

# BUCKINGHAM MFG.

## PN 17910 Series “EDGE II” Arborist Saddles

Warning: Do not use this product if you cannot understand and follow the instructions and warnings that come with it and complete all necessary functions.

The “Edge II” arborist saddle is designed for the professional arborist. It is fully adjustable at the waist, legs and suspension bridge to provide ease of use, comfort, adjustability, versatility and safety. The “Edge II” 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.

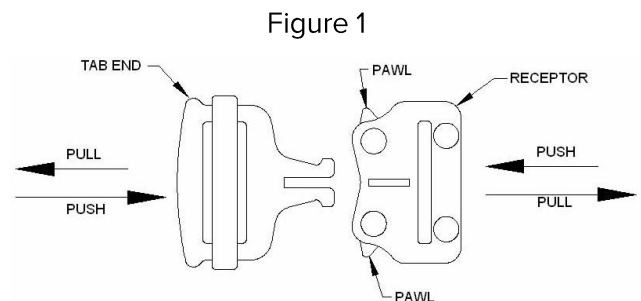


- A-Work Positioning Dee Ring
- B- Suspension Bridge Adjustment Strap & Friction Buckle
- C-Suspension Bridge / Rope Bridge
- D- Suspension Attachment Ring
- E-Waist Belt Strap
- F-Waist Belt Quick Connect Buckle
- G-Leg Strap with Quick Connect Buckle
- H- Accessory Loops (5 total -2 on each side & 1 in back)

- I-Accessory / Suspender Attachment Loops
- J-Leg Pad Keeper Straps
- K-Leg Pads
- L- First Aid Pouch Hanger Slots
- M Climbing Plates / Lower Forward Dee Ring Attachment
- N-Interlocking Buckles
- O- Leg Pad Attachment Strap
- P- Front Suspender Attachment Dee Ring

### 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 buckle in the front and the leg straps towards your back.
- 4) Ensure that the work positioning D-rings are slightly forward of the hip bones. Fasten the Quick Connect Buckle as shown in Figure 1. Visually inspect that buckle is secured. Do not rely on hearing the click. Look for both sides to be locked.
- 5) Adjust the waist strap so it feels snug on waist. Be sure not to over tighten as this can cause discomfort on hips and waist.
- 6) 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.
- 7) Connect the leg strap buckles as shown in Figure 1.
- 8) Adjust the leg strap as necessary so they are snug, but comfortable.
- 9) Tuck the excess leg strap into the elastic strap keepers attached to the leg pad.



## 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 (Figure 2) 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 SUSPENSION BRIDGE:

Figure 2

Replacement Suspension Bridges are supplied separately and include detailed replacement instructions to be used when replacing the Suspension Bridge. Use only replacement Suspension Bridges (manufactured from approved tree climbing rope) supplied by Buckingham Mfg.

### 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 and rope cuts, kinks, abrasions, burns, excessive swelling, excessive wear, discoloration, cracks, charring, broken fibers, loose stitching, broken, cut, or burned threads, chemical or physical exposure
- straps are not damaged
- buckles with spring loaded slide type friction bars - slide bars work properly, are not binding, missing, deformed, bent, or otherwise damaged.
- nicks, cracks, distortion or corrosion of hardware (buckle, D-rings, etc.)
- worn or damaged accessory snaps, rings or loops.

Replace Suspension Bridge if protective cover of stitching (shrink tube) is damaged, missing or torn.

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.

## CLEANING, STORAGE and TRANSPORTATION

To Be 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

- Manufacturer's instructions shall be provided to the user of this product. If additional copy is needed, contact Buckingham Mfg. Co.
- Completely read, understand, and follow all instructions, warnings, and cautions pertaining to this and all associated equipment before use. Failure to do so could result in your serious injury or death.
- 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 product is designed to be used by a person with a maximum weight of 350 lbs. when fully equipped.
- 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 3). 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.
- 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, abrasive surfaces, extreme temperatures, excessive ultraviolet rays chemical agents, moving machinery, electrical hazards and hazardous atmospheres. 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.
- Never use combinations of components or subsystems, or both, which may affect or interfere with the safe function of each other.
- 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.
- 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.
- Never attach a non-locking ladder or rebar hook to D-ring.
- 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 connections never attach multiple snap hooks to a D-ring.
- Never disable locking keeper on snap hook or carabiner.



Fig. 3

**Not To Be Used For Attachment  
Of Fall Arrest Harness**

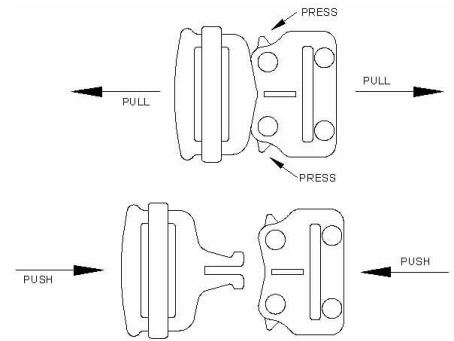
- Never punch additional holes in or alter any belt or harness in any way.
- This equipment should be a personal issue to the employee using it.
- Only Buckingham Mfg. Co. or those people authorized in writing by Buckingham Mfg. Co. may make repairs / modifications to this equipment.
- Employer - instruct 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 user's 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 user's 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 WD-40<sup>®</sup>, 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 WD-40<sup>®</sup>. Wipe any excess lubricant off with a clean dry cloth. 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.

## 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.

#### **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 OSHA/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/>

#### **REGISTRATION:**

Before use of the product, ensure to register and confirm the product at [www.buckinghammfg.com/register](http://www.buckinghammfg.com/register)

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