

SKYDIVING

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\$3.00

Indiana Accuracy Meet Required Stand-Up Landings

The top finishers in two divisions split an \$1800 cash purse at the Deer Creek Fair Stand-Up Money Meet held June 13 at Noblesville, Ind., (SKYDIVING #129).

This is the third year the accuracy competition has been a part of the big outdoor fair. Meet director Ron Langenderfer said extra points for stand-up landings made the contest more appealing to both the public and the sponsors. The event was sponsored by a national restaurant chain and a liquor company.

Competitors paid a \$15 entry fee and \$5 per jump for the three-round meet. Jumps were made from two Cessna 182s; exit altitude was 3000 ft.

Jumpers aimed for a 40-ft. diameter "bull's-eye" target. Competitors earned up to seven points for landing on a 10 cm. disc at the center of the target. Jumpers who stood up anywhere within the bull's-eye earned an extra two points. (Jumpers who stood up but missed the target were given three points.)

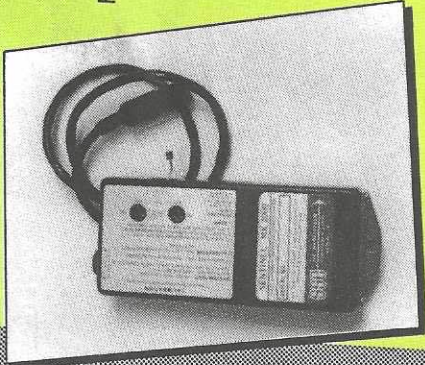


We've teamed up two great products to make one great pair:

By combining the dependable "brain" of the Mk2000 "Sentinel" with the new and innovative "brawn" of the Micro-Puller, we've brought automatic activation into the 21st century. The Mk2000 "Sentinel" Altitude Sensing Device monitors altitude and rate of descent. If the jumper passes through 1000 feet AGL at a high rate of speed, the Mk2000 will automatically initiate the deployment sequence.

The Micro-Puller then comes into action with an initial extraction force on the pin of more than 100 lbs. The Micro-Puller is a self-contained activation system which puts its pull force right where you need it—at the pin. The tried and tested "Sentinel" is credited with saving thousands of lives in the 30-plus years since its introduction to the sport market.

That's right, we've been saving lives longer than any company in the industry. We pioneered the pyrotechnic activation concept while others were in the stone age of design.



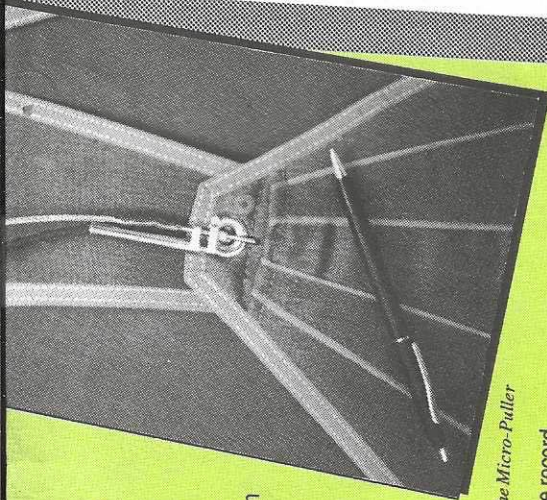
The SSE Mk2000 "Sentinel" Altitude Sensing Device

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The Micro-Puller



The new Micro-Puller will help the "Sentinel" continue its fine record. Here are some of the Micro-Puller's outstanding points:

- Lightweight 0.5 oz including connector.
- Super small 1/4-in. diameter.
- Installs in less than five minutes.
- Non-critical to alignment. Anchors on the loop grommet/pin assembly itself, not the pack tray.
- Compatible with one and two pin systems.
- No rig modifications required.
- No interference with manual pull or RSL systems.
- Micro-Puller integrity can be checked at a glance during normal pin checks.

The Micro-Puller is a stand-alone activation system, so it can be used on any rig that uses standard ripcord pins. One Micro-Puller is used on each pin, eliminating any worries about alignment or pin spacing on two-pin systems.

The Mk2000/Micro-Puller is available to skydivers under the SSE lease plan (write or call for details).

The Mk2000 and Micro-Puller are made by SSE Inc., makers of Altimaster altimeters. Contact your authorized SSE dealer for information on these or any of our quality products.



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canopies. They also usually have much higher aspect ratios—they have wide spans and short chords. This shape is less resistant to turbulence than the relatively boxy shape of many skydiving canopies.

To make matters worse, some paragliding canopies will not reinflate unless the pilot takes the proper corrective action with the toggles. Although few skydivers today would tolerate a canopy with such characteristics, paragliding pilots take them in stride, feeling the benefits are worth the costs.

As skydiving canopy manufacturers develop new designs with increased performance, they'll have to contend with problems such as increased susceptibility to collapsing. □

Skydiving

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Skydiver Makes Bungee Jump



Allen Robinson makes a bungee jump from a 150-ft. crane in Cocoa Beach, Fla., dressed in full skydiving gear. Photograph by Tom Fowler.

(SKYDIVING #132), in particular the statement "it should be noted that the top three teams at the 1991 World Championships used some form of the U.S. or French boot design." I would like to set the record straight.

The 1990-91 "Golden Knights" RW team, during its two years together, won one 4-way and two 8-way national championships in addition to winning the 1990 world cup and 1991 world championships in 8-way RW.

In attaining these titles, the Golden Knights set a world record 24-point 4-way jump, breaking an 11-year-old Soviet record. The team also set two 8-way world records—20 points at the May 1991 nationals, and 23 points at the world meet, breaking an eight-year-old record set by the U.S. team "Visions." The Golden Knights averaged 18.1 points per jump at last year's world meet (the French average was 17.2).

All this was done using standard, straight-leg Air Time Designs Pit Special jumpsuits with no booties or boosters.

And if you check the world meet results, you will also notice that the French 8-way team—which pioneered the boosters—never once scored a 20 or above at that competition (while the Knights scored a 20, 21, 22 and 23).

You may also find it curious to note that the French 8-way team adopted their full-face helmets, in addition to knee and elbow pads, after they had started using the boosters. Now why could that be?

But in all fairness, the Knights did try out Pit Specials with boosters this winter. The opinion of most—but not all—was that they were "a pain in the butt," and that there was no real improvement in freefall performance. After a team discussion over boosters, they decided to return to standard Pit Specials.

As far as the other "top three teams" are concerned, it is true that the top 4-way team wore boosters (actually, only three members did. The fourth wore a standard Pit Special).

It has been interesting to see the pads and paddles of the past return as "boosters."

Will they last as long as the originals did?

Letters

(continued from page 33)

came up to me and said, "Boy that looked like it hurt, I heard a loud splat. You were coming down so fast and hit the ground so hard. How come you didn't pull your reserve?"

We all started laughing but in reality it made me think. Hook turns are fun, but they just aren't worth it. I feel very fortunate that I am only in pain and not in a hospital.

I don't want anyone to get hurt on a hook turn, but I hope the next person who biffs in is as lucky as I am.

One jumper told me that in the U.S. alone there have been at least two deaths because of hook turns, not including the cameraman in Florida who ran into another jumper under canopy. Many more people have broken bones.

I hope this letter will help enlighten anyone who's starting to think about making hook turns. If you want speed then a straight-in front riser approach will give you a lot of speed and will be much safer and still be fun.

Rob Tyler
Marion, Mont.

One Top RW Team Doesn't Like Booties

In reference to the June article "Some Jumpers Turning to Booties and Boosters"

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