

# BUCKINGHAM MFG.

## (Body Belts / Positioning Straps)

### Instructions

- ◆ Know the job and the regulations governing performance requirements and select the proper equipment.
- ◆ Read all warnings and instructions provided with all Buckingham belts, positioning devices and related equipment. 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 should be left in place and all instructional material should be kept for future reference.
- ◆ When securing the belt around your body, ensure the buckle is properly fastened, and the billet end of the belt strap is in its keeper. A belt should provide a snug fit around your body (approximately 4" below your waistline). If this cannot be achieved, replace the belt with one that is a better fit. Refer to the Buckingham catalog to determine the proper belt size and wearing location.
- ◆ When using a body belt, the positioning D-rings should be equally spaced on either side of the lineman's body.
- ◆ When using a positioning strap with the body belt, ensure by visual inspection that each snap hook freely engages each D-ring, that both keepers are completely closed and that keepers face outward (i.e. away from the body).
- ◆ Do not connect any tools, accessory loops / snaps, etc. to the positioning D-rings. D-rings are for attachment of connecting device locking snap hooks only.
- ◆ A barrel nut fastener (post and screw) is supplied loosely threaded through the pouch tab of each body belt, intended for tool pouch attachment to the body belt. The tool pouch may be attached to either pouch tab at user's preference. To attach, insert the post section through the hole of the body belt pouch tab and tool pouch. Thread the screw into the post and securely tighten. To prevent the screw from loosening from the post and accidentally releasing the tool pouch from the belt, Buckingham suggests peening / mushrooming the protruding screw.

### FOUR D-RING BODY BELTS

The Four D-ring Body Belt is designed to be used with a WPFRD and an Adjustable Positioning Lanyard (APL) in order for the user to be continuously connected while performing tasks such as transitioning over obstructions such as crossarms.

Four D-ring Body Belts are available with stacked or in line D-rings.

Stacked 4 D-ring  
Body Belt  
(Patented)



In Line 4 D-ring  
Body Belt



Buckingham's suggested method for user continuous connection while transitioning past obstructions is use of the **Four D-ring Body Belt**, WPFRD (BuckSqueeze or SuperSqueeze) and an **Adjustable Position Lanyard** (BuckAdjuster). Ensure you read, understand and follow these instructions as well as those included with each piece of equipment prior to using this equipment. Stacked 4 D-ring Body Belts: The primary / secondary D-ring set determination is at the discretion of the user or using company's specified work practice. In Line D-ring Body Belts: The forward Body Belt D-rings are intended for use as primary attachment points for the WPFRD locking connecting devices. The rear Body Belt D-rings are intended only for use as secondary attachment points for connection while transitioning past obstructions. 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.

**OVER**

## HOW TO CLIMB OVER AN OBSTRUCTION DURING AN ASCENT USING THE FOUR D-ring BODY BELT, WPFRD (BuckSqueeze or SuperSqueeze) AND THE ADJUSTABLE POSITIONING LANYARD (BuckAdjuster).

- Ascend the pole until the obstruction is at approximately chest height.
- Ensure the locking carabiner /connector at one end of the APL is properly attached to one secondary D-ring of the body belt. Disconnect the opposite side locking connecting device of the BuckAdjuster from the body belt secondary D-ring or break-a-way handline hook.
- Place the APL around the pole, **over** the obstruction and connect the connecting device to the secondary D-ring on the opposite side of the body belt.
- Adjust (shorten) the length of the APL so your body weight is transferred from the WPFRD to the APL.
- Loosen the WPFRD by compressing the Cam Buckle (if using the BuckSqueeze) or Cam Lever (if using the SuperSqueeze) and lengthening 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 APL.
- Place the WPFRD Outer Strap and Serrated Rotosnap around the pole, over the obstruction and the APL.
- Reconnect the Serrated Rotosnap to the Outer Strap Connector.
- Adjust the WPFRD so the hardware locators are at the 3:00 or 9:00 o'clock positions.
- Disconnect the locking connecting device of the APL from the body belt secondary D-ring and connect it back to the other secondary D-ring on the opposite side of the body belt or to the break-a-way handline hook for stowage.
- Continue your ascent.
- To descend pole, follow the applicable sections of above procedure in reverse order.

### Warnings

- ◆ Know the job and the regulations governing performance requirements and select the proper equipment.
- ◆ Read carefully, understand and heed these instructions, warnings and cautions before using this equipment. 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 should be left in place and all instructional material 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 snap hook of the positioning strap to the proper D-ring of the body belt.
- ◆ Do not attach work positioning snap hooks to accessory rings. Accessory rings are intended for attachment of a belt supporter only. Note: Belt supporters are intended to distribute belt weight of users who carry an unusually heavy load of tools. Belt supporters are not intended to support the weight of the user.
- ◆ Body belts are intended for work positioning only. If a fall is possible, a full body harness must be used.
- ◆ Do not use linemens work positioning belts for arborists work. Arborist saddles are designed for that application. Linemens work positioning belts are intended for use by linemen only.
- ◆ 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 lbf. (13.3 kN), whichever is greater.
- ◆ Never use a positioning strap as a lanyard or a sling.
- ◆ 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 strap snap hook freely engages the body belt D-ring and that the keeper is completely closed and facing outward. Never rely solely on the feel or sound of a snap hook 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 strap only with belt meeting standards for intended use.

- ◆ Before each use check that: **1)** unit is free of burns, cuts, abrasions, kinks, knots, broken strands and excessive wear. **2)** snap hooks, D-rings and buckles are not distorted or cracked. **3)** snap hook keeper / lock mechanism is not bent, is free of burrs, clean and functioning properly. **4)** positioning strap 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 snap hook is positioned so that its keeper is never load bearing.
- ◆ When in the work position, ensure there is no pressure on the snap hook 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.
- ◆ To ensure compliance with the ASTM F-887 standard, positioning devices must include locking snaphooks / carabiners.
- ◆ Before use ensure locking mechanism of locking snap hook is functioning properly. Never disable locking mechanism of the locking snap hook, punch holes in or alter a connecting device in any way.
- ◆ Lubricate lock mechanism and keeper on both sides of snap hook at least weekly or as often as required to maintain smooth operation (no binding) with light weight lubricant such as WD-40®.
- ◆ Never work without independent fall-arrest protection if there is danger of a fall.
- ◆ Employer - instruct employee as to proper use and warnings before use of equipment.
- ◆ Body Belts are manufactured in accordance to the ASTM F887 standard and OSHA regulation 1926.959. (NOTE: OSHA does not reference 4 D-ring belts).
- ◆ Product covered under these instructions / warnings should not be resold / redistributed or re-used after use by original user.

#### **ADDITIONAL WARNINGS (Pertaining to Four D-ring Body Belts)**

- Proper use is critical to the performance of the 4 D-ring system.
- Always attach each locking connecting device of the positioning strap, WPFRD, retractable lanyard or adjustable positioning lanyard to the proper D-rings of the body belt.
- Never mismatch D-rings by connecting the locking connecting device of a positioning strap, BuckSqueeze or SuperSqueeze, retractable lanyard or Adjustable Positioning Lanyard to a primary D-ring on one side and to an secondary D-ring on the opposite side.
- When using a body belt equipped with a 4 D-ring system ensure by visual inspection that each locking connecting device freely engages each D-ring, that all keeper / gates are completely closed and that keepers / gates face outward (i.e. away from body). Never rely solely on the feel or sound of a connecting device engaging.
- Do Not connect any tools, accessory loops / accessory snaps, etc. to the D-rings. The D-rings are for attachment of locking connecting devices only.
- D-rings are intended for work positioning only. If a fall is possible, a full body harness must be used.

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

**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.

Stacked Four D-ring Body Belts are Patented. For more information, visit [BuckinghamMFG.com/Patents](http://BuckinghamMFG.com/Patents).

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