

Rapallo, March 21<sup>st</sup> 2019



**IMPORTANT SAFETY NOTICE!**  
**VOLUNTARY RECALL XR LINE INFLATOR**

Dear valued Mares Customer,

Please be informed that we have discovered a quality issue on the inflator mounted on the XR line aircells and we are issuing a VOLUNTARY product recall to ensure the safety of the diver. This inflator is made by a third party supplier (FERPLAST) and is henceforth referred to as FERPLAST inflator.

If you have one of these recalled units, IMMEDIATELY STOP DIVING WITH IT AND RETURN IT TO YOUR MARES DEALER, who will arrange for a free replacement of the inflator. If you no longer have this item please contact your Mares dealer immediately with the information at the end of this letter and provide them with the name and contact information of the new owner.

**PRODUCTS AFFECTED BY RECALL**

The recall concerns only the following products:

<b>Code</b>	<b>Description</b>
417511	Donut Bladder Single Tank - XR Line
417512	Donut Bladder Twin Tank - XR Line
417536	Sidemount Pure Light Bladder - XR Line
417539	Red Devil Single Backmount set - XR Line
417540	Red Devil Single Backmount set SSI - XR Line
417547	Pure Light Sidemount compl.set - XR Line
417550	Silver Knight Single BM set - XR Line
417551	Blue Battle Single Backmount set - XR Line

The recall concerns only products on which the **NEW type** of Ferplast inflator is installed and not the previous type. The new inflators can be easily identified visually as shown in the picture below:



**IN PARTICULAR, ONLY INFLATORS WITH A SERIAL NUMBER FROM 8A – 02001 to 8A – 07630 BEING RECALLED.**

Aircells produced with the previous type inflator and/or not being included in the range of serial numbers mentioned above are NOT affected by this recall.

- **HOW TO IDENTIFY THE SERIAL NUMBER ON YOUR INFLATOR**

Each inflator is identified by its own serial number as can be seen in the picture below. **IF THE INFLATOR BODY IS MARKED with an X and the serial number is starting with 19.XX.XXX AS IN THE PICTURE, IT HAS BEEN ASSEMBLED PROPERLY AND CAN BE USED FOR DIVING.**



**OK**

**If the inflator doesn't have the X engraved on the body and the serial number is in the range from 8A – 02001 to 8A – 07630, the inflator is affected, and cannot to be used anymore and needs to be replaced immediately. The replaced units need to be returned to the place of purchase.**



**NOT OK**

**If serial number is in between the numbers starting with 8A – 02001 up to 8A – 07630 and no X is marked on the body.**

If you own one of the products listed at the beginning of this letter and have identified it to be affected by the recall, either by comparing the serial number or by recognizing the inflator as being a NEW MODEL, **DO NOT DIVE WITH IT!** If you are in doubt as to whether your product is affected or not, STOP DIVING WITH IT AND CONTACT YOUR DEALER OR MARES at the phone number or email listed at the end of this letter.

## **DESCRIPTION OF THE PROBLEM AT THE ROOT OF THE RECALL**

Under certain circumstances the deflation button could come unscrewed which could result in loss of the seal at the mouthpiece. This in turn would result in loss of buoyancy that could potentially lead to an accident and serious injury or death, hence Mares has decided to issue a VOLUNTARY product recall to protect the safety of the diver.

The problem arises because insufficient torque was applied during the assembly of a small lot of these inflators. The inflators are produced by a third party supplier who has used the same principle on hundreds of thousands of inflators without problems. The issue at hand is limited to a small lot due to a change in their production process, which has already been rectified. The problem is solved by applying the correct torque when assembling the button. For added safety, a special glue is now added on the threads.

Inflators assembled with proper torque and glue are marked with an X on the body and ID started with 19.XX.XXX as described above. IF THE INFLATOR BODY PRESENTS THE X and ID started with 19.XX.XXX AS IN THE PICTURE, IT HAS BEEN ASSEMBLED PROPERLY AND CAN BE USED FOR DIVING.

- **WHAT SHOULD YOU DO NOW**

If you own one of the products listed at the beginning of this letter and have identified it to be affected by the recall by recognizing the inflator being a NEW MODEL and PART OF THE AFFECTED SERIAL NUMBER RANGE, IMMEDIATELY STOP DIVING WITH IT and contact your dealer or contact Mares directly at the phone number or email address listed below.

If you are in doubt as to whether your product is affected or not, STOP DIVING WITH IT AND CONTACT YOUR DEALER OR CONTACT MARES at the phone number or email listed at the end of this letter.



Every affected inflator will be replaced with a complete set comprising new inflator, corrugated hose and gasket for the elbow connection. The inflator will have an X marked on the body as shown in the picture above, indicating it has been properly assembled.

Substitution of the inflator and corrugated assembly should be performed by an authorized Mareslab Service Center, which will perform this service free of charge.

Additional information will be available on our website at [www.mares.com](http://www.mares.com) and on our Facebook page.

We apologize for the inconvenience that this recall causes you. We believe in safety and we care about our customer and about all divers. We will do our utmost to make the process of replacing the inflator as seamless as possible. Your cooperation is deeply appreciated. Should you have any additional question or concern please contact your Mares dealer or distributor found here on our Store Locator: [www.mares.com/partner-locator/](http://www.mares.com/partner-locator/)

Your Mares team