Auto-TFSS; OVERT (O) & COVERT (C)

The Automatic Tactical Flotation Support System (ATFSS)™ AUTO-TFSS, designed by PECI Flotation, L.L.C, is a low profile aid to flotation device specifically designed to automatically inflate when submerged in water. It automatically inflates in approximately six (6) seconds when totally submerged in water and has a back-up manual lanyard system in the unlikely event auto inflation does not occur. The AUTO-TFSS is ideal for small boat operations, training events and recreation. The AUTO-TFSS was designed to provide the same buoyancy as the popular TFSS-5326 which is 45lbs positive buoyancy in seawater at a depth of 33 ft., 57lbs of positive flotation at a depth of 15 ft., and 80lbs of flotation on the surface, allowing today’s war fighter a maximum load-out of equipment.

Each AUTO-TFSS system consists of one each independent left and right hand units, which can be mounted on a belt. Each unit includes a welded flotation bladder, an inflation system, a pouch closure system, a pouch, and a firing handle. The bladder is a reusable welded fabric enclosure that deploys under the arm and is readily collapsed and stowed for future use. The inflation system utilizes an auto-actuated CO₂ cartridge for primary inflation, a manual pull system as a secondary inflation source and an oral inflation tube as a third inflation source.

The AUTO-TFSS pouch uses a unique nylon zipper closure system designed to separate upon inflation. This method prevents accidental pouch opening and allows for the smallest unit size when fully packed (approx 6.5” x 2.75” x 2.25”). A durable Cordura flap to further protect against damage and inadvertent actuation covers the entire closure mechanism.

The AUTO-TFSS pouch contains and protects the bladder, inflation system, and closure system. It includes a waist belt loop and clip loops to secure the pouch to the webbing belt. A firing handle attaches to the outside of each pouch and uses color-coded beads to help distinguish left and right hand units. The handle serves to release the closure system and actuate the CO₂ inflation system if the auto system fails.

To manually actuate an AUTO-TFSS unit, the user pulls upward on the firing handle. This motion initiates two sequential actions. First the manual inflator lever is actuated, causing the firing pin to puncture the seal on the CO₂ cartridges to release the gas and completely fill the bladder. This action then separates the nylon zipper and deploys the filled bladders. Should this CO₂ inflation system fail to operate, the bladder can also be filled through an oral inflation tube. This is accomplished by depressing the Oralock valve, then breathing into the tube. Gas is released from the AUTO-TFSS bladder by pressing downward on the Oralock valve and forcing the air out the oral inflation tube. Once all of the gas is evacuated from the bladder, the CO₂ cartridges are replaced, maintenance is performed, and the units are repacked for future use.