

BY MIKE GRUWELL

Seven Cool Features about Basik's Seven Container



If the “small things” in life grab you, then you’ll be taken by the Seven. This French-made rig is the brainchild of Basik Air Concept’s Jérôme Bunker.

Basik’s Seven container has a minefield of surprises for skydivers and riggers alike. I assembled, inspected and packed my first Seven container last month and was impressed by the attention to detail and several of the design features.

As a rigger, my first “Aha!” was with the full protection pocket for the AAD cutter at the base of the reserve container. In essence, this keeps the entire cutter enclosed, keeping just the hole open to feed the closing loop through. It’s a clear concept change from the usual elastic keeper in most rigs that holds the base of the cutter in place, but leaves the rest of the cutter and some of the cable exposed as a possible snag point for reserve lines.

The best part for riggers is the low number of flaps to pin and close. There are only two flaps to close on this rig, the second one being the top reserve flap that is pinned with the reserve pin. Closing the reserve container on a Seven involves only four paragraphs of instruction.

The “Cliffs Notes” version of the closing process includes placing the freebag into the

reserve container, stowing the bridle on top of the freebag, compressing the pilot chute and fabric, closing the bottom flap and pinning the top flap. That’s it (except for the usual explicit details and tips to follow).

The reserve freebag is made of a thick Cordura, lined inside with F-111 canopy fabric. This Cordura freebag makes up a good portion of the reserve container, as it is not completely covered by the side flaps, but is exposed for a faster deployment, says Bunker. The thin side flaps cradle only the side of the freebag and are secured at the top of the freebag with a bite of bridle. This leaves just the bottom and top flaps to cover the pilot chute, bridle and fabric.

The minimalist nature of the reserve container exceeds any I have ever seen. And when I pulled the reserve pin for a launch on the loft floor, the bridle reached full extension as the pilot chute bounded over one of the sewing machines. Impressive.

For the skydiver, the most generous and immediately realized feature is the double-thick spacer foam padding. Manufacturers in the U.S. have added a spacer foam option over the past few years, but the spacer foam in the Seven is “over-the-top” thick, especially in the leg pads.

Similar to Vector and Racer containers, the Seven has magnetic main riser covers. To take it a step further, Basik has added magnets to its main pilot chute freely handle and BOC pouch, which gives the system a secure lock. The main deployment bag also has a magnetic line-stow pouch. Bunker says a completely magnetic main deployment bag for the locking-stow section is now being produced for the latest Seven containers.

The main riser toggles are unique in that a straight pin and snap are utilized. This





configuration reduces the chance of a brake fire, as the pin at the top of the toggle and snap under the guide ring can only dislodge when pulled back or down.

Basik has incorporated its own ends to the cutaway housings. The tubular metal ends protect the thru-loop by keeping the cutaway cable and loop enclosed on three sides. The diameter of the hole through the metal end is also smaller than most cutaway-housing ends, which Bunker says prevents the cable from being "sucked through" the housing end or the riser.

Lastly, in an effort to solve the slipping leg strap issue with stainless steel hardware, Basik has incorporated leg strap adapters with a locking spring. The stainless steel hardware is manufactured by Wichard. It has a strong spring that rests against the center of the leg strap webbing as it comes through the adapter. While it takes a little more effort to tighten the leg straps, it seems to eliminate the slippage issue.

Overall I was very impressed with these key features of the Seven rig, as well as the quality of the workmanship. Bunker said this rig was first manufactured in 2007, so it is still an infant in this world of harness/containers. This Seven is approved under TSO C-23d in addition to having the French certification.

Basik has yet to really introduce the Seven into the U.S., but has plans to do so in 2010. If the company keeps up with the innovative quality of the Seven, it should be well received by riggers and skydivers alike. Kudos. 🙌



GAS

Visor
Imp: Scratch Anti-

Composite Carbon Shell
Weight 650 grams- 23oz

Visor LoK
Designed for easy removal of visor and for freefall speeds to +300kph

Equal audible pockets

Oxy
Oxygen inlet providing easy integration of O₂ systems for the most extreme skydiving environments

Designed for easy transfer of exhaust gases

Intelligent shock absorption

www.cookiecomposites.com
Quality helmets, lenses and camera accessories plus complete customised systems available online. Fast worldwide delivery.

CX100 CAMERA CAGE

BLACKBOX TG5/7

OZONE

CONGRATULATIONS

Cookie Composites would like to congratulate our sponsored teams Arizona Arsenal and Arizona Airspeed for their Gold medal performances at the 2009 US Nationals.