

STEIN



RC-2001

Please read this document carefully, it gives instructions for the correct use of this product

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CONTENTS

<i>Page</i>	<i>Description</i>
2	Warnings
3	Product Identification and Markings Product Life
4	Box Contents
5	Part Identification
6	Product Information and Warning Labels
7	Mounting Methods Tree Protection Mounts Work Zone
8	Ratchet Strap Mounting Base Anchor Point Top Attachment Point
9	Device Mounting Instructions
10	Routing The Rope
11	Inspection Record

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WARNING

Activities using this type of equipment are inherently dangerous. It is not possible to cover every eventuality relating to the use of this equipment. Purchasers and users of RC devices should seek professional training from a fully qualified and competent instructor prior to engaging in any activity. If you are not able, or not in a position to assume this responsibility, do not use this product. The manufacturer its distributors and retailers do not accept any liability if users do not follow the instructions correctly. Only the techniques shown in the diagrams are authorised. Any other use deviating from those shown may result in serious injury or death.

Prior to each use a complete risk assessment must be carried out to ascertain that the device chosen configures with and is appropriate to the work being undertaken. The RC device chosen must also be compatible with all the other components within the system.

Users must always ensure that all components of the work system are suitable for the foreseeable loadings that may be applied during use. Poor technique and shock loading may cause catastrophic failure of this equipment and should be avoided. Where a failure of the product may occur a suitable backup system must be installed and used. All components of the system used with the device must be inspected before and after each lowering/lifting operation. Retire the RC device from use if there are any tactile or visual signs of wear or damage. The retention devices must also be inspected & checked for both tension and wear after each lowering or lifting operation to ensure they are securely attached to the RC device and the mounting point.

The RC Lowering Devices should only ever be used with the correct diameter of rope, You must never exceed the recommended maximum diameters. Each device has a Working Load Limit (WLL) – This is the maximum load allowed to be applied to the device either for lifting or lowering above which catastrophic failure will occur. These values are based on a vertical load being applied and used as specified within these instructions.

Although these devices have been issued with a Working Load Limit (WLL) it is your responsibility to ensure that all the components used in conjunction with the device are matched equally with their Working Load Limit (WLL) or Safety Factor (SF) or Safe Working Load (SWL). If you are unsure on a products individual specifications you should contact the manufacturer. You should never exceed the lowest rated section or component within a rigging system. When calculating any rigging system the strength of the anchor and attachment points must also be taken into account.

- RC devices must never be used for lifting or lowering people. They are not intended or rated for use as Personal Protective Equipment. (PPE)
- Always keep body parts, loose clothing, and debris away from the device when in use.
- Always use appropriate hand protection when operating the device.
- When holding the working line NEVER wrap the line around your hands or other body parts. Always ensure it can run freely in case you need to release the line in an emergency.
- Do not stand or allow others to stand directly under the load being lowered or under the work being performed above. Ensure users and other persons are working and operating the device from a safe distance.
- Any potential shock loading must always be kept to an absolute minimum when using the RC device as with all rigging equipment.
- All connecting devices or components must be retired from use if they are subjected to impact loading.
- To avoid damage to the device you must minimise all if any free fall distance.
- Always maintain control of any lowered load.
- All pivot points and moving parts must be lubricated regularly using a suitable lubrication spray. Ensure no excess lubrication comes into contact with any area of the textile fixings or working line. Remove all excess lubrication immediately.
- Products covered under these instructions should never be resold or used by a third party after it has been used by the original purchaser.
- The manufacturer recommends this product should be inspected prior to use along with periodically independent inspection in line with UK LOLER 1998.

As part of any method statement we recommend that all users of this equipment must be given a copy of these instructions. They must read them, understand them and explicitly follow all instructions and cautions attached. Any person using this equipment should be fully trained and competent in its use before carrying out any rigging operations.

Product Identification and Markings

Each RC Device is fitted with a Product Identification label as shown below.

1	Fletcher Stewart (Stockport) Limited
2	STEIN
3	RC-2001
4	Lowering Device
5	2000kg WLL
6	5.8kg
7	RC-2001-serial number
8	United Kingdom

- 1 Manufacturers Name
- 2 Trademark
- 3 Product Model Number
- 4 Type Of Use
- 5 Working Load Limit
- 6 RC Device Weight
- 7 Individual Serial Number
- 8 Country of Origin

The RC Lowering Devices should only ever be used with the correct diameter of rope, You must never exceed the recommended maximum diameters. Each device has a Working Load Limit (WLL) – This is the maximum load allowed to be applied to the device either for lifting or lowering. These values are based on a static vertical load being applied and used as specified in these instructions. However, a dynamic load can multiply the forces incurred on a rigging system; a dynamic load weighing considerably less than the WLL of the device can still exceed the limit due to the multiplied forces caused by its motion. Therefore, all potential dynamic loads should be carefully calculated and minimised where possible.

Model	Maximum Rope Diameter	Working Load Limit (WLL)
RC-2001	16mm	2000kg

- You must ascertain that the device chosen is appropriate to the work being undertaken.
- Working Load Limits will vary depending on the type of mounting used (see page 7)
- The Working Load Limit is based on using the supplied mounting Ratchet Handle & Strap and backed up with a sufficiently rated Anchor Sling.
- If you are using both the Top Attachment Point and the Device at the same time the Working Load Limits on both areas should be taken into account. Example: the devices WLL is 2000kg the top attachment point is 250kg so the devices WLL will be reduced down to 1750kg.

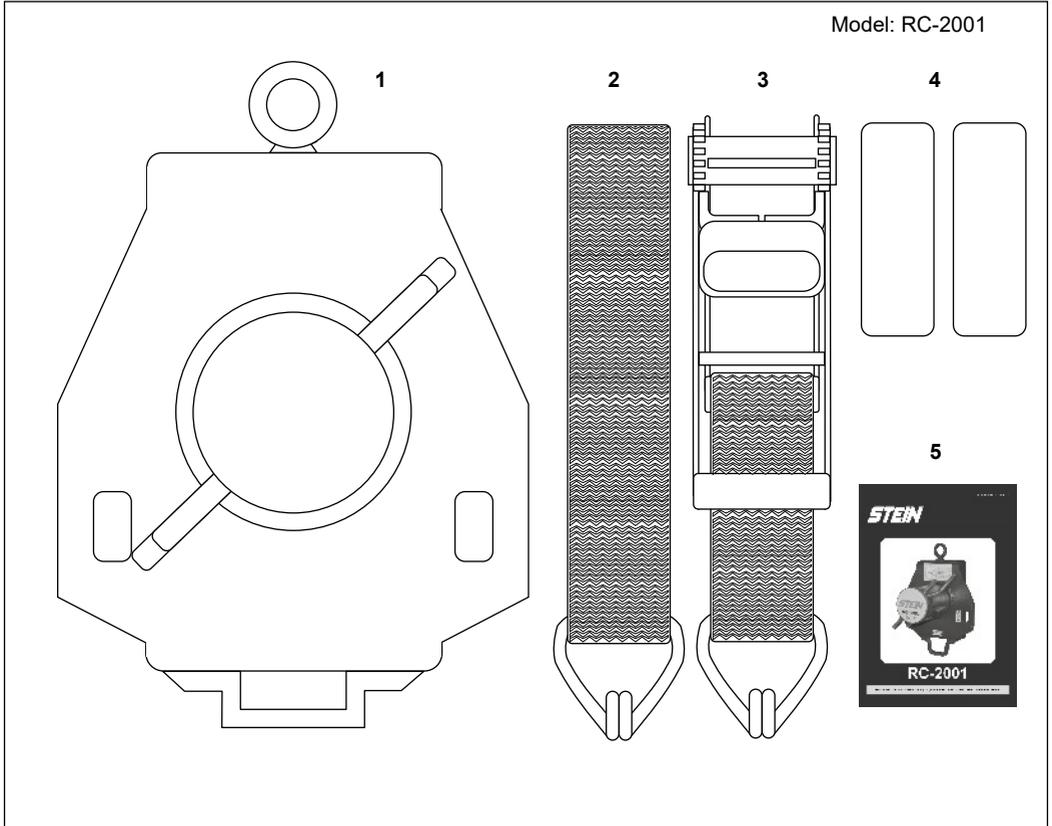
Product Life

If the product shows tactile or visual signs of wear, chemical contact, abrasion, or crushing it should be retired from use immediately. By misuse it is possible to destroy this product during its first use. These times are for guidance purposes only.

Daily Use:	max 2-years
Weekly Use:	max 3-years
Occasional Use:	max 5-years

The total maximum life of this product (storage before use + lifetime in use) is limited to 10 years. In good storage conditions this product may be kept for as many as 5 years before the first use without affecting its future duration in use. The working life depends on the frequency and type of use.

Box Contents

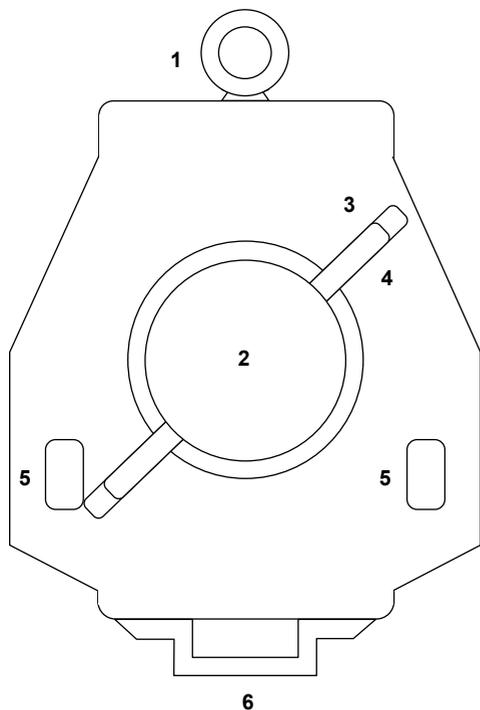


Your RC Device will consist of the the following items:

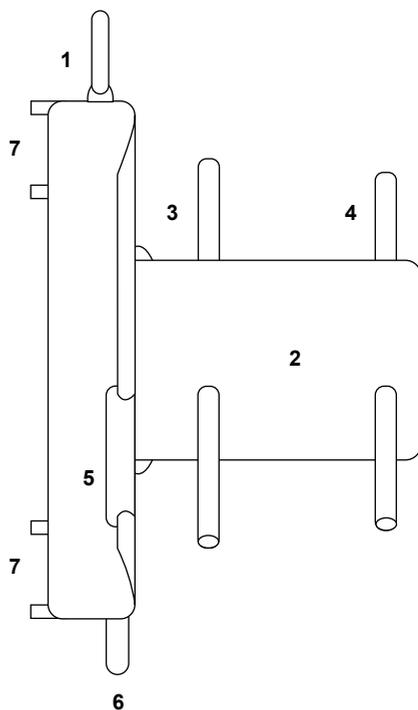
- | | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|------------|
| 1 | RC-2001 Lowering Device | SS-RCP2001 |
| 2 | 4.8m Ratchet Strap Tail c/w Hook End | SS-RCP5101 |
| 3 | Ratchet Strap Handle | SS-RCP5100 |
| 4 | Pair of Rubber Protection Mounts | SS-RCP5005 |
| 5 | Instruction Manual | SS-RCP9008 |

Part Identification

Model: RC-2001



Front View

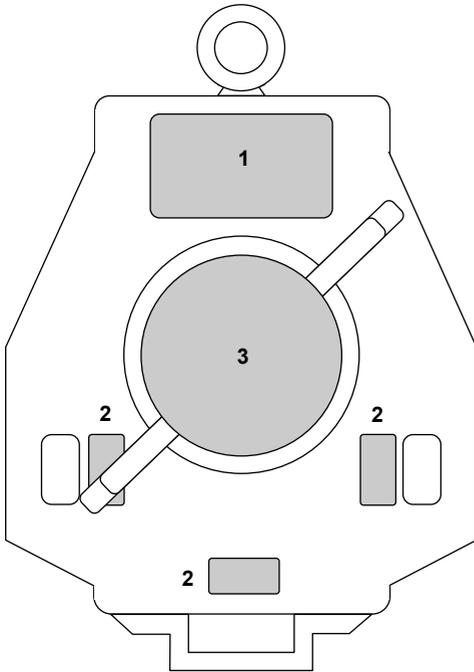


Side View

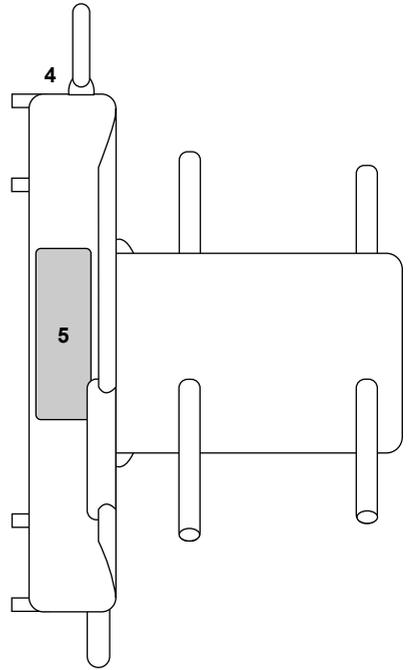
- 1 Attachment Point (250kg WLL)
- 2 Bollard
- 3 Rear Fairleads
- 4 Front Fairleads
- 5 Side Anchor Point
- 6 Base Anchor Point
- 7 Rubber Protection Mount Slots

Product Information and Warning Labels

Model: RC-2001



Front View



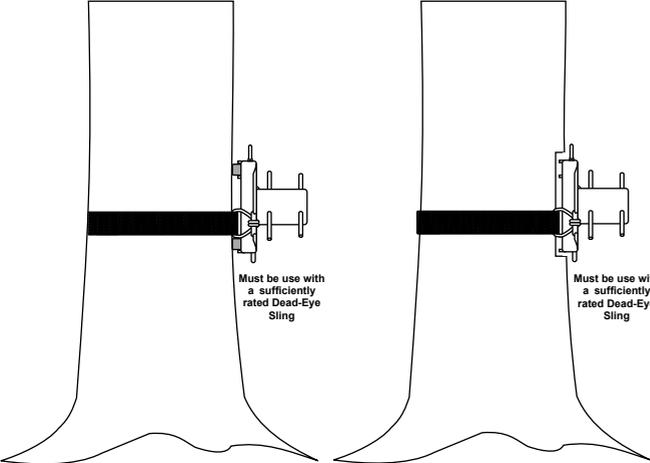
Side View

- 1 Product Warning Label (RC-L2011)
- 2 Anchor Point Label (RC-L3004)
- 3 Product Warning Label (RC-L3001)
- 4 Attachment Point Label (RC-L3005)
- 5 Product Information Label (RC-L4006)

WARNING:

It is important that all Safety Labels are visible and present. It is recommended that you replace these immediately if they are removed or un-readable. New labels can be ordered using the appropriate part numbers.

Mounting Methods



Method 1
Protection Mounting
Working Load Limit 500kg

This method of mounting is used where selected limbs are being removed but the tree remains. This method helps protect the tree from damage.

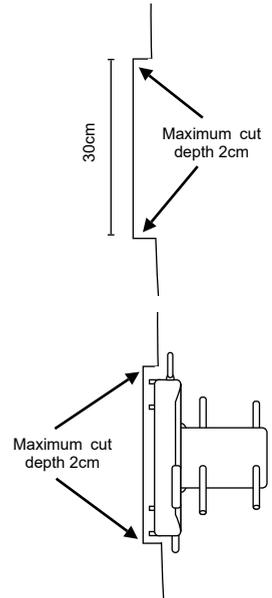
When mounting the device it is recommended to locate it at a height where the rope will be tailed out as close to horizontal as possible. This will ensure the maximum use of the fairleads

The Working Load Limit is based on using the specified mounting Ratchet Handle & Strap and backed up with a sufficiently rated Anchor Sling.

Method 2
Sunken Mounting
Working Load Limit 2000kg

This method of mounting is used where the tree is being dismantled and the limbs lowered are of a heavy size and where impact loading may occur.

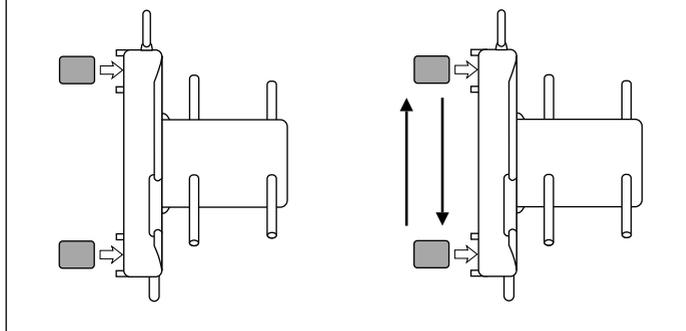
When using method 2 the sunken cut should not exceed 2cm. Any deeper than 2cm and this will interfere with the base anchor point and will make the top attachment point unusable.



Tree Protection Mounts

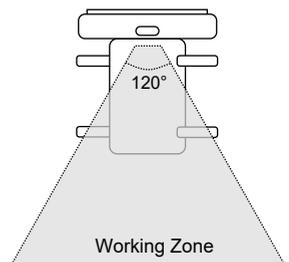
The device is supplied with a set of rubber protection mounts. To fit these insert one in the top channel of the device and one in the bottom, these are designed to be a tight fit. The mounts should be inspected carefully prior to use and rotated each time the device is used.

Never use the device with only one of the rubber protection mounts fitted

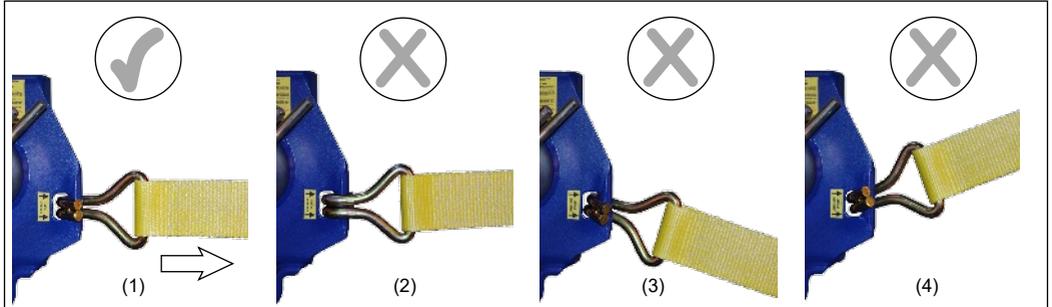


Working Zone

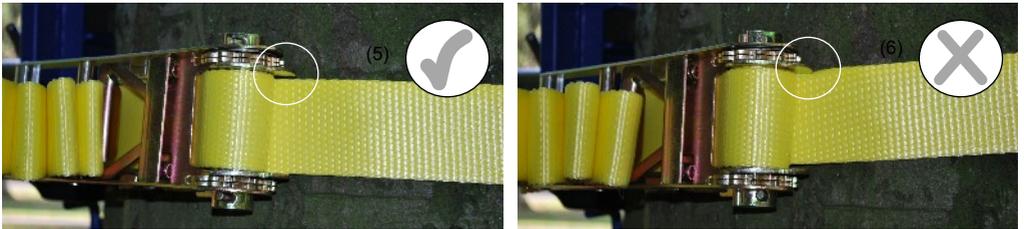
The user should position the device so there is a clear working zone of 120° from the front of the device. The lowering line must stay within this working zone to ensure correct rope alignment. This also prevents the rope from overlapping on the bollard and makes full use of the fairleads.



Ratchet Strap Mounting



When fixing either end of the Ratchet Strap ensure the hook faces outwards as in diagram (1) and is pulled horizontal. By fitting the Ratchet as pictured in diagram (2) the hook could slip out during use. Never pull the Webbing Straps at an angle as shown in diagrams (3) & (4).



When tightening the ratchet ensure the webbing enters the ratchet evenly (5) and is not in contact with the side guide plates (6). This will cause premature wear to the webbing and possible webbing failure.

The retention devices must be inspected & checked for both tension and wear after each lowering or lifting operation to ensure they are securely attached to the RC device and the mounting point.

Base Anchor Point

The Working Load Limits (WLL) are based on using the specified mounting Ratchet Strap and backed up with a sufficiently rated Anchor Sling. This is to be connected directly to the base anchor point as shown in the diagram below using a choked hitch and terminated around the tree using a suitable self-tightening hitch such as a cow-hitch or timber-hitch.

This must be inspected & checked for both tension and wear after each lowering/lifting operation to ensure it is securely attached to the device and the mounting point.



Anchor Sling

WARNING

The RC Device should never be operated or used without a base anchor sling fitted and secured properly. We strongly recommend that you use the Stein RCP-6002 Anchor Sling.

Top Attachment Point

The top attachment point has a Working Load Limit (WLL) of 250kg. This point can be used to attach a pre-tensioning system or a lifting system such as a fiddle block assembly.

This can also be used to support the weight of the device to help with the initial mounting by an individual person and with the removal of the device from the mounting point.



Device Mounting Instructions

ENSURE THE WORK AREA IS FREE & CLEAR OF ANY OBSTACLES AND A FULL RISK ASSESSMENT HAS BEEN UNDERTAKEN BEFORE USING THE RC DEVICE

These mounting instructions are the same for using both methods of mounting as described on page 7



- (1) When selecting the best place to mount the device try to locate an area where there is little or no stem taper. If the tree is being removed this can be achieved by shaping the stem to be parallel.
- (2) You must then decide which type of mounting method is required for the job you are undertaking (see page 7)
- (4) For ease of mounting we recommend that you place a sling above where the device is to be mounted.
- (5) Attach a suitable Karabiner to the sling
- (6) Using the Top Attachment Point attach the lowering device to the Karabiner.
- (7) Ensure the device is suspended at a height where it can be safely operated.



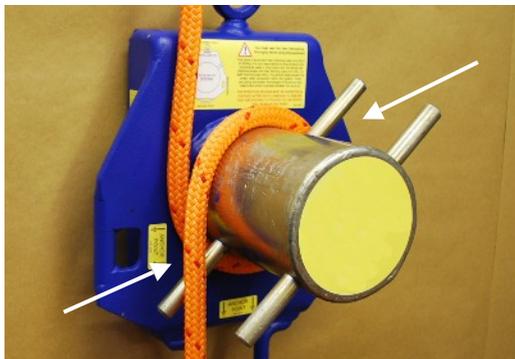
- (8) Using the supplied Ratchet Handle and Ratchet Strap attach the device to the tree.
- (9) Ensure the Strap Hooks are fitted correctly and the Webbing is fed through the Ratchet Handle as shown on page 8
- (10) Tighten the Ratchet System as tight as possible ensuring the device is securely mounted to the tree.
- (11) Once the Device is securely mounted a backup Sling must be attached to the base anchor point. and tied off using a suitable termination hitch. Ensure the sling is of a sufficient length to terminate the hitch properly.
- (12) Once the device is mounted correctly the top attachment sling can either be removed or detached from the device.

NEVER USE THIS DEVICE WITHOUT AN ANCHOR SLING ATTACHED

We strongly recommend that you use the Stein RCP-6002 Anchor Sling

Routing The Rope

The following instructions demonstrate the correct routing of the working line. Never use alternative routing as this may result in serious injury or death.



- (1) Ensure the working line enters the device from a vertical point directly above the device.
- (2) The line can enter the device from either the left-hand or right-hand side of the bollard.
- (3) The rope must take a single wrap, passing behind both rear fairleads
- (4) Pull the rope tight and continue with further wraps in between the rear and front fairleads



- (5) Apply a couple of wraps, more wraps maybe required subject to the size of timber being lowered. More wraps give more friction.
- (6) If at any time you need to suspend/lock a load, simply wrap the working line a minimum of 4 times around the bollard and finish by applying 2 half hitch's on opposing exit fairlead's. Subject to the size of load being suspended extra half hitch's maybe required.

Once you are in a position to commence lowering, stand well clear of the drop zone ensuring the working line will not be obstructed by the item being lowered. Where a load is being cut from above the rigging pivot point the operator should draw slack out of the system. This can be achieved by quickly pulling on the working line as the branch/log begins to fold and then release the working line as normal as the load passes the rigging point.

If it is necessary to pre-tension the working line tighter than what can be achieved by simply pulling down on it, a mechanical advantage of 3:1 can be achieved by incorporating the Stein RC-3100 Pre-Tension pulley. This pulley has been design specifically to be used with the range of RC Lowering Devices.

