

Important Safety Information for Users of

Lineman's Tool Belts Lineman's Climbing Harnesses Pole Straps/Auxiliary Positioning Lanyards Auxiliary Positioning Belts



⚠ - WARNING - ⚠

For your personal safety, this booklet must be completely read and all of the information understood completely before using these products.

For information regarding Wood Pole Fall Restricting products, see the information included with the product. See our catalog or www.bashlin.com for leather care and cleaning products.



BASHLIN
INDUSTRIES INC
UP / DOWN / ALL-AROUND SAFETY

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Important Safety Information

Se hable Espanol, (Para una versi6n espanola de este folleto de la seguridad, contacta las Industrias de Bashlin S.a. por favor.)

Nous parlons Franais (Pour une version franaise de ce livret de s6ret6, contacter les Industries de Bashlin Inc s'il vous pla6t.)

Other languages upon request

This information is intended for the user of the products indicated. It must be included with the product, read and understood by the user prior to placing this product into service. This equipment is to be used by properly trained, professional workers. The information in this booklet, manufacturer's demonstrations, sales seminars, catalog information or other promotional materials may be a part of but does not constitute proper or complete training in the use of these products.

- **WARNING** -

Lack of proper training or the incorrect use and/or abuse of these products may cause accidents, injury or death.

The user must inspect this equipment before each use. Any equipment found to be worn out, damaged, subjected to shock load or in any way questionable, must immediately be removed from service or accident, injury and even death could result. Specific guidelines for inspection are included in this information booklet.

- **WARNING** -

Bashlin equipment must not be altered. Altering or modifying these products voids all warranties, may affect performance, and could cause accident, injury or death to the user.

General Information for Bashlin Climbing Equipment

These products are fabricated from leather and synthetic woven materials and rated metal hardware. They are assembled by riveting and/or sewing. The thread used in assembly is of a contrasting color to permit easy inspection.

These products are manufactured in accordance with OSHA,ANSI, ASTM F887, and/or CSA standards and are labeled as such. Please contact us for information regarding specific applicable standards for each product.

- **WARNING** -

Shock loading is extremely damaging to climbing equipment. Any belt, harness, pole strap, APL or climber that has been shock loaded must be removed from service.

Lineman's Tool Belts

Sizing

Proper sizing is one of the most important considerations in the purchase of a lineman's tool belt. An improperly sized belt is uncomfortable and may cause an accident or injury.

Bashlin tool belts are measured by the distance between the "heels" of the D-rings on the belt. For any tool belt with 4 D-rings, measure the primary-or larger D-rings attached to the billet of the belt. On the standard 4-D style (GD, GXD, GXDMP, G4D, GX4D, GX4DMP and GX4DCC), these are the lower D-rings. On the EZ-Rider (88UX series) it is the upper D-Rings.

All linemen's tool belts must be ordered according to the "D" size.



To Determine Your "D" Size

1. Locate the point where the heel of the "D" ring should rest. As the photo illustrates, this is approximately 4" down from the top of the hip bone.
2. Begin to measure from this point. Measure around the buttocks to the same point on the opposite side.



When a properly sized tool belt is worn, the D-rings will point nearly straight ahead and the tongue adjustment will be in the center holes as shown in photo 3.

For the Padded Rest-A-Back (ex. 88BP) or Hip-Grip (ex. 88GP) tool belts, add 2" to your standard "D" measurement.

Sizing Range for Bashlin EZ-Rider and 2 D-Ring Tool Belts - Per ASTM F887

D Size In.	Minimum	Center Hole	Maximum	Tool Loops
D18	32	36	40	3
D19	33	37	41	3
D20	34	38	42	3
D21	36	40	44	4
D22	37	41	45	4
D23	38	42	46	4
D24	40	44	48	4
D25	41	45	49	4
D26	42	46	50	4
D27	44	48	52	4
D28	45	49	53	4

Sizing Range for Back Support and 4 D-Ring Tool Belts

D Size In.	Upper Tongue	
	B-Series	G-Series/4D
D18	29-36	33-39
D19	30-37	35-41
D20	31-38	35-41
D21	32-39	37-43
D22	33-40	37-43
D23	34-41	39-45
D24	35-42	39-45
D25	36-43	41-47
D26	37-44	41-47
D27	38-45	43-49
D28	39-46	45-51

Stock and Special Belts

Bashlin stocks right handed belts, in sizes D-18 to D-28 of the most popular belts. Belt sizes may vary on different style belts. Larger belts, up to D-32, may be ordered. There is an additional cost for sizes D-29 to D-32.

Belts and holsters with left hand design are available at no additional cost. Add "LH" to the part number.

Sizing Bashlin's EZ Rider Tool Belt

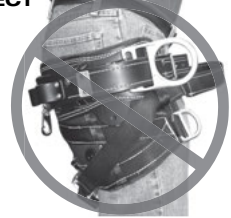
Use the standard method to determine your "D" size, see page 2. The D-size corresponds to the upper tongue.



CORRECT

Wearing The EZ Rider Linemen's Tool Belt

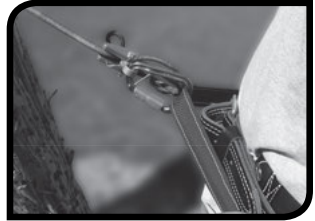
Wear this belt as a standard lineman's belt, with the upper tongue on or above, but not below the hips. It must be as snug as possible. Do not wear this belt loose on the hips, and do not wear it low. Incorrectly wearing this belt or any other tool belt could cause accident injury and even death. This belt must be sized correctly to function properly.



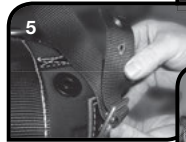
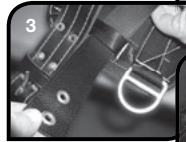
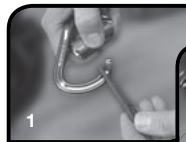
INCORRECT

The Bridge Assembly (88W-BRG)

The 88W-BRG Bridge has a carabiner on one end that attaches to a nylon loop on the seat of the harness. This carabiner has a leather keeper to keep it oriented correctly. The 1 3/4" nylon strap passes through a nylon loop, across the front of the belt through another nylon loop, then into a friction adjuster. The end of the strap has 1 hole with a rivet to keep the end coming out of the adjuster. Remove the bridge by first cutting the rivet off the strap, then sliding the webbing out of the adjuster.



To reinstall the bridge, begin by connecting the carabiner to the belt. This is done by placing the leather keeper around the nylon loop, (1) then twisting the carabiner around. The gate should be facing down. (2) Connect the loop end of the bridge to the carabiner. Then pass the strap flat end across the front of the belt and through both the loops. (3) Pass the grommet end through the center of the adjuster, (4) and then back through the knurled slot. (5) Verify that there are no twists in the material, and that the bridge is installed correctly in the adjuster. Install the screw rivet, tighten it down, clip off and peen the end over to keep the rivet from loosening. **DO NOT USE THE BRIDGE UNLESS THE RIVET IS INSTALLED.**



Tips for Using Bashlin Tool Belts

- Never climb or work while engaging both ends of your pole strap, fall restraint device, or adjustable positioning lanyard into one “D-Ring” of your tool belt.
- Always visually verify the snap-hooks or carabiners are engaged and the gates fully closed and locked before allowing the equipment to support your weight. Don’t rely on the “click”...for more than a few guys that was the last thing they heard before they heard the sound of the ambulance.
- Never store belts, harness straps, or pads near stoves, steam coils, radiators, truck exhaust, etc...this will dry and weaken the materials. Store your belt in a clean, dry location.

- **WARNING** -

Bashlin’s 80 Suspenders, 81 Gut Straps, and 83 Detachable Rest-a-Back are designed only to carry the weight of the tools and belt you are wearing. They are not tested for or designed to support your body weight. Incorrect use, such as using these products in combination with a tool belt to fashion a saddle and loosening the tool belt is very dangerous. The components of the 80, 81 and 83 could break under these circumstances. The result will be your belt sliding off of your hips and your falling to the ground.

- Never connect a twisted strap or lanyard to the “D-Rings”
- Always climb with the snap keepers facing outward and the pole strap flat, with no twists, against the pole with the buckle side out.
- When “free” climbing never let go of the pole or structure while repositioning your strap or lanyard.
- Never carry any wire, tools, or other accessories on the “D-Rings” of your tool belt. Any foreign objects carried on the “D” could interfere with the operation of the snap-hook, or carabiner, causing an accidental disengagement resulting in a fall.
- Never attach your hand-line directly to your tool belt. Use a hand-line carrier such as the No. 33. When Mrs. Smith accidentally catches your hand-line on the bumper of her car, she won’t drag you off the pole.

- Only lineman’s holsters are to be attached to and used on the climbing belt. Attach it to the belt correctly with the screwdriver pocket toward your back. This will keep the tools in your holster separated from the “D-ring” and reduce the chance of accidentally hooking your snap or carabiner into a tool.
- Never puncture the cushion section of the belt to hang tools on the belt.

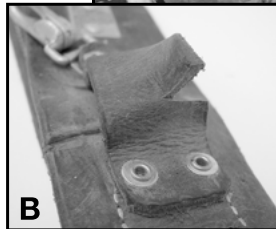
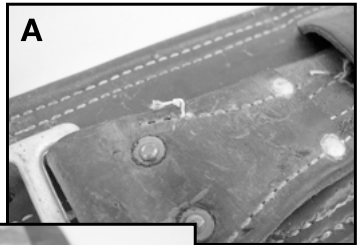
⚠ - WARNING - ⚠

Bashlin tool belts must be worn with the main billet or tongue buckle section snug or tight against the body. This section of the belt must be on or above, but not below the hips. Wearing any Bashlin tool belt loose, and with the primary D-rings below the hips may cause you to be ejected from the belt resulting in injury or death.

Inspecting Your Bashlin Tool Belt

This equipment should be inspected before each use. Your tool belt must be inspected for the following;

- Electrical burns, cracks, or deformation of the “D-rings” or buckles.
- Loose rivets or broken stitching on the hardware attachment points, and other primary strength members.
- (A)**
- Degraded or torn nylon strength members, as well as other physical, chemical, heat or age related damage.
- Broken or loose tool loops, snaps or a worn holster attachment point. **(B)**
- Dry rotted leather. **(C)**
- Elongated holes in the tongue.



⚠ - WARNING - ⚠

Any belt displaying evidence of any one of these conditions must be removed from service. The average useful life of a tool belt is 5-8 years of normal usage.

Cleaning and Maintaining your Bashlin Tool Belt

Regularly cleaning your climbing belt will improve its appearance, make it last longer, and keep your clothes cleaner. Dirt can get into the leather and nylon fibers actually breaking them down. The cleaning process will also help you to spot any worn components that could cause future trouble.

These belts consist primarily of leather and nylon components. The leather should be cleaned using a saddle soap, while the nylon is cleaned better with mild soap and water. Avoid any petroleum based cleaners that may damage nylon. After the dirt is removed, oil the leather using a commercial leather preserver such as mink, Neatsfoot or bee oil. The belt should be cleaned and leather oiled at least every 90 days, more if the work conditions require it. After cleaning and oiling the belt, let it dry overnight. Take a moment to wipe off the excess oil from the leather, as it will stain your clothing and attract dirt. If the leather is kept moist, it will last a long time. However, once the leather begins to dry, no amount of oil will repair the damage. Preserve your belt and your investment by regularly maintaining your belt.

See our catalog or www.bashlin.com for leather care and cleaning products.

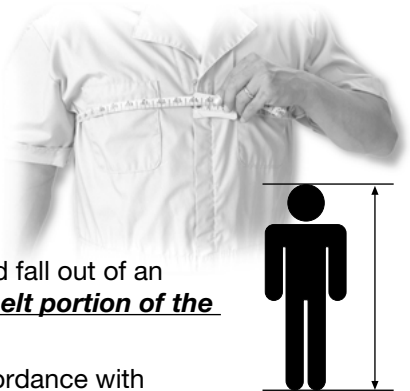
Lineman's Climbing Harnesses

Bashlin's Lineman's Climbing Harnesses merge a line belt with a full body harness. They provide an extra level of comfort and security when working on a pole, especially when using wood pole fall restricting devices (WPF RD). These products meet the requirements of the ASTM F887 for electric arc performance and the ANSI Z359 3rd party testing.

Sizing Bashlin Lineman's Climbing Harnesses

Proper sizing is essential for comfort and performance in the event of a fall. An improperly sized harness just doesn't feel good. In the event of an incident requiring the equipment to arrest a workers fall, the individual could fall out of an improperly sized harness. **To size the belt portion of the harness, see page 2 of this booklet.**

The Bashlin harnesses are sized in accordance with the torso of the worker. For the wearer, this involves measuring their height and chest size to determine the harness size based on those measurements. For most individuals, their overall height will determine the correct size. However, if the chest measurement is too large for the corresponding height, move to the larger size. If the chest



size is too small for the height, use the individual's height to determine the size. For 99% of the individuals, this method will determine the proper size. For the other 1% of you, kindly contact us.

Sizing Bashlin Lineman's Climbing Harnesses

H Style Harnesses-662R and 662A

Size		Height	Chest
O	One Size Fits Most	5' 4" - 6' 3"	34 in. - 48 in.
X	X-Large	6' 3" - 6" 6"	48 in. - 54 in.
2X	Double X-Large	6' 6" - 6' 10"	54 in. - 60 in.

X-Style 683

H-Style 662V

Size		Height	Chest
S	Small	5' 4" - 5' 7"	34 in. - 36 in.
M	Medium	5' 8" - 5' 11"	36 in. - 40 in.
L	Large	6' 0" - 6' 3"	40 in. - 44 in.
X	X-Large	6' 3" - 6' 6"	44 in. - 48 in.
2XL	XX-Large	6' 6" +	48 in. - 52 in.
3XL	XXX-Large	6' 6" +	52 in. - 56 in.

After determining the proper harness size, find the tool belt size by using the directions on page 2 of this booklet.

Need more information? Contact our customer service.

Tips for Using Bashlin Lineman's Climbing Harnesses

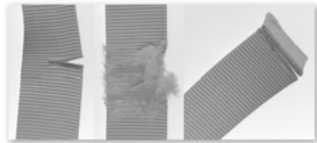
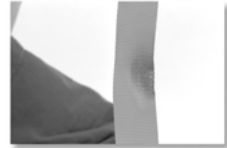
- Wear your harness as snugly or, if you prefer, as tight as possible. This will reduce strap slippage and help keep you in the harness in the event of an arrested fall.
- Do not use an improperly sized harness.
- Only use a harness made for the work being performed.
- Keep the back attachment point positioned between the shoulder blades. This will allow peak performance of the harness should it be used to arrest a fall. It will also help keep the straps on the shoulders during day to day use.
- Avoid exposing the harness to excessive heat, chemicals and prolonged sunlight that degrade the material.



- Store the harness in a ventilated area, and clean it with soap and water regularly. We suggest a canvas or nylon bag for storage and to carry as well as to protect the harness at the work-site.
- Don't violate safety rules.

These products must be inspected for the following;

- Hardware-Look for cracks, deformation, electrical burns and secure attachment points. Inspect the snap hooks for easy and smooth operation, and gates that close completely. If using a quick release buckle, make sure it won't open if only 1 tab is depressed.
- Nylon or polyester strength members-burns, cuts, chemical or ultraviolet degradation, worn fibers, abrasion.
- Splices-Broken or cut stitches, fraying, burns or worn fibers.
- Rivets-Loose, bent or corroded rivets
- Evidence of shock loading - including deployed tags on shock absorbers, broken stitches, elongated grommets, bent hardware, or even witnessing an incident that doesn't appear to affect the equipment.
- Inspect the tool belt per the information found on page 5 of this booklet.



⚠ - WARNING - ⚠

Any equipment with evidence of any one of these conditions must be removed from service immediately.

The average useful life of harnesses products is 1-4 years, from the date of manufacture depending on work conditions, care and usage.

See the inspection record on the back cover of this booklet.

Maintaining Bashlin Lineman's Climbing Harnesses

Clean the tool belt per page 6 of this book. Your harness should be cleaned as needed to remove dirt that will break down nylon fibers and to remove sweat and other chemicals that may degrade the webbing. Cleaning is best done by hand washing with mild laundry soap and water, rinsing the soap out completely, and hang drying. If the tool belt can be removed from the harness it may be machine washed on the gentle cycle by placing it in a nylon mesh bag. Do not machine dry these products.

The equipment is best stored in a ventilated canvas or nylon bag. It will be protected from mechanical and chemical damage as well as the sunlight that will severely degrade webbing. The ventilation is needed to reduce the chance of mold and mildew, especially in humid climates. Do not store next to excessive heat.



Donning Bashlin Harnesses

- Grasp the harness by the back attachment point, remove all twists from the material and open the chest closure, or as on the 683 style one side of the chest assembly. **(1)**
- Place the harness on the shoulders and fasten the chest closure. **(2)**
- Buckle the leg straps.
- Adjust the shoulder straps so the seat strap is snugly underneath the buttocks.
- The back attachment must be squarely between the shoulder blades. **(3)**
- Tighten the leg, chest and shoulder straps.
- If your harness has 2 piece buckles, replace the plastic keepers an inch or so away from the buckles. This is done by placing the keeper under the strap, pinching the webbing and sliding the material into the slots of the keeper.



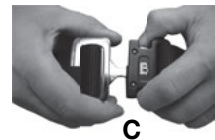
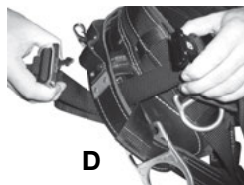
This will greatly reduce any slippage of the 2-piece buckle. Then simply slide the remaining material into the elastic keepers. With grommet style buckles, simply place any excess webbing under the elastic keepers. (4)



- Make a final check of all buckles and straps before beginning the work.
- Secure the tool belt in the normal manner. The belt must be worn correctly, per the instructions in this booklet. See pages 3-4.

Donning and Adjustment Instructions for Bashlin 683I Series Climbing Harness

- Remove the harness from the box, and inspect the harness.
- Don the harness and fasten all the buckles and adjust them for your fit. The back attachment should be between the shoulder blades (A), the sub-pelvic strap snug to your buttocks (B) and other straps secure and snug.
- Remove the harness.
- Unbuckle the tool belt straps. (C)
- Pass the tool belt straps inside the billet behind the D-rings. (D)
- Don the harness, check for fit on the harness and the belt. (E)
- Adjust the strap to provide a comfortable position with the belt on your hips.
- Tuck in and secure all of the adjustment straps.



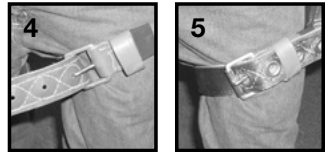
Buckles on Bashlin Harnesses

- **Interlocking Pass-Thru Buckles** – Connect these buckles by sliding the smaller adjuster through the slot on the frame attached to the harness. **(1)** Note it will slide through much easier if the printing on the top of the adjuster is turned toward the attachment point of the frame.



(2) Be certain the free end of the strapping is captured by the frame. After the buckle is secured and the strap adjusted, tuck the webbing into the keeper to restrict the strap movement. **(3)**

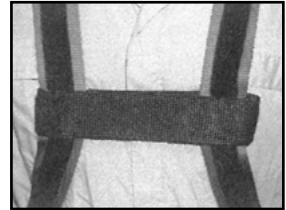
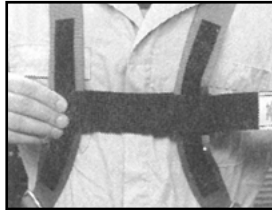
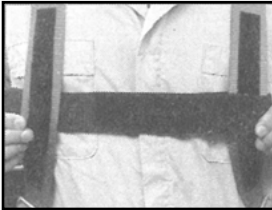
- **Grommet Tongue Buckles** – Slide the end of the billet through the buckle frames and adjust the strap to the correct length. Place the tongue of the buckle frame through the billet grommet that will make the strap the correct length, **(4)** then secure the end of the billet in the keeper. **(5)**



- **Quick Release Buckles** – Connect the buckles by sliding the male end in the female section until both of the tabs “click” and the buckle is locked. **(6-7)** The buckle is released by depressing both tabs until the male end can be removed. **(8)** Both tabs must be moved to release the buckle. If it releases when only one tab is moved, the harness should be removed from service. Adjust the strap after the buckle is connected, then tuck the excess webbing into the strap keeper to maintain the adjustment.

Proper Use of Bashlin's Hook and Loop Body Harness Chest Closure

- Adjust chest strap to the proper vertical position on the shoulder straps. It should cross at the mid-point of a chest pocket.
- Wrap the strap under and over the right shoulder strap. Firmly press the hook and loop material together across the length of the strap.
- Tuck the free end of the strap behind the left shoulder strap.



⚠ - WARNING - ⚠

For the chest strap closure of the harness to be secure, at least 2” of the strap must extend beyond the inside edge of the left shoulder strap. The hook and loop must be secure at all times during use. Keep the material free from foreign matter that could keep the hook and loop sections from securely mating. If there are any indications of wear, remove the harness from service.

Pole Straps and Adjustable Positioning Lanyards (APL)

Bashlin's Pole Straps and Adjustable Positioning Lanyards (APL) are made from woven nylon, 6 ply nylon, nylon reinforced leather or braided rope with a red center. These straps are designed to be used with the climbing belt as a positioning strap. They are not lanyards for fall arrest, nor are they to be used for pulling the line truck out of a ditch.

Bashlin pole straps and adjustable positioning lanyards use double action locking snaps, or carabiners.

Tips for Using Bashlin's Pole Straps and Adjustable Positioning Lanyards

- Never climb or work while engaging both ends of your pole strap into one “D-Ring” of your tool belt.
- Always visually verify the snap-hooks or carabiner are engaged and

the gates fully closed and locked before allowing the equipment to support your weight. Don't rely on the "click"...for more than a few guys that was the last thing they heard before they heard the sound of the ambulance.

- Never store belts, straps, or pads near stoves, steam coils, radiators, truck exhaust, etc...this will dry and weaken the leather. Store in a clean, dry location.
- Never connect a twisted strap or lanyard to the "D-Rings"
- Always climb with the snap keepers facing outward and the pole strap flat, with no twists, against the pole with the buckle side out.
- When "free" climbing never let go of the pole or structure while repositioning your strap.
- Disabling the locking devices on the APL or Pole Strap Hooks is not very intelligent and can be dangerous. The locking snap-hooks and carabiners are not sized in proportion to the "D-ring". If the lock is disabled, they will be prone to accidental disengagement or roll-out.
- The leather keeper on the pole strap is an integral part of the strap as designated by the ASTM F887 standard. Removing this piece of leather not only makes the strap not compliant (Important at the Lineman's Rodeo or in case of an accident), it also makes it harder for you to maintain control of the length of your strap.

Inspecting Bashlin Pole Straps and Adjustable Positioning Lanyards

These straps and lanyards must be inspected prior to each use. They should be inspected for the following;

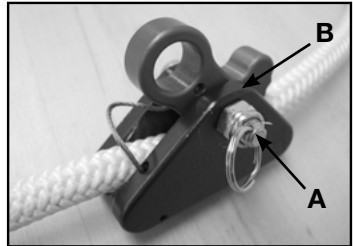
- Electrical burns, cracks, or deformation of the snap-hooks, buckle, friction adjustor, or carabiner.
- Loose rivets or broken stitching on the hardware attachment points, sewn splices or compression fittings, and other primary strength members.
- Degraded or torn nylon strength members, as well as other physical, chemical, heat or age related damage.
- Dry rotted leather.
- Exposed red wear indicator **(A)** **(A1)**
- Elongated holes, or broken stitches on the strap material or rope.



⚠️ - WARNING - ⚠️

Any pole strap or lanyard displaying evidence of any one of these conditions must be removed from service. The average useful life of Bashlin straps and lanyards is 1-4 years of normal usage.

- Improperly functioning or damaged snap hooks or carabiners including;
 - A sticking gate or locking mechanism **(B)**
 - Gates that don't close completely
 - A malfunctioning locking mechanism
 - Weak or missing springs
- For **Adjustable Positioning Lanyard (APL)**, inspect the friction adjuster for freedom of movement. There must be no debris in the unit. Inspect cables and set screws for condition and proper engagement. **(A)** The nut on the through bolt must be secure. **(B)**



Do not oil the mechanical adjustors as they will accumulate dust and dirt, which could cause them to stick.

Maintaining your Bashlin Pole Strap and/or Adjustable Positioning Lanyard

Regularly cleaning your strap or lanyard will make it last longer. Dirt will get into the leather and nylon fibers actually breaking them down. Dirt and debris will also diminish the performance of the friction adjuster. The cleaning process will also help you to spot any worn components that could cause future trouble.

These products consist of leather and synthetic components. The leather should be cleaned using a saddle soap, while the nylon is cleaned better with mild soap and water. Avoid any petroleum based cleaners that may damage nylon. Hang the nylon strap or lanyard to dry overnight. For leather straps, after the dirt is removed, oil the leather using a commercial leather preserver such as mink, Neatsfoot or bee oil. The leather strap should be cleaned every 90 days, more if the work conditions require it. After cleaning and oiling, let it dry overnight. Then take a moment to wipe off the excess oil from the leather, as the

excess will attract dirt. If the leather is kept moist, it will last a long time. However, once the leather begins to dry, no amount of oil will repair the damage. Preserve your strap and your investment by regularly maintaining your strap.

Auxiliary Positioning Belts-83H Series

Instructions for Attachment to a Line Belt

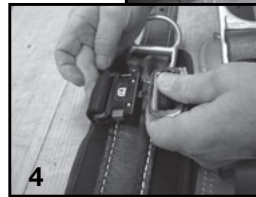
1. Lay your tool belt and the Auxiliary Positioning Belt (APB) on a flat surface, with the APB above the tool belt.
2. Disconnect both of the Quick Release Buckles (by depressing both buttons on the side of the buckle), releasing the steel tang.
3. Thread the male end of each of the buckles-with the steel tang-between the cushion of the tool belt and the billet, just behind the D-ring, and wrap the webbing around the billet.
4. Reconnect the buckle by pushing the steel tang back into the slot of the quick release buckle. Verify that it is secure.
5. Connect the nylon snaps of the APB into the rings on the back of the tool belt.
6. Don the tool belt-APB and adjust the distance between the two belts according to your preference.



1



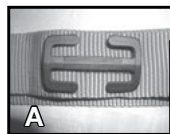
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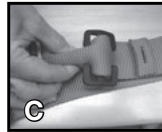
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A



B



C



D

- **WARNING** -

The Tool Belt is to be worn snug-on or above the hips. The Tool Belt/APB combination is not to be used or worn as a saddle.

7. Once the APB is adjusted per your preference, stow the excess webbing into the elastic keepers and install the PSK device (A) to eliminate the chance of the buckles coming out of adjustment. **This is done by first placing the PSK under both plies of the webbing at the point you want it positioned. Then pinch a section of the 2 plies and place it into one side of the PSK(B). Then squeeze the material on the other side of the center bar of the PSK and tuck it in (C). When it is installed correctly it will look like this (D).**

