

- To all owners of the Red Rocket Parachute Flare L-35 (Pirolec)

Onderwerp Safety alert for use Red Rocket Parachute Flare L-35 (Pirolec)

The Dutch Safety Board calls on all owners of the Red Rocket Parachute Flare L-35 / L-35A (Pirolec) to take note of this Safety Alert.

In the night of January 1, 2023, a person on board a Dutch sailing ship on the Pacific Ocean died when he fired a flare.

The experienced sea sailor fired the flare, which complied with its requirements, in accordance with the instructions. The flare did not launch as intended, but exploded immediately, with fatal consequences.

After becoming aware of the accident, the Dutch Safety Board started a preliminary investigation. From the initial analysis of the available information, the Dutch Safety Board has not yet been able to determine whether this is a one-off accident or if a more structural problem exists. Given the nature of the incident, there is a risk that it is not a one-off incident.

Because of this risk, contact has been made with the manufacturer in Spain. The Spanish manufacturer has warned its customers in Spain and is recalling the specific batch. Because these products are sold only in Spain, the warning of the Spanish manufacturer is aimed at Spanish customers (see later on). The accident, however, shows that owners (users) are also located outside Spain. For example, Spain can be a final supply station for transatlantic or Mediterranean (sailing) trips.

With this warning, the Dutch Safety Board calls on all owners of Red Rocket Parachute Flare from Pirolec, type L-35/ L35A, batch 0525/2021 – 113, to not use these and to replace them.

Yours faithfully,

CHAIR Dutch Safety Board

On behalf, chair Dutch Safety Board,
Secretary general Dutch Safety Board

mrs mr. C.A.J.F. Verheij



Red Rocket Parachute flare L-35 / L-35A (Pirolec)



Pirolec Red Rocket Parachute flare L-35

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Pirolec Red Rocket Parachute flare L-35A
Ongevalsbatch 0525/2021 113 08/2021 – 08/2025

Bron: Onderzoeksraad voor Veiligheid