

RNLI STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE



Mk8 Parachute Rocket

Validation

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Objective

To ensure the correct procedures are carried out during the use of the Mk 8 parachute rocket.

Reference Documentation

Crew Members Handbook
Shore Crew Handbook
CoBT 1
Ops Circular 03/12 -6.1

Checklist

SOP communicated and understood by all?
Appropriate PPE identified/specified?
Lessons Learned : 01/11, 02/12, 01/13

Hazards

Heat	
Explosion	
Fumes	

Health and Safety

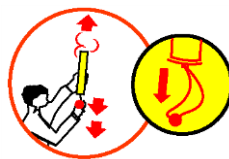
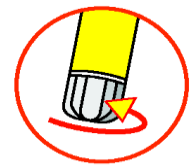
 Caution	 Explosive	 Danger harmful	 Risk of explosion	 Wear face guard	 Protective clothing must be worn
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The red and white parachute flares are identical in construction and operation, only the labelling is different:

- The white flare can be used for collision avoidance or for illumination while searching
- The red flare is used for distress and can be used during the day or night

Do not remove the soft red cap. The rocket is designed to fire through this cap

- Remove the flare from the stowage
- Hold the flare firmly on the ribbed handgrip
- Remove the bottom red cap; the ignition toggle will hang free
- Ensure correct PPE is worn and helmet visor is down
- **Point downwind and hold above your head, clear of face and body**
- To activate, sharply pull the ignition toggle down
- Keep at arm's length until the flare is fully extinguished



Caution

- **BE AWARE once the ignition toggle is pulled a projectile will be fired from the end**
- Parachute flares should only be fired ¼ nm clear of land and not high density mooring areas to minimise the risk of fire
- Produces a rocket – do not point at people
- Do not fire in a confined space
- If damaged or dented do not use
- Do not dismantle
- Keep away from source of heat
- Do not use after the expiry date
- In the event of a non-ignition misfire the flare must be kept pointing in a safe direction for at least one minute. It should then be placed in a bucket of water or disposed of overboard
- In the event of the flare burning erratically or dangerously place in a bucket of water or throw into the water
- In any event of misfire please report to RNLI HQ including a description of the failure, lot number and expiry date