



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Federal Aviation
Administration**

800 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20591

MAR 10 2000

Exemption No. 5448D
Regulatory Docket No. 26533

Ms. Mary Ann Wilmers
Jump Shack
1665 North Lexington Avenue
No. 106
DeLand, FL 32724-2187

Dear Ms. Wilmers:

This is in response to your October 21, 1999, letter and November 4, 1999, supplemental information petitioning the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) on behalf of Parachute Laboratories, Inc., doing business as Jump Shack (Jump Shack), for an extension of Exemption No. 5448, as amended. That exemption from § 105.43(a) of Title 14, Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR) permits Jump Shack to allow its employees, representatives, and other volunteer experimental parachute test jumpers under its direct supervision and control to make intentional tandem parachute jumps while wearing a dual-harness, dual-parachute pack having at least one main parachute and one approved auxiliary parachute packed in accordance with § 105.43(a). Additionally, pilots in command (PICs) of aircraft involved in these operations are permitted to allow such persons to make these parachute jumps.

In your petition, you indicate that the conditions and reasons regarding public interest and safety, presented in the original petition upon which the exemption was granted, remain unchanged.

The FAA has determined that good cause exists for not publishing a summary of the petition in the Federal Register because the requested extension of the exemption would not set a precedent, and any delay in acting on this petition would be detrimental to Jump Shack.

The FAA has determined that the justification for the issuance of Exemption No. 5448, as amended, remains valid with respect to this exemption. After further review, the FAA also has determined that the conditions and limitations should be revised in an effort to standardized all similar exemptions.

AFS-00-044-E

In consideration of the foregoing, I find that a grant of exemption is in the public interest. Therefore, pursuant to the authority contained in 49 U.S.C. §§ 40113 and 44701, delegated to me by the Administrator (14 CFR § 11.53), Exemption No. 5448, as amended, is hereby further amended by (1) extending its April 30, 2000, termination date to April 30, 2002, unless sooner superseded or rescinded, and (2) revising the conditions and limitations as stated below. This exemption is subject to the following revised conditions and limitations:

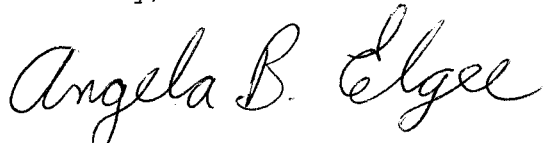
1. One of the jumpers using the dual-parachute pack must be an instructor jumper who has a minimum of 3 years of experience in sport parachuting and has completed a minimum of 500 free-fall parachute jumps, 300 of which must be completed using a ram-air (square) type parachute. In addition, the instructor jumper must hold an expert parachute license issued by the United States/Federation Aeronautique Internationale or the United States Parachute Association (USPA). The instructor jumper must have completed successfully a tandem instructor course given by either the parachute manufacturer or the USPA, or have completed a tandem instructor course acceptable to the Administrator. Any instructor exercising privileges under this exemption must be certified by the tandem parachute manufacturer that he or she is trained properly on the use of the specific approved dual-harness assembly.
2. The student jumper must use the front harness and the instructor jumper must use the rear harness of the combination dual-harness, dual-parachute pack assembly. Further, the jumper using the rear harness must be an employee of Jump Shack or a Jump Shack certified tandem instructor. The student using the front harness must be an adult volunteer jumper briefed fully by Jump Shack or a Jump Shack certified tandem instructor on tandem parachute procedures and on the use of the tandem assembly.
3. The dual-parachute harness, hardware, main canopy, deployment slider, suspension, and steering lines must be inspected thoroughly every 25 jumps and repaired in accordance with the applicable parachute owner's manual. The tandem instructor or a certificated parachute rigger must pack the main parachute; a certificated and appropriately rated parachute rigger must pack the auxiliary parachute in accordance with § 105.43(a).
4. The reserve canopy must meet Technical Standards Order (TSO)-C23 specifications.
5. The main canopy must be equipped with a single-point release system.

6. The dual-harness, dual-parachute pack must contain an operational automatic-activation device approved by the equipment manufacturer for use with that equipment. Additionally, the student jumper must be provided with a manual activation device for the main parachute.
7. The dual-harness, dual-parachute pack must not be used to carry persons for compensation or hire. However, when a dual-harness, dual-parachute pack is used in a training environment and the student is enrolled in a tandem parachuting course, the student may be charged for participation in the course.
8. The sale by a manufacturer of any dual-harness, dual-parachute pack manufactured under a TSO does not authorize the purchaser to use that appliance without an exemption from § 105.43(a). The manufacturer must advise purchasers of this requirement.
9. Jump Shack or a Jump Shack certified tandem instructor must directly control and supervise the use of the tandem parachute assembly.
10. Before takeoff, Jump Shack or a Jump Shack certified tandem instructor must brief thoroughly the PIC of the jump aircraft on the nature of tandem parachute operations and provide a copy of this exemption to the pilot for his or her review.
11. Jump Shack or a Jump Shack certified tandem instructor must brief the student jumper before boarding the jump aircraft on the operation of dual-harness, dual-parachute packs and those procedures to be used while exiting the aircraft, free-falling, and during the subsequent landing.
12. Within 48 hours of an incident requiring a reserve parachute activation or resulting in injury or death to the certified instructor or student jumper, Jump Shack or the Jump Shack certified tandem instructor must submit a written record to the FAA of each tandem parachute jump. The record must include the following:
 - a. Date and location of parachute jump;
 - b. Name of the instructor and student tandem jumper;
 - c. Identification of each parachute used, by make, model, and serial number;

- d. A narrative description of events occurring on the jump, including any injuries to the tandem instructor and/or student jumper; and
 - e. Recommendation for equipment changes, operating procedures, or retraining.
13. A copy of this exemption must be carried aboard any aircraft from which tandem jumps are performed.

This letter shall be attached to, and is a part of, Exemption No. 5448.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Angela B. Elgee". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

Angela B. Elgee
Acting Director, Flight Standards Service