



LIFE SUPPORT INTERNATIONAL

THE CUSTOMER



The 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment

The 160th SOAR, otherwise known as Task Force 160 (TF-160) or the 'Night Stalkers', are an elite U.S. Army special operations unit who fly helicopters in support of both SOF and regular forces.

THE CHALLENGE

Update the configuration of the three military life rafts in use to:

- Decrease raft damage
- Lessen maintenance costs
- Ensure easy access and safe deployment in the case of an emergency



THE SOLUTION

LSI introduced new life raft packaging which eradicated several of the challenges faced by the 160th SOAR crews.

The long-used, flimsy packaging was often damaged while on its way onto aircraft and piled upon in the air. Rafts were then secured in the air with bungee cords, preventing quick, easy access in the event of emergency. Additionally, because the rafts' old packaging provided little protection, the rafts required a 180-day inspection cycle. Another significant issue was that the packaging would not adequately protect rafts when air-dropped for rescue missions.

LSI introduced both Environmental Packaging and HARD-Raft Canisters to SOAR and improved aircraft safety, likelihood of successful deployment, increased space on-board and reduced valuable resources.



ENVIRONMENTAL PACKAGING

The Environmental Packaging reduced the bulk of each life raft and reduced maintenance frequency from twice per year to one inspection every five years. Additionally, Environmental Packaging led to improved long-term storage and decreased replacement costs.

HARD-RAFT CANISTERS

LSI introduced HARD Canisters to three models of life rafts in use: HARD-20™, HARD-7™ and the HARD-7(S)™. The advantages of HARD Canisters abound.

The updated HARD Canisters are air-droppable via static line, are easier to deploy and inflate. Each Canister has clearly marked instructions for ease of use and is equipped with a manual inflation handle and Quick-Release Suspension System rated to 30G, increasing the safety of the 160th SOAR unit and the likelihood of successful rescues.



CUSTOMIZED SOLUTIONS FOR SURVIVAL