



6<sup>th</sup> April 2020

### Cloudburst Fire Bucket Service Information

For those helicopter operators that are using the Cloudburst Fire Bucket with the stainless steel folding ring and Velcro retention tabs, we at IMS would like to take this opportunity to remind you of the areas that may cause concern with the use of these buckets with the Velcro.

As we strive to ensure safety in the design of the Cloudburst fire bucket with functionality following closely behind, we wish to notify operators of the areas to check and maintain to continue the safe operation of these buckets.

Some of you will have Cloudburst fire buckets with the stainless steel folding top ring and Velcro retention tabs. If you have one of these buckets please ensure that for the safe operation of these buckets the following pre-flight procedures are adhered to.

#### Pre-flight Safety Check List

Cloudburst buckets should receive a strict pre-flight inspection on every component according to the checklist below before each flight, to ensure the safety and the quality of the operation.

No.	Valve & Cloudburst Bag	Check	Remarks
1	Check all fastenings on the valve, ensure all are tight.		
2	Check the monsoon seal is in good condition		
3	Check the air cylinder and spear are in good condition		
4	Check all air hoses and fittings are free from damage and are not leaking		
5	Ensure there is not damage to the Cloudburst orange shell		

No.	Foam Bladder (Optional)	Check	Remarks
6	Check the bladder has no mechanical damage causing leakage		
7	Ensure all fittings are secure and free from damage		
8	Check bladder mounting is secure at top and bottom of bladder		

No.	Top section of Cloudburst	Check	Remarks
9	Check stainless steel folding top ring has no damage and bungee cord inside is tight and the bungee remains to be elastic.		
10	Inspect the Velcro tabs, ensure the Velcro is clean and their adhesion is very good and all the Velcro area is joined. You should not be able to break the grip of the Velcro by applying 30-40kgs of downward force upon the stainless ring with one hand and holding a lift cleat with the other hand. Should the Velcro not hold the ring securely then repair is required immediately		
11	Check the lifting lugs and ensure the top ring is in good repair and fastenings are tight.		
12	Check lift strops are in good condition and are secured correctly.		

No.	Lift Hub	Check	Remarks
13	Check the shackle connection to the underside of the Lift Hub		
14	Check the shackles are wire locked.		
15	Check the Lift Hub body for signs of mechanical damage.		
16	Check service cable and hose coming and out of Lift Hub are in good condition		
17	Make sure connection to the line above the Lift Hub is secured properly.		
18	Ensure that the lift lines to the Cloudburst Bucket from The Lift Hub are aligned and not crossed over.		

No.	Longline	Check	Remarks
19	Check line and cover for abnormalities		
20	Checks services at each end for damage		

**Caution:**

The pilot is responsible for determining the speed according to the load, line length and acknowledging the weather conditions

Flying with the Monsoon Valve open, when not filled with water, will aid in the flight stability of your Cloudburst Fire Bucket

Should anyone have any concerns about their Cloudburst fire bucket please contact us or send you bucket to us for a free assessment/inspection of its safety and operational function.

Please join our Facebook pages or sign up to our newsletters on our website to keep informed with any updates from IMS. Our links to these pages are below

Kind Regards

Richard Lane

*Managing Director*



Facebook: [IMS New Zealand - International Helicopter Equipment Specialists](#)  
[Cloudburst Fire Bucket for Aerial Firefighting](#)  
[Ground-Effect Spreading Bucket for Aerial Agriculture](#)

Web: [www.imsheli.com](http://www.imsheli.com)

Mobile: +64 21 470 062

Office: +64 6 843 6311