

# UNAPPROVED PARTS NOTIFICATION

NO. 97-321  
September 3, 1998

**AFFECTED LIFE RAFTS:** Life rafts manufactured by Survival Products, Inc.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this notification is to advise all owners, operators, maintenance entities, and parts suppliers that Survival Products, Inc., of Hollywood, Florida, has been manufacturing life rafts without FAA approval.

**BACKGROUND:** An unapproved parts investigation revealed that Survival Products, Inc., manufactures life rafts and advertises them for sale in popular aviation publications as light weight, compact and "Government Approved." The "yellow tags" attached to the life rafts give the appearance that Survival Products, Inc., is a certificated repair station and that the life rafts were inspected and approved for return to service. Survival Products, Inc., does not hold an FAA production approval for the life rafts, nor is Survival Products, Inc., an FAA certificated repair station.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Aircraft owners, operators, maintenance entities, and parts suppliers are encouraged to inspect their aircraft and/or aircraft parts inventory for life rafts which state they have been manufactured, repaired, inspected and/or overhauled by Survival Products, Inc., of Hollywood, FL. Appropriate action should be taken to ensure that these life rafts are not utilized for aircraft operations that require an FAA approved life raft.

**FURTHER INFORMATION:** Further information may be obtained from the FAA Flight Standards District Office (FSDO) shown below. The FAA would appreciate any information regarding the source leading to the discovery of the above referenced unapproved life rafts, the means used to identify the source, and the action taken to remove the life rafts from aircraft and stock.

This notice originated from the Fort Lauderdale FSDO, 1050 Lee Wagener Blvd., Fort Lauderdale, FL 33315, (954) 356-7520, ext. 126, fax (956) 356-7531 and was published through the FAA Suspected Unapproved Parts Program Office, AVR-20, (703) 661-0581, fax (703) 661-0113.