

# Important Safety Information for Users of Bashlin LTDS



**- WARNING -**



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



# **LTDS**

## **Important Safety Information**

### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

The Bashlin Ladder Tie Down System (LTDS) is intended to be used in conjunction with compatible ladders and extension ladders to secure the ladder to a utility pole. It uses a combination of straps to secure the base and top of a ladder to the pole and help prevent the ladder from unintended kicking out, sliding, and falling. Please read the instructions below for general information, warning, installation, and proper maintenance/inspection.

- This information is intended for the user of the products indicated. It must be read and understood by the user prior to placing this product into service.
- The equipment is to be used by properly trained professional workers, and should be inspected prior to each use by the user and annually by a competent person, other than the user.
- The information in this form does not constitute proper training for the use of these products. Employees should be properly trained for proper use, cautions, and warnings prior to use.
- Proper ladder use to OSHA regulations is required for compatibility with this product. Ladder tie downs are not intended to support a ladder with insecure footing. Straps can loosen if the base of the ladder shifts. Follow ladder manufacturer recommendations for securing the base of the ladder.
- Use Ladder tie down system only for what it was designed and intended for. If suitability for intended use is questionable, always consult your Supervisor, Safety Director or contact Bashlin before using. Not intended for towing or hoisting.
- The LTDS is not intended to make a ladder meet requirements as fall arrest anchorage. Please follow ANSI and OSHA requirements for fall arrest anchorage.
- Equipment must not be altered. Do not remove product labels. Altering or modifying these products voids all warranties, may affect performance, and could cause accident, injury or death to the user. Only the equipment manufacturer or persons or entities authorized in writing shall make repairs on equipment.
- Straps are not designed to contact a sharp edge. Never wrap an anchorage directly to a steel beam or other rigid surfaces. Use padding between the anchorage and rigid anchor point. Never use these units where contact of the webbing with sharp edges, corners, abrasive surfaces are present e.g., sheet metal, steel, laminates materials, etc.
- Do not tie knots in webbing.
- Always visually check that the connecting components freely engages D rings on straps and that keepers and gates are completely closed. Never solely rely on the feel or sound of snap hook or carabiner engaging. Make sure that snap hooks and D rings are positioned so that the keeper or gate is not load bearing.
- Make compatible connections only. Ensure that there is no pressure on the gate that could cause rollout. A hook should close completely over the attachment object.
- Avoid exposing system to environmental conditions that may degrade the components.

- Avoid exposing the straps to excessive heat, chemicals and prolonged sunlight that could degrade the material.
- Users must be properly trained for the correct use of this equipment. Users should be familiar with operation, limitations, proper care and consequences of misuse of this equipment.

## INSTALLATION

Included in the LTDS system are:

1 x top lash



2 x top strap



1 x carrying case (not pictured)

1 x bottom ratchet lash



2 x bottom strap



1. Begin by sliding the loops of the top lash over the legs of the ladder at the top end of the ladder. This should be done with the ladder on the ground. If the ladder has a V bracket, this strap is not required.
2. Connect the snap hooks on the two top straps to the D-rings on the top lash. One strap per d ring. If you are not using the top lash, choke the webbing around the ladder leg between the V bracket and top rung, through the eye of the snap hook. The ladder may now be raised into position on the utility pole to ladder manufactures requirements, ensuring that the D rings on both top straps hangs down within the users reach [FIG. A].



Figure A

3. Secure the ratchet lash around the utility pole at about chest level. The horizontal ratchet should be on the “ladder” side of the pole [FIG. B]. The vertical ratchet should be on the back side of the pole [FIG. C].



Figure B



Figure C

4. Connect the D-ring on each top strap to the top snap hook on the ratchet lash. Leave these loose temporarily [FIG. D]. These straps will tighten better with zero wraps around



the pole. If an obstacle is in the way, each strap may be wrapped around the back side of the pole once.



Figure D



Figure E

5. Connect the bottom straps to the ladder and ratchet. Begin by choking a strap on each leg of the pole underneath the second rung up from the bottom. Pull the choke loop up the leg until it is tight against the second rung [FIG. E]. This will reduce the amount of ratcheting necessary. Connect the D-rings on each bottom strap to the bottom snap hook of the ratchet lash, adjusting the plastic buckle as needed to give a loose connection.
6. Securely tighten all four straps. Standing behind the pole and looking at the vertical ratchet, get the snap hooks into a position where they are approximately vertically aligned with one another and the vertical webbing is taut. Tighten and loosen the plastic adjuster buckles as needed to achieve this. Snug the top and bottom straps as much as possible and then ratchet the remaining slack out of the line [FIG. F]. Tuck the loose ends of the straps in the carrying bag to reduce trip hazards [FIG. G].



Figure F



Figure G

Tip: Excessively tight ratcheting is not necessary and could damage the ladder. If the ladder feet start shifting toward the pole, stop ratcheting. Tightness is sufficient when the ladder cannot be pulled back away from the pole or off to either side.

Tip: Webbing may stretch upon initial installations or if the system hasn't been used recently causing the ratchet to run out of room on the vertical webbing. If this happens, undo the ratchet, re-hand-tighten the plastic buckles, a ratchet tight again.

Tip: Prior to ratcheting, check that the choked loop on the bottom straps has not slid down away from the second rung.

Tip: To remove LTDS from pole, disengage ratchets, detach d rings from snap hooks, then remove ladder from pole and remove straps and latches.

## **MAINTENANCE AND INSPECTION**

Remove any surface contamination such as concrete, stucco, roofing material, etc. that could accelerate cutting or abrading of attached components. Clean with water and mild soap and allow to dry thoroughly. Store in clean dry areas. Exposure to degrading elements such as moisture, ultra violet rays, extreme temperatures, oil, chemical agents, etc. may reduce lifespan of equipment.

The user must inspect this equipment prior to each use. Any equipment with evidence of any one of these or any other conditions deemed unsafe by a competent person must be removed from service immediately and tagged or destroyed. The average useful life of these products is 1-4 years, from the date of manufacture depending on work conditions, care and usage.

- Hardware - look for cracks, sharp edges, deformation, corrosion, chemical attack, excessive heating, alteration, and excessive wear. Inspect the gates for easy and smooth operation, ensuring that they close completely. Look for a malfunctioning locking system, weak or missing springs. This applies to all snap hooks and carabiners.
- Synthetic Strength Members - look for burns, cuts, chemical degradation, worn fibers, abrasion, alteration, excessive soiling, excessive elongation, and excessive aging.
- Absence of legible markings.
- Absence of elements affecting the equipment form, fit, or function.
- Splices that are worn with cut or broken stitches, fraying, and burns.
- Evidence of defects in or damage to, hardware elements including cracks, sharp edges, deformation, corrosion, chemical attack, excessive heating, alteration and excessive wear.

Store in carrying bag. To reduce the chances of mold and mildew on the webbing, leave wet webbing out to dry in a well-ventilated area to dry.



## Inspection Record

Part Number \_\_\_\_\_ Date in Service \_\_\_\_\_

Employee \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Inspection	Comments	Inspected By

**This equipment must be inspected daily by the user.**  
Please feel free to copy this form.

