

Life Preserver Inflators

1. Automatic Inflators- There are two types of auto inflators that are authorized for both the commercial version and the MIL-SPEC version of the MK-1 life preserver.
 - a. **CONAX inflator (1377-01-302-2560)** – This automatic inflation assembly is a 12 volt battery powered electronic circuit device. When the 12-volt battery-powered automatic inflation device is immersed in water, an electronic circuit is completed that automatically activates the inflation mechanism. The CONAX inflator can be automatically actuated only once. It can be manually actuated an unlimited amount of times by pulling a lanyard attached to an actuating lever, releasing the CO₂ to inflate the bladder. When ordering this automatic inflation device, the battery (NSN 6135-01-372-5191) and the CO₂ cylinder must be ordered separately.

Service life on this automatic inflation device is seven years from the date of manufacture. Inflation assemblies exceeding this limit shall be replaced to ensure serviceability unless a service life extension is authorized. Refer to NAVAIR 11-100-1.1-CD, Technical Manual for Cartridge Actuated Devices (CAD) and Propellant Actuated Devices (PAD), for the latest approved service life as this limit may change through scheduled service life testing. The NAVAIR 11-100-1.1-CD, available at the CAD/PAD Virtual Fleet Support (VFS) website, <https://cadpad.ih.navy.mil>, also includes the policy and process for obtaining a service life extension when replacement inflation assemblies are unavailable.

Do not dispose of the inflator assembly locally. The automatic inflation assembly contains energetic material. Local disposal is in violation of EPA laws and the Military Munitions Rule. Dispose of the used assembly as a cartridge actuated device (CAD) IAW NAVSUP P-724. For further information on the disposal process contact Fred Young at NOLSC, Mechanicsburg at DSN 430-2017 or (717)605-2017.

For detailed information on ordering and management of the automatic inflation, contact Sandra Yandell, Naval Surface Warfare Center, Indian Head at 301-744-2248 or Sandra.Yandell@navy.mil.



CONAX Auto Inflator
(NSN 1377-01-302-2560)

- b. Chemical Pill Inflator (NSN 4220-01-470-9906) and Chemical Pills (NSN 4220-001-470-9908) - The chemical pill inflator is an automatic inflator that is actuated by the dissolving of a chemical pill when it is immersed in water. It can be actuated automatically an unlimited amount of times, as long as the chemical pill and the CO₂ cylinder are replaced. The inflation assembly can also be activated manually by pulling a lanyard attached to an actuating lever, releasing the CO₂ to inflate the bladder. The shelf life of the chemical pills is three (3) years from the manufacturer's date on the package



Chemical Pill Inflator



Chemical Pills

2. Unauthorized automatic inflator:

CONAX deck crew auto inflator (NSN 4220-01-302-2560)- This automatic inflation device is a 12 volt battery powered electronic circuit device. It is no longer certified to use with the MK-1 life preserver. It should be replaced with the CONAX inflator or the chemical pill inflator mentioned above. The visible way to identify this inflator is with the NSN. **Note that the authorized CONAX inflator above has the same NSN except it starts with "1377"**



CONAX inflator
(NSN 4220-01-302-2560)

3. Manual Inflator (NSN 4220-01-493-5995) – This manual inflator is to be used with the Abandon Ship Life Preserver . This inflator is activated by pulling on a lanyard on the manual inflator. The manual inflator is mounted on the brass manifold on the buoyancy chamber. A breakaway clip can be used instead of shearwire to keep the inflator from being inadvertently actuated.



Breakaway clip, NSN 4220-01-515-6476)

Manual Inflator