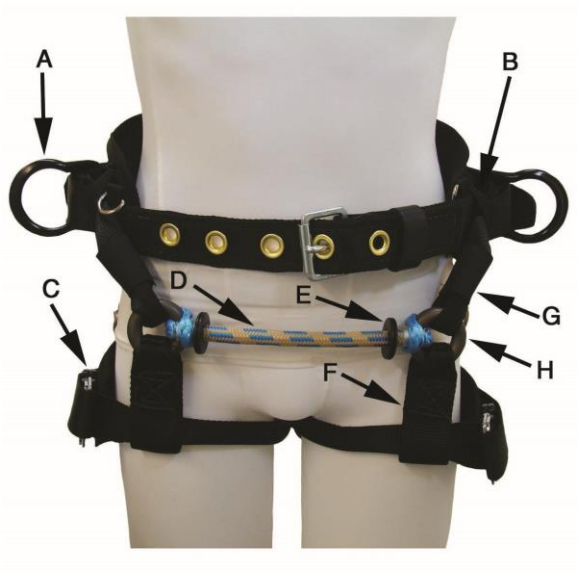
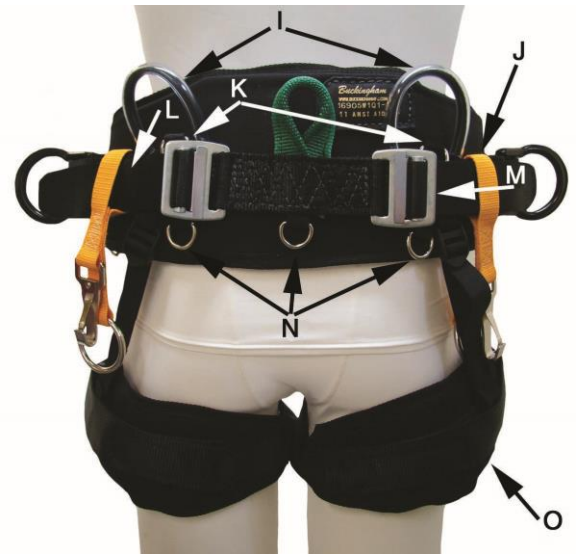
BUCKINGHAM MFG.

PN 16905 "BuckCat" Series Saddles Instructions/Warnings

The "BuckCat" is a lightweight saddle developed for the professional arborist. It is fully adjustable at the sides, waist, and legs to provide ease of use, comfort, adjustability, versatility, and safety. The "BuckCat" offers advantages over a conventional saddle including:

- multiple adjustments to obtain a custom fit.
- the ability to change the length of or replace the suspension bridge.

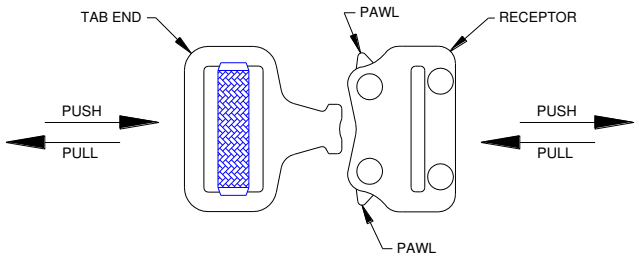




A- Work Positioning D-rings
B- Suspension Bridge Adjustment Strap Retaining Loop
C- Quick Connect Buckles
D- Suspension Bridge
E- Rubber Bumpers
F- Leg Strap Connectors
G- Elastic Keeper
H- Aluminum Rings
I- Accessory / Gear Loops (2) (Not to be used to hang equipment such as chainsaw)
J- Web Loops w / accessory ring / snap hook
K- Suspender Rings
L- Suspender Bridge Adjustment Strap
M- Spring Loaded Friction Buckles
N- Accessory Rings (First Aid Kit, Ditty Bag)
O- Leg Pads

FIGURE 1

WEARING INSTRUCTIONS:



1) Thoroughly inspect saddle and all related equipment before each use.
2) Unbuckle the waist strap and each leg strap.
3) Pull the saddle up around the waist with the waist strap tongue buckle in the front and the leg straps towards your back.
4) Ensure the work positioning D-rings are slightly forward of the hip bones. Fasten the tongue buckle so that the waist belt is snug.
5) Wrap the leg straps around the leg so that the padded portions of the leg straps are behind the leg and the buckles are on the side of the leg.
6) Connect the leg strap buckles as shown in FIGURE 1.
7) Adjust the leg strap as necessary so they are snug, but comfortable.
8) Adhere the hook fastener from the excess leg strap to the corresponding loop fastener on the leg strap attached to the pad (FIGURE 2).

FIGURE 2

ADJUSTMENT INSTRUCTIONS:

Once the saddle has been properly fitted, you can adjust the Suspension Bridge for the perfect feel.

- Adjustment of the Suspension Bridge by use of the Suspension Bridge Adjustment Straps will alter your position. Tightening the adjustment straps will move your position forward and loosening them will move it backwards.
- Proper adjustment of the leg pad keeper straps ensures that the leg pads will be in the most comfortable position on your legs.

REPLACING THE WARP SPEED ROPE SUSPENSION BRIDGE OR RUBBER BUMPERS

Figure 3

A.] Removing the Suspension Bridge:

Notes: Use only replacement Suspension Bridges (manufactured from approved tree climbing rope) supplied by Buckingham Mfg. It is only necessary to disassemble one side of the saddle, your preference as to whether the right or left side. Ensure you disassemble the leg strap and Suspension Bridge Adjustment Strap on the same side of saddle.

1) Separate the hook and loop fastener on the leg strap and disconnect the leg strap quick connect buckle.
2) Remove the interlocking halves of the quick connect buckle from the leg strap. (Figure 3).
3) Pull the leg strap through the Leg Strap Connector (Figure 4).
4) Unthread the Suspension Bridge Adjustment Strap through the Spring-Loaded Friction Buckle (Figure 5).
5) Then pull the strap through the Web Loop w / accessory ring / snap hook, the D-ring, Suspension Bridge Adjustment Strap Retaining Loop and finally through the Aluminum Ring (Figure 6).
6) Create a large eye in the side of the Suspension Bridge that is still connected to the saddle.
7) Feed the free end of the Suspension Bridge through the eye created in the attached end as shown in Figure 7 and remove the Suspension Bridge.
8) If you are replacing the Suspension Bridge discard the old one at this time. If replacing the Rubber Bumpers slide the old bumpers off the bridge and slide the new ones on.

Figure 4

Figure 5

B.] Attaching the new Suspension Bridge:

1) Feed one eye of the Suspension Bridge through the free Aluminum Ring (Figure 8a.) Next pass the opposite eye of the suspension bridge through the eye passed through the ring (Figure 8b.) Ensure the bight of the eye is seated tightly between the cover of the suspension bridge and ring. (Figure 8c).
2) Pass the opposite eye of the suspension bridge through the Aluminum Ring that is still connected to the saddle (Figure 9a). Pass the opposite side ring assembly through the eye (Figure 9b). Continue to pull the suspension bridge through the other eye of the suspension bridge until the bight of the eye is seated tightly between the cover of the suspension bridge and ring (Figure 9c).

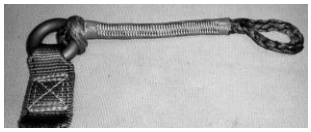
Figure 6

Figure 7

Figure 8a

Figure 8b

Figure 8c



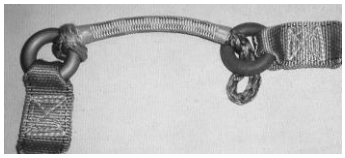


Figure 9a

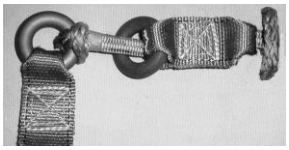


Figure 9b

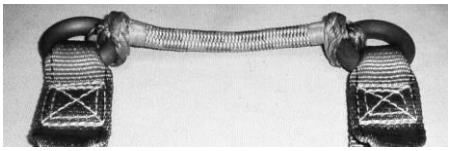


Figure 9c

3) Feed the free end of the Suspension Bridge Adjustment Strap through the Aluminum Ring, Suspension Bridge Adjustment Strap Retaining Loop, the D-ring, Web Loops w / accessory rings.
4) Thread the free end of the strap through the Spring-Loaded Friction Buckle as shown in Figure 10.
5) Thread the leg strap through the Leg Strap Connector. Ensure the hook fastener is on the correct side of the leg strap so that once the buckle is threaded, the hook on the leg strap is facing the loop on the leg pad.
6) Thread the leg strap through the single slot half of the Quick Connect Buckle Frame (Figure 11a & 11b) then through the top slot of the double slot Quick Connect Frame Adjuster Bar. Next make a loop and pass the web back through the bottom slot of the Quick Connect Frame Adjuster Bar. Finally, insert web back through the Quick Connect Buckle Frame as shown in Figure 11b.
7) Adjust the buckle as needed and fasten the Quick Connect Buckle. Adhere the excess leg strap to the loop fastener on the leg strap stitched to the leg pad.

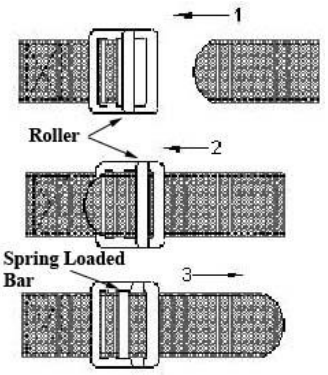


Figure 10

Inspection:

Prior to each use, carefully inspect this equipment for indications of wear or deterioration. The inspection, should include but not be limited to inspection for:

- webbing cuts, kinks, abrasions, burns, excessive swelling, excessive wear, discoloration, cracks, charring, broken fibers, loose stitching chemical or physical exposures.
- buckle holes in strap are not damaged.
- loose, bent or pulled rivets, bent grommets, and broken, cut, or burned threads
- tongue of buckle does not bind on buckle frame
- nicks, cracks, distortion or corrosion of hardware (buckle, D-rings, etc.)


Figure 11a

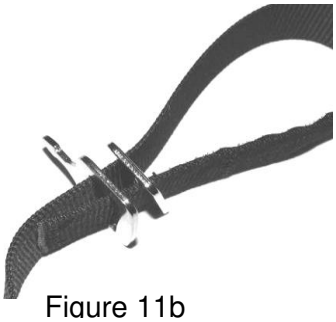


Figure 11b

If any evidence of wear or deterioration as outlined is observed, immediately cease use, destroy the product and replace it with new equipment. Should any unusual conditions not outlined above be observed, or you have reasonable doubt about a particular condition, remove the equipment from service and notify your Supervisor, Safety Director or contact Buckingham Mfg. (1-800-937-2825) for clarification.
Failure to carefully and completely inspect your equipment could result in serious injury or death.

Rust on Hardware

If through regular product inspection you note rust on hardware, the severity of the rust will determine whether your equipment is deemed usable or unacceptable and recommended for removal from service. Below are examples of hardware rust exposure deemed acceptable for keeping your equipment in service or unacceptable and recommended to cease use.

Slight/Moderate [Acceptable]: White Scale / Oxidation and Surface Rust

Single Slot


Slight

2 Slot


Slight

QC buckle


Moderate

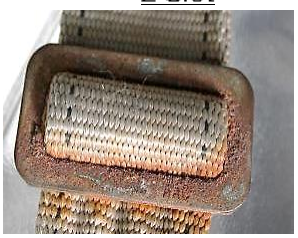
Buckingham recommends cleaning hardware in this condition using an ultrafine Scotch Brite scouring pad (3M part number 14049 available at distributors such as Grainger), cut to approximately a 1" x 1" square, and with BuckLube, WD-40 Multi-Use Product, etc. scrub the areas that exhibit rust in a back and forth motion until all surface rust has been removed.

Severe [Unacceptable]: Pitting / Excessive Red Rust

Single Slot

Severe

2 Slot



Severe

QC buckle

Severe

Note: Hardware in this condition is recommended for removal from service.

Dee rings are not shown above but shall follow the same Rust on Hardware criteria as shown above

Please contact your Buckingham Customer Service Representative at 800-937-2825 should you have any questions as to condition of the hardware or your product.

Properties of Arborist Saddle Materials

Material	Effect of Heat	Effect of Acids & Alkalis	Effect of Bleaches & Solvents	Resistance to Mildew, Aging, Sunlight, Abrasion
Polyester	Sticks at 440 to 445° F. Melts at 482° F.	Good resistance to most mineral acids. Dissolves with partial decomposition in concentrated solution of sulfuric acids. Good resistance to weak alkalis. Moderate resistance to strong alkalis at room temperature. Disintegrates in strong alkalis at boil.	Excellent resistance to bleaches & other oxidizing agents. Generally insoluble except in some phenolic compounds.	Not weakened by mildew. Excellent resistance to aging & abrasion. Prolonged exposure to sunlight causes some strength loss.
Nylon 6	Melts at 419 to 430° F. Slight discoloration at 300° F when held for 5 hr. Decomposes at 600 to 730° F.	Strong oxidizing agents & mineral acids cause degradation. Others cause loss in tenacity & elongation. Resists weak acids. Soluble in formic & sulfuric acids. Hydrolyzed by strong acids at elevated temperatures. Substantially inert in alkalis.	Can be bleached in most bleaching solutions. Generally insoluble in organic solvents. Soluble in some phenolic compounds.	Excellent resistance to mildew, aging & abrasion. Prolonged exposure to sunlight causes some degradation.

CLEANING, STORAGE and TRANSPORTATION

Proper maintenance, storage and transportation of your equipment will prolong its useful life and contribute toward its performance. Nylon and polyester should be cleaned and disinfected with water and mild soap and be allowed to air dry thoroughly without using excessive heat. Your equipment should be stored and transported so that it does not come into contact with moisture, ultraviolet rays, extreme temperatures, or chemical agents. Warnings pertaining to cleaning, storage and transportation should be strictly adhered to.

WARNINGS

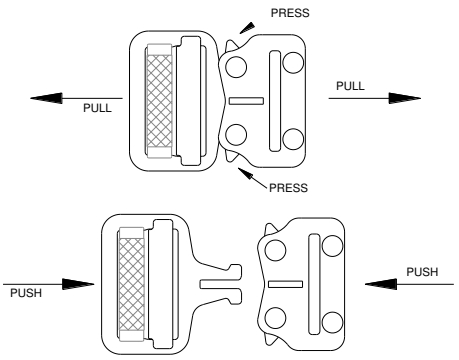
- Read, understand, and follow all instructions, warnings, and cautions before using this equipment. Failure to do so could result in your serious injury or death.
- This product is designed to be used by a person with a maximum weight of 350 lbs. when fully equipped.
- Buckingham arborist saddles are manufactured in accordance with ASTM F887 and are intended for use as personal protection equipment only, not for towing or hoisting and when properly used, comply with the requirements of ANSI Z133 -17.
- This saddle is not designed to be used with a retro fit Fall Arrest Harness. The large loop centered at the rear of the back pad is intended for connection of saddle suspenders only (Figure 12). Saddle suspenders **ARE NOT** safety products. Suspenders are designed to support only the weight of the saddle, and the tools it contains, **NOT** the individual.

Figure 12

- 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.
- This equipment is intended for use by properly trained professionals only. Do not use without proper training.
- Before use the first time, the user should carry out a suspension test in a safe place to ensure that the equipment is the correct size, has sufficient adjustment and is of an acceptable comfort level for the intended use.
- Before use of the equipment, consideration should be given as to how any necessary rescue could be safely achieved.
- This product is to be used for positioning and suspension only, **NOT FOR FALL ARREST**. Therefore, it may be necessary to supplement arrangements for work positioning / suspension with collective means (i.e. safety nets) or personal means of protection against falls from a height (i.e. fall arrest system).
- This equipment must only be used for the specific purpose for which it is designed and intended.
- Destroy any and all equipment subjected to impact loading.
- Never work without independent fall arrest protection if there is danger of a fall.
- Keep equipment from coming into contact with sharp edges, extreme temperatures, excessive ultraviolet rays and chemical agents. Exposure to these elements may have a detrimental effect on the integrity of the equipment.
- Always visually check that all buckles are properly closed before use. (If making a connection to a point that cannot be seen by the wearer, either ensure the connection is made before donning the equipment or the connection is made and checked for security by a second person).
- Attach only connecting devices meeting standards/regulations for intended use for positioning and suspension to belt D-rings and attachment points.
- Only positioning connecting devices should be attached to side D-rings, as side D-rings are not intended for fall arrest.
- Position and / or adjust the work positioning lanyard in such a manner that the anchorage point is maintained at or above waist level, the lanyard is kept taut and free movement is restricted to a maximum of 2 ft. (0.6 m).
- 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 versus fall arrest anchor points which must support a minimum of 5,000 lbf. (22.2 kN) per attached worker and be Independent of worker support.
- Accessory / gear loops must only be used to attach and carry equipment such as carabiners, first aid pouch, etc. Never attach support / suspension connections to accessory / gear loops.
- Designated slots in the webbing are designed to accommodate accessory carabiners to hang equipment such as chainsaws.
- As a minimum, the materials used in the manufacture of this product are acceptable for use under all normal environmental conditions tolerable to humans.
- Always visually check that each snap hook / carabiner freely engages D-ring or anchor point and keeper / gate is completely closed with each use. **Never** rely solely on the feel or sound of a snap hook / carabiner engaging. (If making a connection to a point that cannot be seen by the wearer, either ensure the connection is made before donning the equipment or the connection is made and checked for security by a second person).
- Before each use check that: 1) fabric or belt strap is free of burns, cuts, broken stitches or excessive wear, 2) rivets are not bent, loose or missing, 3) buckles and D-rings are not distorted or cracked, 4) if there is a tongue buckle, that the tongue does not bind on the buckle and buckle holes are not damaged. Always remove from service, destroy and discard belt or harness if it fails inspection.
- 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.
- During use, all fastening and adjusting elements must be regularly checked to ensure adjustment and closure.
- Unless using locking snaphooks / carabiners designed for such connection, never attach multiple snap hooks to a D-ring.
- Never disable locking keeper on snap hook or carabiner.
- Never punch additional holes in or alter any belt or harness in any way.
- This equipment should be a personal issue to the employee using it.
- Only Buckingham Mfg. Co. or those people authorized in writing by Buckingham Mfg. Co. may make repairs / modifications to this equipment.
- Employer - instruct your employees as to proper use, warnings and cautions before use of this equipment.
- Product covered under these instructions / warnings should not be resold / redistributed or re-used after use by original user.

Additional Instructions / Warnings for Quick Connect Buckle

For your information and attention:



Quick Connect Buckles on those Full Body Harnesses and Arborist's Tree Saddles 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.
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 BuckLube, WD-40®, Etc. 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 Instructions: 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: Lubricate pawls weekly or as often as required to maintain smooth operation (no binding) with a lightweight lubricant such as BuckLube, WD-40®, Etc. Wipe any excess lubricant off with a clean dry cloth.

Additional Instructions / Warnings for Suspension Bridge

** The Rope Suspension Bridge attached to this saddle is designed to be replaced by the user at regular intervals. This interval should be dictated by the amount of use the product receives rather than a set time frame. Therefore, the manufacturer does not place a time limit on replacement of the suspension bridge. Due to the rigorous strain the Rope Suspension Bridge endures, it should be replaced at the earliest signs of wear. Suspension bridge inspection is extremely important and must be performed prior to each use. This inspection should include but not be limited to: webbing and rope cuts, nicks, tears, kinks, abrasions, burns, excessive swelling, excessive wear, discoloration, cracks, charring, broken, fraying or unraveling fibers, loose stitching chemical or physical exposure.

Failure to regularly inspect and replace the Rope Suspension Bridge could result in injury or death due to Suspension Bridge failure.

Note: Only authorized replacement parts from Buckingham Mfg. should be used on this product. The use of unauthorized replacement parts will void Buckingham Mfg's Warranty.

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.

STATEMENT of OBSOLESCENCE:

Precise "useful life expectancy" or "shelf life" for this product is not specified, as the degree of use, conditions of use, and the degree of care and storage determines useful life. All users maintain responsibility to select proper equipment for the job, be properly trained in its use, and ensure all personnel support equipment passes inspection before each use. Upon evidence of defects, damage or deterioration, all equipment shall be removed from service immediately and tagged or marked as unusable or destroyed. Additionally, all equipment shall be inspected on a regular basis not to exceed one year by a Competent Person, as defined by OSHA/ANSI, to verify that the equipment is safe for use. In the event of any question or concern regarding the condition of such equipment, users shall remove the equipment from service for further inspection. All users must comply with OHSA/ANSI/ASTM standards prior to and in using such equipment. For more information regarding safe and appropriate use of equipment, please contact Buckingham Manufacturing at 1-800-937-2825.

INTERNATIONAL USERS:

Notwithstanding the above, please know that certain international jurisdictions require manufacturers of equipment to provide customers with a maximum useful lifespan (sometimes referred to as a "Statement of Obsolescence"). To the extent required, Buckingham personal protective equipment manufactured from synthetic fiber materials including but not limited to items such as webbing and/or rope are subject to a maximum useful lifespan of ten (10) years from the date of manufacture. As stated above proper usage, storage, maintenance, and care impacts the useful lifespan of equipment. Extreme circumstances may require that product must be retired after only one use. This statement is made in conformance and compliance with BS EN 365:2004. International users must ensure that product inspections are completed by Competent Persons as defined by international standards including but not limited to British Standard ("BS"). If equipment fails any inspections, it must be immediately withdrawn from service and destroyed. For more information regarding safe and appropriate use of equipment, please contact Buckingham Manufacturing at 1-800-937-2825.

OUR GUARANTEE:

We guarantee the equipment we manufacture to be free from defects in material and workmanship. We will repair any equipment deemed to be defective which is returned to us by the original purchaser. However, this guarantee is void if any product is changed or altered in any way, or if the product is used in a manner other than for which it is intended. This express guarantee supersedes all other expressed or implied guarantees, obligations or liabilities. THERE ARE NO IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE AND AS SUCH, ALL IMPLIED WARRANTIES ARE SPECIFICALLY DISCLAIMED.

LIMITATION ON LIABILITY:

IN NO EVENT WILL BUCKINGHAM OR BUYER BE LIABLE TO THE OTHER FOR LOST REVENUES, LOST PROFITS OR ANY OTHER INDIRECT, CONSEQUENTIAL, SPECIAL OR PUNITIVE LOSSES OR DAMAGES, HOWEVER CAUSED, WHETHER IN ACTION FOR BREACH OF CONTRACT, STRICT LIABILITY, TORT, OR OTHERWISE, EVEN IF ADVISED OF THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH LOSSES OR DAMAGES. IN NO EVENT WILL BUCKINGHAM'S LIABILITY EXCEED THE TOTAL AMOUNT PAID BY BUYER TO BUCKINGHAM FOR THE PRODUCT OR EQUIPMENT GIVING RISE TO SUCH CLAIM(S).

PLEASE SEE OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS RELATING TO THIS PRODUCT AT
https://buckinghammfg.com/terms-conditions/

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