

PRODUCT UPDATES

LIFESLING RECALL

Although there have been no reported injuries related to the product, West Marine (www.westmarine.com) recently recalled the Lifesling Inflatable man-overboard retrieval device, citing non-compliance with the company's new safety standards. *Practical Sailor* rated the throwable MOB device as a Best Choice product in the April 2007 issue, but editors have always preferred its sibling, the Lifesling2, for MOB retrieval. Owners of the Inflatable Lifesling can exchange it at a local West Marine store for a Lifesling2 and a gift card for the difference in price of the two products or a gift card for the full value. For more information, contact West Marine at 800/262-8464.



*Inflatable
Lifesling*

nos. B12330337 to B12382728) should contact Xantrex's customer service at 800/670-0707. The Freedom was not included in our recent test of inverter-chargers (February and March 2010) because it was released after our testing had begun.

GARMIN GPSMAP 700 SERIES

Garmin USA (www.garmin.com) recently issued a recall regarding its new GPSMap 700 series chartplotters. The devices, touted for their radar interface capability, do not communicate properly with GMR18

HD or GMR24 HD radars. According to West Marine's recall notice of the product, the system may operate normally for a period of time until a communication error occurs and "Radar Service Lost" is displayed on the chartplotter. The chartplotter continues to operate normally except that it cannot display radar data. A hardware upgrade to the radar is required. The West Marine recall affects GMR18 HD and GMR24 HD radars that are or will be used with a 700 series chartplotter and fall in the following serial number range: 1DH000000 to 1DH0100365 (GMR18 HD) and 1DJ000000

through 1DJ002356 (GMR24 HD). For more information, contact Garmin at 913/397-8200 or 800/800-1020.

KLEAN STRIP DISCONTINUED

In the January 2009 issue, we reviewed 14 mold and mildew cleaners. The top performer in that test was Klean Strip Mildew Stain Remover (www.wmbarr.com). According to its maker, Klean Strip has been discontinued and a new product, Mold Armor Instant Mold and Mildew Stain Remover, has taken its place in the W.M. Barr cleaners line-up. Stay tuned for a future test of this product to see whether it performs as well as its predecessor.

*West Marine
Sailing Gloves*



SAILING GLOVES RECALL

West Marine (www.westmarine.com) is recalling several models of its private-label sailing gloves (product nos. 7801376 through 7801517), including three-quarter finger and full finger. According to the recall, there have been multiple reports of severe rashes and dermatitis by wearers of these gloves. If you purchased any of these between February and August 2010, stop using them, contact your local store, or visit www.westmarine.com.

XANTREX FREEDOM RECALL

One of Xantrex's newest inverter-chargers, the Freedom Sine Wave 3000, has been recalled. The manufacturers (www.xantrex.com) cite "a potential safety issue" related to a printed circuit board as the reason for the recall. The Freedom 3000, according to a news release, may overheat under certain conditions, creating a fire hazard. Anyone with a new Freedom 3000 (part no. 815-3000, serial