

# BUCKINGHAM MFG.

## INSTRUCTIONS / WARNINGS P/N 6263 / 6264 Series Man Rated Gut Straps

Man Rated Gut Straps are specifically designed for the line worker who already has a Linemens Two 'D' Body Belt. Simply attach the Man Rated Gut Strap to your existing Linemens Two 'D' Body Belt to convert it into a Four D-ring Body Belt. Man Rated Gut Straps can be added to any Linemens Body Belt to give you the Four D-ring option.



PN 6263

Four D-ring Body Belts are designed to be used with Wood Pole Fall Restriction Devices (WPFRD) and various positioning devices, such as a conventional positioning strap, Adjustable Positioning Lanyard or retractable lanyard, in order for the user to be continuously fall protected while performing tasks such as transitioning over obstructions such as crossarms.



PN 6264

Ensure you read, understand and follow these instructions as well as those applicable to the WPFRD and positioning device prior to using this equipment.

Outlined below is Buckingham's suggested method for user continuous connection while transitioning past obstructions using the **Four D-ring Body Belt**, **WPFRD** (BuckSqueeze SuperSqueeze or EZSqueeze) and **Adjustable Position Lanyard** (BuckAdjuster). A stacked 4 D-ring Body Belt with WPFRD connected to the lower D-rings is shown in Fig. 1 for reference. The primary / secondary D-ring set determination is at the discretion of the user or using company's specified work practice. It is an acceptable practice to stow a secondary lanyard from one of the secondary D-rings when not in use. Note: both locking connecting devices of the Adjustable Positioning Lanyard (i.e. BuckAdjuster) must be connected to the same secondary D-ring during stowage. An alternate method of stowage is the use of a break-a-way handline hook. The carabiner connector of the APL must remain attached to the secondary D-ring at all times. The snap hook end of the APL (i.e. BuckAdjuster) may be stored on a breakaway handline hook when not in use. The use of the breakaway hook allows the snap end to pull free in the event it becomes snagged. Buckingham's BuckTender (PN 2404) WPFRD / APL (Secondary Lanyard) tail minder can be used to store the tail end of your WPFRD or APL (Secondary lanyard) keeping the excess material stored out of the way. If using a retractable lanyard, simply stow the webbing in the retracted position.



Fig. 1

### How to Attach the Man Rated Gut Strap, to a Linemens Two D-ring Body Belt:

- Lay the Man Rated Gut Strap, flat inside down on a flat surface. Next, lay your Body Belt flat and inside down on a flat surface directly below the Man Rated Gut Strap.
- Disconnect the three Body Belt Attachment Strap Interlocking buckles of the Gut Strap (turn the smaller of the two buckles on an angle and slide it through the slot of the larger buckle towards the inside (Fig 2).

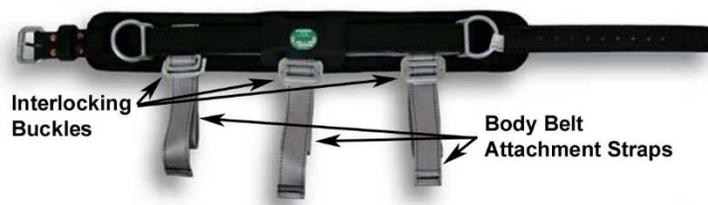


Fig. 2



OVER

- Adjust the Body Belt Attachment Straps of the Gut Strap so they have sufficient slack to thread through the Body Belt (Fig. 3).
- Thread the Gut Strap Body Belt Attachment Straps between the Body Belt D- piece strap and the belt strap of the Body Belt (Fig 4a and 4b) and wrap around the outside of the belt strap of the Body Belt. Re-connect the three interlocking buckles by turning the smaller of the two buckles on an angle and sliding it through the slot of the larger buckle from the rear as shown in Fig. 5.
- Adjust the position of the Gut Strap as needed to make comfortable by adjusting the length of the Body Belt Attachment Straps. Pull webbing through the interlocking buckle (to lower) or let webbing out (to raise).

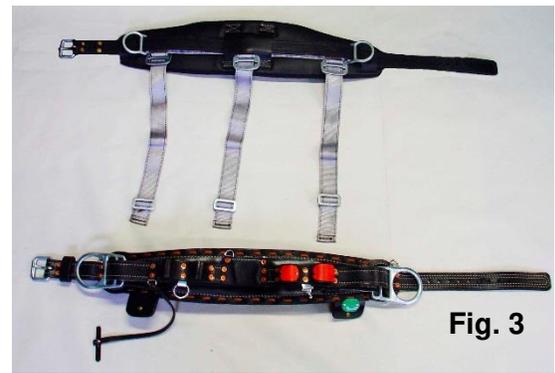


Fig. 3

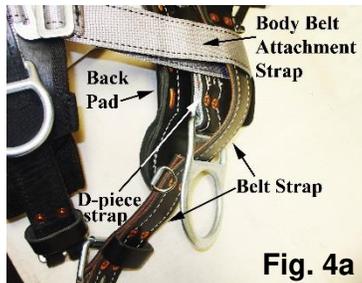


Fig. 4a



Fig. 4b



Fig. 5

### **To Properly Don the Man Rated Gut Strap:**

- ◆ Unfasten the Belt Strap.
- ◆ Place the belt around your back so that the back pad fits snugly in the small of the back.
- ◆ Fasten belt strap buckle securely around the waist and secure the billet end of the belt strap is in its keeper. (A belt should provide a snug fit around your body. The Man Rated Gut Strap is designed to be worn on the waist not on the buttocks like a conventional Body Belt). If this cannot be achieved, replace the belt with one that properly fits.
- ◆ Adjust position of the Body Belt, fasten belt strap securely around hips and insert billet end in keeper.
- ◆ Ideally the Body Belt should be positioned low around the buttocks.
- ◆ When using a Body Belt, the positioning circle D-rings should be equally spaced on either side of the body.

### **To Climb Over An Obstruction During An Ascent Using the Man Rated Gut Strap, WPFRD (SuperSqueeze or BuckSqueeze) And A Positioning Device:**

- Connect the WPFRD (SuperSqueeze or BuckSqueeze) connectors to the lower Body Belt D-rings. Connect to ensure conformance to that outlined in WPFRD instructions.
- These connectors once connected, are not to be disconnected from the D-rings while climbing with the WPFRD.
- Connect the positioning device connectors to one of the Man Rated Gut Strap upper D-rings. As an alternative, connect one positioning device connector to one of the upper D-rings and the opposite end to a break-a-way handline hook.
- Ascend the pole until the obstruction is at approximately chest height.
- Ensure the locking connector at one end of the positioning device is properly attached to one small D-ring of the Gut Strap. Disconnect the opposite side locking connecting device of the positioning device from the Gut Strap small D-ring or break-a-way handline hook.
- Place the positioning device around the pole, over the obstruction and attach the connecting device to the opposite side small D-ring of the Gut Strap.
- Adjust (shorten) the length of the positioning device so that your body weight is transferred from the WPFRD to the positioning device.
- Loosen the WPFRD by compressing the Cam Buckle (if using the BuckSqueeze) or Cam Lever (if using the SuperSqueeze) and lengthen the Outer Strap.

- Disconnect the WPFRD Serrated Rotosnap from the Outer Strap Connector.
- Step up the pole so your chest position is approximately at the same height as the top of the obstruction and re-adjust (shorten) the positioning device.
- Place the WPFRD Outer Strap and Serrated Rotosnap over the obstruction and positioning device and around the pole.
- Reconnect the Serrated Rotosnap to the Outer Strap Connector.
- Adjust the WPFRD so the hardware locators are at the 3:00 and 9:00 o'clock positions.
- Once the WPFRD is properly secured, lengthen the adjustment of the positioning device transferring your weight back into the WPFRD.
- Disconnect the locking connecting device of the positioning device from the Gut Strap upper D-ring and connect it back to the Gut Strap opposite side upper D-ring or to the break-a-way handline for stowage.
- Continue your ascent.
- To descend pole, follow the applicable sections of above procedure in reverse order.

## **Warnings**

- ◆ Know the job, the regulations governing performance requirements and select the proper equipment.
- ◆ Read and understand all instructions and warnings provided with product before use. Failure to do so could result in your serious injury or death. Should questions arise concerning the proper use or condition of your equipment, consult your Supervisor, Safety Director or contact Buckingham Manufacturing Co. at 1-800-937-2825.
- ◆ All affixed labels must be left in place and all instructional material should be kept for future reference.
- ◆ This equipment is intended for use by properly trained professionals only.
- ◆ This product is designed to be used by a person with a maximum weight of 350 lbs. when fully equipped.
- ◆ For personal use only, NOT for towing or hoisting.
- ◆ Fall protection equipment, (i.e. fall arrest, work positioning belts, climbers, retrieval, suspension etc.) should not be resold or provided to others for re-use after use by original user as assurance cannot be granted that a used product meets criteria of applicable standards and is safe for use to a subsequent user.
- ◆ Be certain this equipment is suitable for the intended use and work environment. It should only be used as personal protection equipment (PPE). If suitability for intended use is in doubt, consult a safety engineer or contact Buckingham Mfg. before using.
- ◆ Destroy any and all equipment subjected to impact loading.
- ◆ Always attach each snaphook / carabiner of the positioning device (i.e. SuperSqueeze, BuckSqueeze, positioning strap, retractable lanyard, adjustable positioning lanyard, etc.) to the proper D-ring of the body belt.
- ◆ Do not attach work positioning snaphooks / carabiners to accessory rings.
- ◆ Body belts are intended for work positioning only. If the potential for a free fall exists, a full body harness must be used.
- ◆ Do not use a Linemens work positioning belt for arborists work. Use an Arborist saddle designed for that application.
- ◆ As outlined by OSHA 1926.502 (e)(2) positioning devices shall be secured to an anchorage capable of supporting at least twice the potential impact load of an employee's fall or 3,000 pounds (13.3 kN), whichever is greater.
- ◆ Avoid contact of this equipment with sharp edged or pointed tools, high temperature surfaces, welding or other heat sources.
- ◆ With each use, visually check that the positioning device (i.e. SuperSqueeze, BuckSqueeze, positioning strap, Retractable lanyard, adjustable positioning lanyard, etc.) snaphook / carabiner freely engages each applicable body belt D-ring and that the gate is completely closed and facing outward (i.e. away from body). Never rely solely on the feel or sound of a snaphook engaging.
- ◆ Attach only proper accessories to linemen's body belts. Accessories and tool pouches should only be attached to the body belt using the belt's accessory snaps, rings and pouch tabs. Keep all accessories and pouches well away from the D-rings.
- ◆ Use positioning devices (i.e. SuperSqueeze, BuckSqueeze, positioning strap, retractable lanyard adjustable positioning lanyard, etc.) only with belt meeting standards for intended use.

**OVER**

- ◆ Before each use check that: 1) unit is free of burns, cuts, abrasions, kinks, knots, broken strands and excessive wear. 2) snaphooks, carabiners, D-rings and buckles are not distorted or cracked. 3) snaphook / carbiner gate / lock mechanism is not bent, is free of burrs, clean and functioning properly. 4) positioning device (i.e. SuperSqueeze, BuckSqueeze, positioning strap, adjustable positioning lanyard etc.) is not worn to the point of showing the red warning center. Remove from service, destroy and discard unit if it does not pass this inspection and replace immediately.
- ◆ Make sure each snaphook / carabiner is positioned so that its keeper is never load bearing.
- ◆ When in the work position, ensure there is no pressure on the snaphook / carabiner locking mechanism sufficient to depress it as this will, due to its length, render it incompatible with currently designed D-rings and make it very susceptible to rollout.
- ◆ Before use ensure locking mechanism of locking snaphook / carabiner is functioning properly. Never disable locking mechanism of the locking snaphook / carabiner, punch holes in or alter a connecting device in any way.
- ◆ Never work without independent fall-arrest protection if there is danger of a free fall.
- ◆ Employer - instruct employee as to proper use and warnings before use of equipment.
- ◆ Product covered under these instructions / warnings should not be resold / redistributed or re-used after use by original user.
- ◆ Proper use is critical to the performance of the 4 D-ring system.
- ◆ Always attach each locking snaphook / carabiner of the positioning device, (i.e. positioning strap, SuperSqueeze, BuckSqueeze, retractable lanyard, adjustable positioning lanyard etc.) to the proper D-ring of the body belt.
- ◆ Never mismatch D-rings by connecting the locking snaphook / carabiner of a positioning device, (i.e. positioning strap, SuperSqueeze, BuckSqueeze, retractable lanyard, adjustable positioning lanyard etc.) to an upper D-ring on one side and to a lower D-ring on the opposite side
- ◆ Both upper and lower D-rings are intended for work positioning only, not fall arrest.

**NOTE:** Ensure proper fit of product before use. This product cannot be returned unless it is in new / unused condition.

### **Additional Instructions / Warnings for Quick Connect Buckle (6264 Series only)**

#### **For your information and attention:**

Quick Connect Buckles on Gut Straps that include this style of buckle may unintentionally disengage under the condition outlined below: If the pawls of the buckle do not freely rotate, proper engagement of the tab end to the receptor end of the buckle will be hindered / restricted. If as a result of the users movements or through contact with an obstruction during the course of his/her work, one of the two pawls of the receptor end of the buckle is depressed while tension is induced on the strapping attached to the buckle, the potential exists that disengagement of the tab end of that side from the pawl may occur. If that position is maintained and again through the users movements or contact with an obstruction the opposite side pawl is depressed, the tab end of the buckle may totally disengage from the receptor end.

#### **To eliminate the potential for this condition, you the user should:**

1. Inspect your equipment before each use as you would for all safety equipment. Equipment should be replaced if you have any question / doubt about it being safe for use.
2. Always position the buckles of your equipment so that contact with obstructions is avoided.

**OVER**

3. Test the pawls on your Quick Connect Buckles to ensure they freely rotate and return back to their original position. If any pawl does not freely rotate, the buckle should be (a) cleaned as outlined below to ensure there are no obstructions inside the buckle hindering its intended function and (b) lubricated with a lightweight lubricant such as WD-40® as recommended for locking snaphooks. If the pawl still does not freely rotate, you should contact Buckingham Mfg. at the telephone number outlined below and request a Returned Goods Authorization Number for immediate return of your harness or Arborists tree saddle for our inspection and/or buckle replacement.
4. Ensure the receptor end and tab end of the Quick Connect Buckle is fully connected with both locking pawls engaged. When the two halves are properly attached together, a clicking sound should be heard. Complete by pulling the adjuster strap through the buckle and tighten until it is snug but comfortable, thus ensuring complete engagement.

**Cleaning:** Proper maintenance and storage of your equipment will prolong its useful life and contribute toward its performance. The equipment should be cleaned and maintained at regular intervals depending on usage.

Nylon - Clean with water and mild soap (a dish washing soap that removes grease (i.e. Dawn) and allow to dry thoroughly without using excessive heat. Do not use any type of corrosive substance or acid, which will gradually eat away the fabric.

Leather - Using a sponge, wash leather with saddle soap and water, then wipe with a clean damp cloth. Allow the leather to dry completely - avoid high temperature heat sources. After drying, the leather should be oiled with 100% Neatsfoot Oil, wiping off any excess with a dry cloth.

Quick Connect Buckle – The Quick Connect Buckle may be cleaned by using a cotton swab, limited air pressure or dipping it into a container of water to remove fine particles and any foreign matter which may enter the receptor end of the buckle and preventing proper engagement and function. The exterior of the buckle should be dried with a clean cloth. The inside of the receptor end of the buckle should be air-dried and re-lubricated.

**Maintenance:**

Quick Connect Buckle – Lubricate pawls weekly or as often as required to maintain smooth operation (no binding) with a lightweight lubricant such as WD-40®. Wipe any excess lubricant off with a clean dry cloth.

**Storage:** A dirty product should be washed and rinsed in clean water, and then air dried. Do not store near solvents or corrosive chemicals or at extreme temperatures. Inspect your equipment carefully before use. This product should be stored in a clean and dry environment out of direct sunlight and away from extreme climate conditions.

Buckingham's primary concern is to provide a quality product to its customers to enable them to carry out their profession in a safe manner. However, we always require our customer's assistance in proper equipment operation, inspection and maintenance. Should you have any questions regarding equipment manufactured by Buckingham Manufacturing Co. contact us at 1-800-937-2825.

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