the life vest.**

- 2) If the zipper opening areas are correct according to above, then close the velcro. Mark the life vest service label with the document no "9-387A" using a permanent pen. See Pic 4. This is to avoid further checks. The life vest can now be used as usual.



Pic 4. Label marking

- 3) If the zipper opening area is incorrect on either side, then immediately send the life vest to Airsafe Sweden AB. We will repair the life vest free of charge and then resend the life vest.

### 3 Contacts

If the zipper opening areas are incorrect:

Send the complete life vest to:

Airsafe Sweden AB  
Box 834  
194 28 Upplands Väsby  
Sweden

Phone: +468 594 112 60  
Fax: +468 590 715 49

E-mail: pontus.magnusson@airsafe.se