

CYPRES 2 – Precautionary Advisory January 2013

Issue date: 30 January 2013

Issue number: C2 0113

Identification: CYPRES 2 units manufactured 02/2009 to 12/2012

Background:

Airtec GmbH & Co. KG has been made aware of an extremely rare situation which could lead to “non-responsive” CYPRES 2 units. These particular units indicated a “0” (or the selected DZ setting) on the display, but were no longer operating.

Extensive research indicates that this situation is extremely rare, and tends to occur during packing, especially on non-conductive plastic surfaces such as nylon or carpeted areas. In addition, a recent activation, after the rig had been placed on the packing mat, has been linked to this phenomena.

Low humidity, build up of static electricity and changing environmental conditions are all contributing factors. The number of incidents that can lead to this behavior is, however, very, very low.

Action to be taken:

Before each jump during your pre-boarding gear check (when your CYPRES is on), simply click the button one time. A flash of the red LED indicates that the unit is working properly. If the red LED does not flash, please repeat this procedure to confirm. If the unit is not responding, it is not in working condition. If this is the case, contact Airtec GmbH & Co. KG or SSK Industries, Inc. to arrange a repair, a loaner or replacement with them. Again, a non functioning unit is very rare. It has never happened in Europe.

Insights:

The recent weather extremes with record low humidity levels indicate changing environmental conditions and we have to adjust for them.

Resolution:

CYPRES 2 units manufactured after the 1st of January 2013 contain an update to prevent this situation.

All existing CYPRES 2 units in the field manufactured during the affected date range (identified above) will receive the update as they cycle through their maintenance or during other repairs. There after, the procedure described above (clicking the button during each gear check) is no longer required.

The reason that only units manufactured from 2009 are affected is because a manufacturer of one of the CYPRES components made a change on an internal Asic microcircuit (which is something like a processor) to a higher level of integration. It seems that this action, which nowadays is typically judged as an improvement, has reduced the components capability of resistance to electrostatic influences.

Before the component went into CYPRES production Airtec tested it for 13 months, including field tests with 151 units with no events or anomalies experienced. Airtec started to use it in February 2009.

We are sorry for the temporary inconvenience this is causing you.

Authority:

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