

Recall Advisory Notice for **MD318X** Inflatable PFDs Containing Fluorescent **Green Inflation Bladders** (US)

September 24, 2015

PLEASE READ THIS IMPORTANT RECALL ADVISORY IN ITS ENTIRETY. In keeping with Mustang Survival's commitment to the highest level of quality and safety, we are notifying the public of an urgent recall advisory recalling certain Mustang Survival Inflatable Personal Flotation Devices (PFDs) that were manufactured between September 2014 and September 2015.

Effective immediately, users are advised to inspect your Mustang Survival PFDs and, if you have a PFD impacted by this recall advisory (as noted below), DO NOT USE and immediately return the affected PFD to us as there is a risk that the bladder may tear when the lobes are flexed apart while fully inflated.

WARNING: IF THE BLADDER IS TORN IT WILL NOT PROVIDE ANY FLOTATION PROTECTION IF USED WHICH CAN RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH.









The following Mustang Survival products MAY be affected:

- MD3183 and MD3184 Deluxe Inflatable HIT™ PFDs
- MD3188 HIT™ Work Vest

If you have one of these model PFDs, follow the steps below to determine whether your PFD is impacted by this recall.

For Steps 1 through 5, please refer to the approval label sewn on your PFD and look for the markings shown in Fig.1.

- STEP 1 Look for model number on the approval label (shown at If it matches one of the model numbers listed above. proceed to Step 2.
- STEP 2 If your device is marked Made in Canada (shown at 2), proceed to Step 3.
- STEP 3 If the MFG DATE (shown at 3) is any date from Sep2014 to Sep2015 inclusive, proceed to Step 4.

If you answer **NO** to any of Steps 1 to 3, then your PFD is **NOT** impacted by this recall.

STEP 4 - If the bladder in your device is fluorescent green (NOT yellow/gold) as seen below in Fig.3, proceed to Step 5.





Fluorescent Green Bladder - AFFECTED go to





Yellow/Gold Bladder - Your device is **NOT** part of this advisory

If your PFD is on the list of models above, and Made in Canada during the period of September 2014 to September 2015, and has a fluorescent green bladder inside, then proceed to Step 5.

RECREATIONAL INFLATABLE - TYPE V PERSONAL FLOTATION DEVICE IMPORTANT - READ SAILING HARNESS LABEL **ADULT - UNIVERSAL** USER WEIGHT: More than 80 lbs. (36.3 kg) CHEST SIZE: 30-52 IN (76-132 CM) MINIMUM HEIGHT: 5 FEET 5 INCHES (165 CM) USCG approved for use only on recreational boats by persons at least 16 years of age. An owner's manual must be provided with this PFD. Not approved to meet carriage requirements on commercial vessels. Not approved for use on personal watercraft, for white water paddling, or for waterskiing, knee boarding, or similar towed uses. To avoid death by drowning, read all the WARNINGS AND CAUTIONS located on label LN1290 & LN1292 before using this MODEL MD3184 MFG DATE SEP2014 USCG APPROVAL NO.: 160.076/8608/0

***ABINA** TYPE V RECREATIONAL MUSTANG SURVIVAL
INFLATABLE PFD Toll Free: 1-800-526-0532
www.mustangsurvival.com LOT NO. LN1291 Fig.1 Fig.2

FOR USE ON RECREATIONAL VESSELS: THIS IS A TYPE II PFD FOR USE ON UNINSPECTED

COMMERCIAL VESSELS: THIS IS A TYPE V PFD

UNINSPECTED COMMERCIAL VESSELS

This is a Type V Commercial Inflatable PFD because it is approved only when worn for use in lieu of a Type II PFD under 46 CFR 160.064 on uninspected commercial vessels less than 40 feet in length not carrying passengers for hire when used and serviced in accordance with the owner's manual.

Not approved for "hot work".



STEP 5 - Check to see if your device has a stamp as (shown in Fig.2) above. If it does not, proceed to Step 6.

Mustang Survival PFDs with the QA Pass Stamp (shown at 4) are **NOT** affected by this recall. (shown in Fig.2 above)

- STEP 6 DO NOT USE the PFD as it is impacted by this recall, and immediately contact Mustang Survival's Customer Service directly. You do not need to contact the retailer as Mustang Survival will handle the repair as follows:
- Contact Mustang Survival Customer Service at: 1-800-526-0532 between the hours of 7:30am-4:30pm PST, or email productadvisories@mustangsurvival.com, to obtain specific return shipping instructions.
- Your PFD will have to be returned to Mustang Survival for repair.

PFDs impacted by this recall will be repaired at NO COST to you. Once repaired, the PFD will be safe to use and returned to you. If you have questions, please first refer to the Frequently Asked Questions on our website at: www.mustangsurvival.com/advisories.

Mustang Survival appreciates your attention to this important matter.



Frequently Asked Questions on MD315X /MD318X Recall Advisory

September 24, 2015

- Q. What is wrong with the impacted Inflatable PFDs?
- **A.** A portion of the perimeter of the gas holding bladder is not reinforced properly. This may result in the bladder tearing when it is flexed while fully inflated.
- **Q.** Why do I have to return the impacted Inflatable PFD?
- **A.** The impacted Inflatable PFDs require reinforcement on the bladder. This reinforcement is needed to ensure safe and repeated use of your flotation device. This addition of this reinforcement and quality assurance testing must be performed by Mustang Survival.
- Q. Is the impacted Inflatable PFD dangerous to use as-is?
- **A.** Impacted Inflatable PFDs should not be used as there is a risk that the bladder may tear while taking it off when fully inflated.
- Q. What are you doing with my returned product?
- **A.** All returned PFDs will be inspected and, if confirmed as affected by the safety advisory, the reinforcement will be added to the bladder. We will stamp the approval label on the back ofthe device with an OK symbol to indicate that it has undergone rework and recertification testing and is good to go.
- **Q.** How did Mustang Survival find out about this problem?
- **A.** This problem was discovered by Mustang Survival's Quality Engineering team during investigation of a reported product failure in the field. The Inflatable PFD performed as intended during the in-water incident, but the bladder tore when the user took off the PFD while it was fully inflated. No other incidents have been reported to date.
- Q. Is every Inflatable PFD affected?
- **A.** No, this safety advisory only impacts certain models of Inflatable PFDs that were manufactured in Canada from September 2014 to September 2015 inclusively and use a fluorescent green bladder. Refer to the recall advisory instructions steps 1-5 by checking the primary identification label on the back of the outer cover of your Inflatable PFD.

- Q. Is any other Mustang Survival product impacted?
- **A.** No, this recall advisory is specific only to certain models as identified in the notice.
- Q. How do I get mine fixed?
- **A.** Please read the recall advisory notice on the Mustang Survival website and contact Mustang Survival Customer Service at 1-800-526-0532.
- Q. How long will it take to get my Inflatable PFD back?
- **A.** Mustang Survival is committed to ensuring you can safely enjoy the ultimate experience on the water. Our team has a plan in place that will enable safe and efficient repair of your device that will enable it to be returned to you within 3-4 weeks (including shipping time to and from Mustang Survival). Note: As these Inflatable PFD's contain a CO2 cylinder, shipping times may take longer.