

IAS-ANZ



Designed and manufactured in Australia

# SINGLE ROPE TECHNIQUE EQUIPMENT [SRTE]

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## SRTE Stop Descenders



Thankyou for selecting one of the very few true Stop Descenders available on the market. We at SRTE are confident that you will be happy with your acquisition. If you have any questions or product suggestions relating to this or any other product in our range, please do not hesitate to contact our Customer Service Department at the above address.

The SRTE **Stop Descender** has a unique design. It is the first **Stop Descender** available with the option of a Secondary Safety Brake letting you manage what happens when the descender is 'Grabbed in Panic' or handling you safely if you are unconscious.

### Models available:

Since its original invention in 1982 the SRTE **Stop Descender** has been continually developed and improved. There are currently six models available with either all stainless (silver only) or aluminium cheeks (anodised in a variety of colours) with stainless handle. The Disarming Pin suits all models and deactivates the Auto Stop Mechanism making the unit a manual in-line descender.

### SRTE Standard Stop Descender Range

D1a ~ Single Rope **Stop Descender**

D2a ~ Double Rope **Stop Descender**

### SRTE Double Brake Stop Descender Range

D1DBa ~ Single Rope Double Brake **Stop Descender**

D2DBa ~ Double Rope Double Brake **Stop Descender**

ALL MODELS AVAILABLE IN STAINLESS STEEL

The Double Rope Version takes both single or double rope whereas the Single Rope Version may only be used with single rope. The Brake Attachment on the Double Brake Version is easy to remove or add. Note: the warranty is void if you make any non-factory approved adjustment.

### Points to note:

- How to thread the rope through the **Stop Descender** is stamped permanently on the front cheek of the Descender.
- The rope should flow freely through the **Stop Descender**; however, when conditions are at their worst, e.g., wet and muddy conditions, descending may be extremely slow and difficult on stiff or larger diameter ropes. In such conditions, you should modify your rappelling tactics accordingly.
- The Handle is the primary control mechanism – squeeze to go (all models) – let go to stop (all models) – squeeze hard to brake (Double Brake models only).
- Hold the tail end of the rope at all times not only for balance but also as your secondary speed control mechanism.
- SRTE recommends that you use a safety belay at all times.
- Descenders may creep if they are not on the correct rope setting for the rope being used.
- **Stop Descenders** only halt decent; therefore you should be locked-off if you intend to be stopped for any length of time, thus making sure you are completely secure.
- At the factory we set all Standard and Double Brake **Stop Descenders** for 11mm rope, the most commonly used size. However, you can adjust the Descender to suit the rope you are using, providing the rope is between 9mm and 12mm. Note: the warranty is void if you make any non-factory approved adjustment.
- When using the Standard or Double Brake **Stop Descender** you can thread the tail end of the rope through the Second Braking Post for additional friction. Using this additional friction ensures that there is always pressure on the tail end of the rope, decreasing the chance of the Descender creeping. SRTE recommends that you use the Second Braking Post in situations where you intend to descend with large loads or if you intend to rescue a victim, thus placing the victim's weight on your, the rescuers, descender. The second braking post must be rigged prior to descent, unlike SRTE Goldtails or SRTE Rappel Racks, which, during descent, can alter the thread pattern of the rope. In other words, you must rig the Descender correctly for the task ahead.

## HOW TO USE YOUR SRTE STOP DESCENDER

This instruction sheet is not a fully comprehensive instruction manual.

Contact TRAC INTERNATIONAL on (61) 0418 674 678 for information on SRTE approved Training Courses.

Attach the SRTE **Stop Descender** to your SRTE Sit Harness using an SRTE Karabiner, with the **Stop Descender's** handle protruding to the left and pointing down. You may need to use 2 karabiners to get the descender in the correct position for descending; your descender should be positioned no higher than your shoulders to minimise the risk of your hair or clothes getting caught in the descender.

### A – BEFORE YOU START

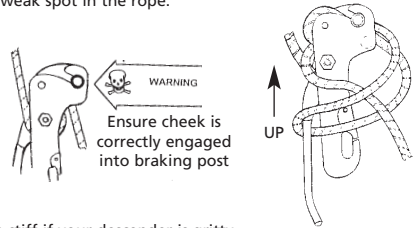
1. Hold the SRTE **Stop Descender** in your left hand, the handle to your left.
2. Attach the SRTE **Stop Descender** to your harness.
3. Push the trigger on the front cheek inwards to open karabiner hole.
4. Swivel the front cheek to the left to allow the rope to be threaded.
5. Thread the rope, going from left to right. Thread the rope under the lower sheave on the handle – up and between the lower and top sheave on the handle – over the top sheave and between the braking posts. For less friction, by-pass the second (lower) braking post – refer to the diagram.
6. Close the front cheek – swivel the cheek to the right – the catch should click as it passes over the karabiner.
7. Ensure that the cheek is correctly engaged into the braking post.
8. Be sure to remove slack between you and the anchor point.
9. Test the descender to make sure you have threaded it correctly and that the descender is working properly – the Handle should be in the normal position with no rope slippage.

### B – DESCENDING

1. Your right hand must control the tail end of the rope at all times, while your left hand is at the base of the handle for maximum leverage; gently squeeze the handle to descend (all models)
2. The more you squeeze the faster you go (except Double Brake Models).
3. Let go to stop (all models). Only on the Double Brake Models will your descent slow if you squeeze too hard.
4. **Caution:** Do not descend at a rate that will cause overheating. During your descent, occasionally slide your finger up the handle; if it's hot, slow down – do not stop as the heat from the descender may put a weak spot in the rope.

### C – LOCKING OFF

1. Lock-off – bring the tail end of the rope up and between the head of the descender and the incoming rope.
2. Place a half hitch over the head of the descender.
3. Unlock – using a firm grip, remove the tail end of the rope from between the head of the descender and the incoming rope – never let go of the tail end of the rope.
4. Squeeze the handle when you are ready to descend.



### D – MAINTENANCE

1. Wash your descender in clean water only if it gets gritty – the handle will be stiff if your descender is gritty.
2. After washing, oil the spring on the back cheek near the pivoting bolt and the karabiner trigger spring.
3. If the handle squeaks, oil it.
4. If the braking post wears, it may be rotated three times before you need to replace it.
5. Your Quality System may require items to be returned to the manufacturer for periodic service; please contact our Customer Service staff before returning your SRTE **Stop Descender** to us for service.

### E – ROPE ADJUSTMENT

You can make fine adjustments to the for friction settings for using different rope diameters; this makes the handle slightly harder to squeeze when the maximum friction setting is obtained, and it makes the handle slightly easier to squeeze when the minimum friction setting is set. Note: the above adjustments work in reverse when braking.

#### Rope Adjustment

Pivot Bolt nearest to #1 = Maximum Friction

Pivot Bolt nearest to #5 = Normal Position (factory setting – 11mm)

Pivot Bolt nearest to #4 = Minimum Friction

Remember, the warranty is void if you make any non-factory approved adjustment.

