



TANDEM SALES INFORMATION

Tandem Vector – VTC-2, 3, 4

Thank you for your interest in the Tandem Vector Parachute System!

Well over 1,800,000 jumps have been made on our Tandem Vector Systems, which allows us to offer the most advanced system on the market. The Tandem Vector System offers all the developments made in tandem equipment during the last 15 years while continuing to maintain the integrity, clean design and lasting durability of all our Vectors.

A Tandem System consists of a harness/container with main and reserve canopies, drogue system, student harness, waiver video, tandem instructor training video, packing video, owner's manual, tandem rubber bands and extra drogue release handles. An optional "secondary drogue release handle" can also be fitted for those wishing to use the system for advanced student training or tandem instructor training.

Mandatory AAD on Tandem Vector

Each Tandem Vector System must be built to accept an AAD (automatic activation device). At the present time, three manufacturer's units are compatible with the Tandem Vector: Airtec's Tandem CYPRES, Tandem FXC 12000, FXC Astra (soon to be certified), the Sentinel 2000 (modified to activate at 2000 feet), and the Sentinel 2100. The use of an AAD is mandatory worldwide with the Tandem Vector.

Tandem Canopies

The Tandem Vector System is available for several different combinations of canopies:

- 360 Reserve - 360 Main V12
- 360 Reserve - EZ-384 Main V13
- 360 Reserve - 421 Main V13
- 360 Reserve - EZ-425 Main V14
- 360 Reserve - 500 Main V14 (Not recommended for civilian use)
- 421 Reserve - 500 Main V14 (Foreign & Military Only)

The 5th generation of Tandem main canopies, our EZ-line (Elliptical Zero-Porosity), consists of the finest tandem main canopies available today! After three years of Performance Designs' intensive research, development, and testing, the EZ-384 is by far the best selling tandem canopy in the world! Its semi-elliptical airfoil generates staged and comfortable openings, with light toggle pressure. The zero-porosity top skin initiates great performance and superb landing capabilities. In Bill Booth's own words: "It's easy to pack, has soft-easy openings, it's easy to steer, and easy to land." Hence the name... EZ-384.

A larger version, called the EZ-425, is also available. Several demo canopies are traveling around the U.S. being evaluated by tandem rig owners in the higher elevations and those who always push the higher end of the weight limits. This larger EZ is not designed to fly or land like the EZ-384, but is rather more docile with a shallower angle of attack. For those of you having experience over the years with some of the docile Strong tandem canopies, you will find the EZ-425 reacting more to your liking.

Drogue

Our drogue system allows a tandem pair to fall at normal velocities making it easy for freefall photography. Tandem Vectors are the only tandem systems on the market that may be used with or without a drogue; a critical point when you consider the possibility of a tandem terminal reserve deployment at 180 MPH! Our canopies, both main and reserve, were first tested without a drogue to be sure they could withstand the higher opening speeds to which they are subjected during tandem terminal, and only then were they fitted with drogues and retested. No other tandem system manufacturer can make that claim!

Testing for FAA & Military Certification

During the original FAA certification, the 360 reserve and harness/container system were successfully drop tested with over 600 pounds at 242 miles per hour.

One branch of the U.S. Navy drop-tested our 421 canopies at 250 MPH with a 750-pound payload. In side-by-side testing, our systems were the only ones that passed this stringent testing. Currently the Army and Navy's special operations groups are using the Tandem Vector with a 421-main/reserve combination, while often utilizing the 500 square foot main canopy for special heavy insertions.

Replacing Parts

United Parachute Technologies has established a recommendation for the "lifetime" of Tandem main canopies and other components. We recommend replacing the following parts after so many jumps, cost in parenthesis:

Suspension lines every 200-300 jumps (\$ 275)

Main Canopy –F-111 every 600 jumps (between \$ 1880 and \$2460)

Drogue Centerline every 300 jumps (\$ 54)

Drogue Assembly every 600 jumps (\$ 360)

Harness / Container every 1000 jumps (\$ 4500)

Risers, Cutaway Handle, RSL every 600 jumps (\$ 100+20+54)

The Reserve Canopy is limited to 20 uses (and then must be factory-recertified for continued use.) The harness/container should be carefully inspected every 200 jumps. This replacement schedule should also help you to determine the financial structure of your operation.

FAA Exemption #4943

Since 1984, tandem parachuting in the United States has been allowed under a special exemption to FAR 105.43(a) issued by the Federal Aviation Administration. The exemption gives us the opportunity to prove the safety and benefits of tandem jumping and its equipment.

Qualified Buyers

United Parachute Technologies will sell the Tandem Vector only to qualified buyers. We require that each buyer be trained in tandem jumping procedures before taking delivery of a system. Rig owners must insure all users of the system (both tandem master and tandem student) execute certain waivers. A written record of each jump involving a reserve activation, component failure, or injury must be maintained and forwarded to United Parachute Technologies within 72 hours.

There are several reasons for these requirements. One is to protect both the tandem system owner and United Parachute Technologies from legal claims. Another is the terms of the FAA exemption -- failure to meet those terms could result in the withdrawal of the exemption, meaning the sport would lose the benefits of tandem jumping. Violating the terms could result in FAA fines (up to \$1000 per incident) and

other penalties levied on the tandem master, equipment owner and pilot of the jump aircraft. In other words, the FAA can and will punish those who violate its terms, and United Parachute Technologies is compelled by law to thoroughly investigate all substantiated incidents involving its equipment.

United Parachute Technologies is intent on protecting tandem jumping's good reputation. We believe it will improve the safety, growth, and profitability of the sport, and we will do everything within reason to prevent others from jeopardizing tandem jumping's future. In spite of all the restrictions, we are quite optimistic and enthusiastic about the future of tandem jumping.

Tandem's Popularity

Most DZ's around the world already have tandem programs, and the results are indisputable. It has proven to be safe, fun and profitable. These drop zones are discovering that the Tandem Vector lets them introduce the sport to a student after only fifteen minutes of instruction - with greater enjoyment and safety. Many DZ's are using the Tandem Vector to teach ram-air canopy control, requiring a tandem jump or two before they begin Accelerated Freefall or Accelerated Static-line instruction.

To qualify to buy a Tandem Vector, you must:

1. Receive training from United Parachute Technologies or one of its designated examiners on the use of the Tandem Vector System. This training usually can be completed in two days. Overseas customers will need to contact their national aeroclub to learn the rules and regulations that apply to tandem jumping in their country. You may call United Parachute Technologies to receive information on programs existing in your area.

2. Fill-out the order forms for the harness/container and canopies, and confirm your order with a \$1000 nonrefundable deposit. Read this enclosed packet completely and thoroughly.

If you have questions about ordering, please contact Aimee Stevenson. Technical questions should be directed to T.K. Donle. Questions pertaining to repairs and service scheduling will go to Jean Fletcher. Our telephone is (386) 736-7589, Fax (386) 734-7537. Monday through Friday, 8am - 5pm EST.

Note: The Tandem Vector system is sold only as a complete system; it includes both canopies plus all ripcords, handles, main and reserve deployment bags, pilot chutes, risers and special rubber bands. Your system will be assembled and the reserve canopy packed by a United Parachute Technologies rigger. If you choose not to purchase an AAD through United Parachute Technologies, the AAD has to be supplied prior to the estimated ship date in order to install it when the reserve is packed. All you will have to do is pack the main canopy and you're ready to jump! Replacement components and parts are available through United Parachute Technologies to original system owners.

- Delivery time for a custom Tandem Vector is approximately 16 weeks.
- Delivery time for a custom Tandem Canopy is approximately 10 weeks.

Finally, we appreciate your interest in the Tandem Vector System. We believe that all Vectors, whether it is for sport, student, military or tandem skydiving, are the finest harness/container systems available today.