

# Installation, Operation, and Maintenance Instructions for Full Body Harnesses

# \*\*WARNING\*\*

These instructions must be provided to the user(s) of this equipment. These instructions must be read, understood, and followed. Failure to do so could result in serious injury or death. Users should be trained in the use of this equipment prior to use. Check with local authorities for regulations governing the use of fall protection equipment.

where technology meets traditional values is our corporate statement. It reflects a commitment to excellence by every member of the Elk River team. It extends from the manufacturing personnel to the warehouse personnel, from the beginning to the end.

We manufacture products designed to meet or exceed current OSHA, ANSI, and CSA specifications, as well as proposed ones. We are constantly aware to new methods, and new standards. Most important, our products meet our specifications, which are often more rigorous than OSHA, ANSI, or CSA.

Elk River, Inc. is committed to quality in every aspect of our business. This commitment begins with the design of the product and the selection of components. It continues through manufacturing, inspection, shipping and customer service. Quality is the number one word at Elk River, Inc. It is a commitment to excellence that never ends. It is our way of life.

**WARNING**: you must be able to read and understand these instructions to use this equipment. These instructions are in English. If you need a set of instructions in another language, please contact your supervisor, or your distributor, or **Elk River**, **Inc.** for the appropriate instructions.

AVERTISSEMENT: vous devez être capable de lire et comprendre ces directives avant d'utiliser ce matériel. Ces directives sont en anglais. Si vous avez besoin de directives dans une autre langue, veuillez contacter votre directeur, votre distributeur, ou Elk River, Inc. pour les directives appropriées.

VERWARNUNG: sie müssen kompetent sein, lesen, und begreifen diese anweisungen, einsetzen diese ausrüstung. Diese anweisungen sind in englisch. Falls sie müssen einen satz aus anweisungen in ein anderer sprache, bitte ihren aufseher in kontakt treten, oder ihr vertreter, oder Elk River, Inc. für die angebrachten anweisungen.

ADVERTENCIA: se deber leer y entiende estas instrucciones usar este equipo. Estas instrucciones estan en inglés. Si requiere un juego de instrucciones en otro idioma, por favor contacto su supervisor, circuito su distribuidor, circuito Elk River, Inc. por las instrucciones apropiadas.

Date of Manufacture:	_
Date of Purchased:	
Initial Service Date:	_
Serial Number:	_
Issued to:	

"(f) "Competent person" means one who is capable of identifying existing and predictable hazards in the surroundings or working conditions which are unsanitary, hazardous, or dangerous to employees, and who has authorization to take prompt corrective measures to eliminate

them."

"(m) "Qualified" means one who, by possession of a recognized degree, certificate, or professional standing, or who by extensive knowledge, training, and expertise, has successfully demonstrated his ability to solve or resolve problems relating to the subject matter, the work, or the project."

This product should be inspected by a competent person at a minimum of every six months. Elk River puts a maximum service life of five

years on their harnesses. This is based on the date the product goes into service.

OSHA 1926.32 defines a competent person and qualified person as follows:

Inspector	Comments
	Inspector

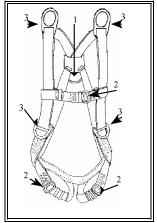


figure 1

### **Fitting Instructions**

In order to ensure proper performance of a full body harness, it must be adjusted to fit the user's body size (see figure 1). The harness should be snug but not tight on the users body; the seat strap should fit at the bottom of the buttocks and stay in place during movement. Place the harness on, over the shoulders, with the sliding D-ring (1) in the back. All straps should be connected and tightened to be snug but not tight on the body. If the user's harness will not adjust to fit, a different size harness is needed.

Elk River, Inc. full body harness straps equipped with parachute mating buckles should be adjusted as follows. The smaller side of the buckle will slide along the strap to allow an adjustable fit as needed. To tighten harness straps, hold the small side of buckle and pull the free end of strap to move the buckle closer to the harness. In order to loosen the harness straps, slide the small side of the buckle away from the harness while holding the strap at the end toward the harness. To connect the buckle, place the smaller side of the buckle into the slot on larger side and lay flat. Pull the straps on both sides of the buckle to ensure proper connection.

Elk River, Inc. full body harness straps equipped with tongue buckle connections should be adjusted as follows. Pull strap with grommets through tongue buckle until snug but not tight. Place tongue through

the closest grommet. Place the free end of the grommet strap into the elastic keeper above the buckle. Pull the straps on both sides of the buckle to ensure proper connection.

#### **Product Label**

Attached to each harness is a product information label, which lists important information the user must review before each use of the product. It includes the following information: Model, Mfg. Date, Size, Serial Number and Warnings. This label must never be removed from the harness during its service life. If the label is missing from a harness or if the label becomes unreadable, the harness must be removed from service.

### Use and Purpose:

Elk River Inc.'s Full Body Harnesses are designed to provide the user safety with freedom of movement, and comfort. These Type I full body harnesses distribute the forces of a fall arrest across the legs, mid-torso, and chest to reduce the potential for injury in a fall arrest. Full Body Harnesses come with a center back D-ring for fall arrest connection, which slides to the proper position in a fall arrest. Other D-rings are provided depending on the model, these D-rings must not be used for fall arrest. D-ring attachment must be per the following:



Fall Arrest



Fall Prevention



Positioning



Retrieva



Suspension



Ladder Climbing

Elk River Inc.'s Full Body Harnesses are man rated to 310 pounds total weight unless otherwise stated.

## **Inspection Procedures:**

Harnesses must be inspected by a competent person at a minimum of every six months. Space in the instructions has been provided to record the dates of the inspections. Any harness that fails inspection must be removed from field service at once. Prior to each use the user must visually inspect the harness for any of the following:

cuts, cracks, tears, abrasion, loose or damaged stitching, fraying, excessive stretching, mildew, distorted or damaged connectors, exposure to chemical, heat or other degradation.

Any harness that fails inspection must be removed from field service at once.

Any harness that has been subjected to a fall arrest must be removed from field service and replaced.

## Fall Arrest System Requirements

Elk River Inc.'s Full Body Harnesses are one part of a complete fall arrest system. All personal fall arrest systems must have anchorages that have a static load strength of at least 3,600 pounds when certification exists. If no certification exists a static load strength of 5,000 pounds is required. Anchorages must not be attached to any structure used to support or suspend work platforms.

When designing a fall arrest system, consideration must be given to the following requirements:

- -prevent contact with any lower level or equipment.
- -limit free fall to a maximum of 6 feet.
- -limit arresting force to a maximum of 1,800 pounds.
- -limit maximum deceleration distance to 3.5 feet.
- -ensure that the angle at rest after a fall would be no greater than 30 degrees.
- -limit potential for pendulum swings

Refer to OSHA 1926, ANSI A10.32, 2004, ANSI Z359.1-1992, and other federal, state, and local regulations to ensure that your fall arrest system complies with applicable requirements.

### **Connections**

Elk River, Inc.'s Full Body Harnesses are designed to perform as stated when used as a part of a complete fall protection system. All connections and components of the system must be compatible with all other parts of the system. Compatible connections will not allow a snaphook to be side loaded in the event of a fall. Fall protection systems should be designed and/or approved by a qualified person. See product label for attachment instructions. If there are any questions about compatibility with Elk River, Inc.'s Full Body Harnesses please contact us at 1-800-633-3954.

### Rescue Plan:

It is the employers's responsibility to have in place, prior to use of this equipment, a rescue plan and a means to implement that plan, if a fall occurs.

## Training:

Employers are required to provide to users, training by a competent person, on recognizing fall hazards and how to minimize those hazards, fall protection equipment and its use, the employees role in fall protection, and OSHA standards relating to fall protection (OSHA 1926 Subpart M).

## Warnings:

- -Do not alter this equipment from the original manufacturer's design.
- -Do not use this equipment in any way other than its intended use as listed in these instructions.
- -Some chemicals may cause deterioration to this equipment. Contact the manufacturer if there is any doubt about the effect of a particular chemical on this product.
- -Use extra care when using this equipment around moving machinery and/or electrical hazards.
- -Use extra care when using this equipment near sharp edges and/or abrasive surfaces.
- -Fall arrest system anchorages should be placed above the user to minimize free fall distance.

Model Number Series	<u>Description</u>	Fiber of Construction
48xxx	Construction Plus	Polyester with Nylon Leg Straps
49xxx	The Hawk	Polyester with Nylon Leg Straps
50xxx	The fifty Series	Nylon
52xxx	EZE-Wear	Polyester with Nylon Leg Straps
53xxx	EZE-Fit	Polyester
54xxx	Freedom Series	Nylon
55xxx	Freedom Series	Polyester
56xxx	TowerMate	Polyester
57xxx	Stagehand Freedom	Polyester
62xxx	Eagle Lite	Polyester with Nylon Leg Straps
65xxx	Eagle	Polyester with Nylon Leg Straps
66xxx	Saddle Eagle	Polyester with Nylon Leg Straps
68xxx	Pinnacle	Polyester with Nylon Leg Straps
74xxx	WearMaster	Polyester
75xxx	WorkMaster	Polyester with Nylon Leg Straps
76xxx	SaddleMaster	Polyester with Nylon Leg Straps
90xxx	900 Series	Nylon
91xxx	900 Series	Nylon
95xxx	FireMaster	Kevlar®

Kevlar®is a registered Trademark of DuPont

The following harnesses are **man rated to 350 pounds total weight**: 75331, 75332, 75333, 75334, 75335, 75336,75337, 91350, 91351, 91352, 91353, 91354, 91355, 91356.

## Maintenance and Storage:

Elk River, Inc.'s Full Body Harnesses should only be cleaned with a mild detergent and warm water, toweled off to remove excess water, and then hung by D-Ring to dry. Never place these harnesses in a dryer or expose to excessive heat. All equipment should be stored in a cool dry place and not subjected to direct sunlight. Elk River, Inc. Harness are not repairable. If any part of the harness is damaged or if the harness is subjected to a fall arrest the harness must be removed from field service and replaced. Listed below are chemicals that cause significant strength loss in polyester and nylon. This is not an all inclusive list. Kevlar® is degraded by strong mineral acids and strong mineral bases. If there are any questions about a particular chemical not listed please contact Elk River, Inc. at 1-800-633-3954.

**Chemicals That Cause Fiber Strength Loss** 

Polyester	Nylon
Acetamide	Acetic acid
Benzenesulfonic acid	Benzenesulfonic acid
m-Cresol	Benzoic Acid
Dimethyl formamide	m-Cresol
Phenol	Formic acid
Tetrachloroethane	Oxalic acid
Triflouroacetic acid	Phenol
	Triflouroacetic acid

Information on chemical effects taken from DuPont Technical Information Bulletin X-215.

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