



RESCUE STRUTS

User Information Manual

⚠ DANGER

Understand manual before use. Operating AMKUS Rescue Systems without understanding the manual, receiving proper training, and using appropriate personal protective equipment is a misuse of AMKUS equipment. This manual does not fully address safety. Additional safety information is published in AMKUS Safety Manual LAA-001. Obtain safety information at www.amkus.com/

See Accessories Section for Compatibility



AMKUS RESCUE SYSTEMS
www.amkus.com

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⚠ DANGER

PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY CODE

The member companies of FEMSA that provide emergency response equipment and services want responders to know and understand the following:

1. Firefighting and Emergency Response are inherently dangerous activities requiring proper training in their hazards and the use of extreme caution at all times.
2. It is your responsibility to read and understand any user's instructions, including purpose and limitations, provided with any piece of equipment you may be called upon to use.
3. It is your responsibility to know that you have been properly trained in Firefighting and /or Emergency Response and in the use, precautions, and care of any equipment you may be called upon to use.
4. It is your responsibility to be in proper physical condition and to maintain the personal skill level required to operate any equipment you may be called upon to use.
5. It is your responsibility to know that your equipment is in operable condition and has been maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
6. Failure to follow these guidelines may result in death, burns or other severe injury.



Fire and Emergency Manufacturers and Service Association
P.O. Box 147, Lynnfield, MA 01940 • www.FEMSA.org

REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

To better understand the risks of emergency rescue equipment, obtain the following reference information from www.amkus.com.

**SAFETY MANUAL for AMKUS
RESCUE SYSTEMS**

⚠ DANGER Understand manual before use. Operating AMKUS Rescue Systems without understanding the manual, receiving proper training, and using appropriate personal protective equipment is a misuse of AMKUS equipment. Obtain safety information at www.amkus.com.

This Safety Manual is intended to familiarize rescue workers and maintenance personnel with the safety messages of AMKUS Rescue Systems, including powered rescue tools (rams, cutters, spreaders, combination tools), power units (electric or gasoline driven), and powered rescue tool components (cable assemblies, hose assemblies, hose reels, etc.). The safety messages in this publication supersede safety information appearing in AMKUS publications prior to April 2016.

This manual is intended for use with manuals published by manufacturers of prime movers (engines, electric motors, and pumps) used in AMKUS power units.

This manual does NOT address operation or servicing of AMKUS Rescue Systems. Only competent rescue tool repair technicians are qualified to repair AMKUS equipment. This manual should be available to all personnel involved with AMKUS equipment.

AMKUS RESCUE SYSTEMS
MADE IN USA • www.amkus.com

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LAA-001 April 15, 2016 Rev01

LAA-001

SAFETY DATA SHEET
According to OSHA Hazard Communication
Standard, 29 CFR 1910.1200

SECTION 1. IDENTIFICATION
Product Name: AMKUS MV1 HYDRAULIC FLUID
Manufacturers of suppliers details: AMKUS RESCUE SYSTEMS, INC.
4201 Montdale Drive
Valparaiso, IN 46383-4098 USA
219-548-5000

SDS Request
Customer Service
Emergency telephone number
Spill information: 800-424-8300 CHEMTREC
Health Information
Recommend use of the chemical and restrictions on use
Recommended Use: Hydraulic oil

SECTION 2. HAZARD IDENTIFICATION
GHS Classification: Not a hazardous substance or mixture
GHS Label element: No hazard symbol required
Hazard pictograms: No signal word
Signal word: No signal word
Hazard Statements: PHYSICAL HAZARDS: Not classified as a physical hazard under GHS criteria.
HEALTH HAZARDS: Not classified as a health hazard under GHS criteria.
ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS: Not classified as an environmental hazard under GHS criteria.

Precautionary statements
Prevention: No precautionary phrases.
Response: No precautionary phrases.
Storage: No precautionary phrases.
Disposal: No precautionary phrases.

Other hazards which do not result in classification
Prolonged or repeated skin contact without proper cleaning can clog the pores of the skin resulting in disorders such as oil acne/folliculitis.
Used oil may contain harmful impurities.
High-pressure injection under the skin may cause serious damage including local necrosis.
Not classified as flammable but will burn.
The classification of this material is based on OSHA HCS 2012 criteria.
Under normal conditions of use or in a foreseeable emergency, this product does not meet the definition of a hazardous chemical when evaluated according to the OSHA Hazard Communication Standard, 29 CFR 1910.1200.

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LAA-002 December 8, 2016 Rev01

LAA-004

1.0 MEANING OF SAFETY SIGNAL WORDS

A safety related message is identified by a safety alert symbol and a signal word to indicate the level of risk involved with a particular hazard. Per ANSI standard Z535.6-2011, the definitions of the four signal words are as follows:



DANGER indicates a hazardous situation which, if not avoided, will result in death or serious injury.



WARNING indicates a hazardous situation which, if not avoided, could result in death or serious injury.



CAUTION indicates a potentially hazardous situation which, if not avoided, could result in minor or moderate injury.



NOTICE is used to address practices not related to physical injury.

2.0 SPECIFICATIONS

Hydraulic Lifting Strut

	AMK-HLS16E		AMK-HLS12E	
Lift Capacity	6000 lb	2700 kg	6000 lb	2700 kg
Stroke	15 in	0.38 m	12 in	0.3 m
Weight	59 lb	27 kg	52 lb	24 kg
Minimum Height	61 in	1.5 m	55 in	1.4 m
Maximum Height	100 in	2.5 m	88 in	2.2 m
(Minimum 2:1 safety factor)				

Hydraulic Ram/Jack

	AMK-HLSRAM16		AMK-HLSRAM12	
Lift Capacity	6000 lb	2700 kg	6000 lb	2700 kg
Stroke	15 in	0.38 m	12 in	0.3 m
Weight	42.8 lb	20 kg	40.2 lb	18 kg
Minimum Height	34.75 in	0.9 m	32 in	0.8 m
Maximum Height	49.75 in	1.3 m	44 in	1.1 m

Telescoping Strut

	AMK-TAS22E		AMK-TAS33E	
Lengths Available	2 ft	0.6 m	3 ft	0.9 m
Holding Capacity	10,000 lb	4500 kg	10,000 lb	4500 kg
Weight	20 lb	9 kg	24 lb	11 kg
Minimum Height	36 in	0.9 m	48 in	1.2 m
Maximum Height	48 in	1.2 m	70 in	1.8 m
(Minimum 2:1 safety factor)				

Telescoping Strut

	AMK-TAS44E		AMK-TAS45E	
Lengths Available	4 ft	1.2 m	5 ft	1.5 m
Holding Capacity	10,000 lb	4500 kg	10,000 lb	4500 kg
Weight	27 lb	12 kg	30 lb	14 kg
Minimum Height	60 in	1.5 m	72 in	1.8 m
Maximum Height	84 in	2.1 m	110 in	2.8 m
(Minimum 2:1 safety factor)				

2.1 PART IDENTIFICATION



Hydraulic Strut



Telescoping Strut



Hydraulic Ram/Jack

3.0 SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS

3.1 PROTECTIVE CLOTHING

It is the responsibility of the user to insure that appropriate protective clothing and equipment are used to provide protection from those hazards to which personnel are exposed or could be exposed while working with this product.

3.2 TRAINING

This product is designed to be used by emergency services personnel to facilitate the extrication of victims from entrapment. Its use should be limited to trained personnel only. All personnel using this equipment are assumed to have completed a course of instruction acknowledged as being educationally sound by the local authority having jurisdiction over such training. This document contains basic operating and maintenance instructions only.

3.3 OPERATING CONSIDERATIONS

⚠ DANGER Hydraulic tools can apply many tons of force which can bend, move, or lift large loads storing potential energy. Loads can become unstable and suddenly move without warning causing severe injury or death. Never put body parts in a situation where a shifting or falling load can cause a crushing injury. Stay clear of the path of travel. (For examples, see LAA-001 Safety Manual for AMKUS Rescue Tools)

⚠ WARNING Keep limbs clear of the area between the end of AMKUS Rescue Struts and the area they will be in contact with. A sudden unexpected movement of a load could create pinch point hazards. Avoid unnecessary risk. (For examples, see LAA-001 Safety Manual for AMKUS Rescue Tools)

⚠ CAUTION Avoid contact with sharp edge of the universal head while maneuvering the rescue strut. Contact with sharp surfaces has potential to cause minor to moderate injury. Be sure to position hands in a manner that they do not come in contact with sharp edges. Wear appropriate protective clothing at all times.

4.0 SET-UP PROCEDURE

NOTICE Only use AMKUS tools with AMKUS equipment or components. Mixing AMKUS tools with another manufacturer's equipment may cause operational problems, equipment failure, or denial of warranty claims.

NOTICE Only use AMKUS mineral-base hydraulic fluid in AMKUS equipment. Using another manufacturer's hydraulic fluid in AMKUS equipment may cause operational problems, equipment failure, or denial of warranty claims.

Normally, AMKUS equipment is prepared and serviced by your dealer prior to delivery. If, however, you have decided to place the equipment into service yourself, please review the following instructions carefully. Remove equipment from the packing cartons and carefully inspect for damage. Damage that occurs during shipment should be reported immediately to the carrier.

Some assembly is required upon delivery of the AMKUS Rescue Systems strut kit.

4.1 INSTALLING THE PIVOT FOOT (AMK-STDBAS)

Position the strut with the label on the side opposite the anchor ring.

Insert the pivot foot fastening pin.



Insert cotter pin to lock in the pivot foot fastening pin. AMK-BASPIN

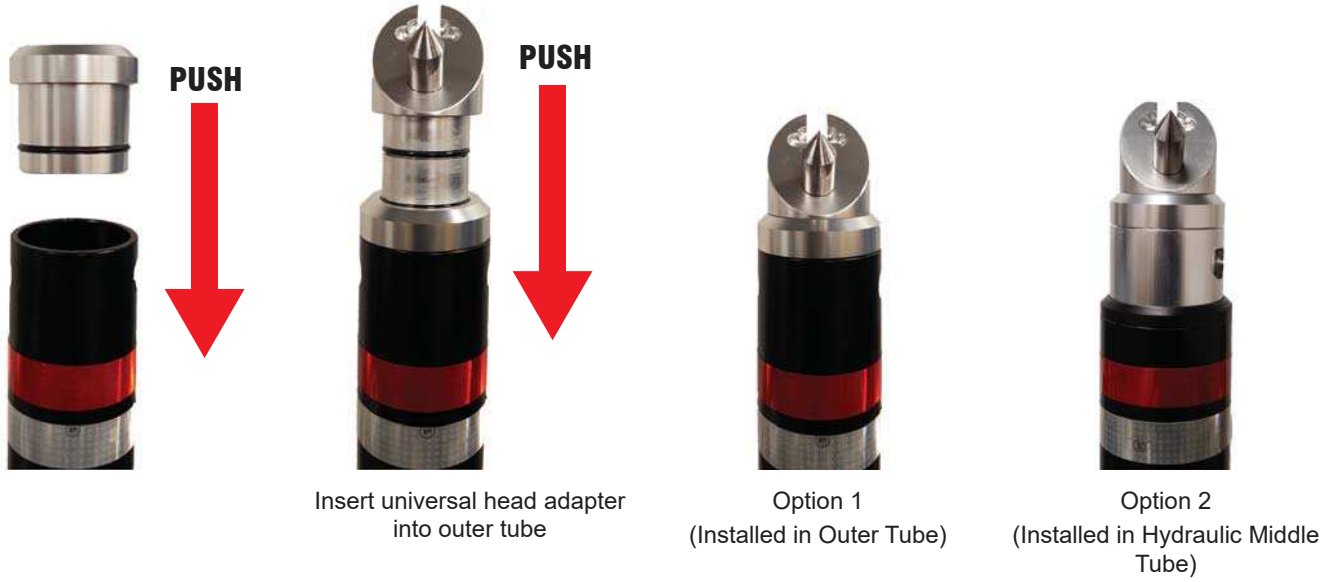
The same process is completed to install the stationary base. AMK-STACUP

If using a hydraulic strut the pivot foot fastening pin must be inserted from the opposite side of the valve manifold

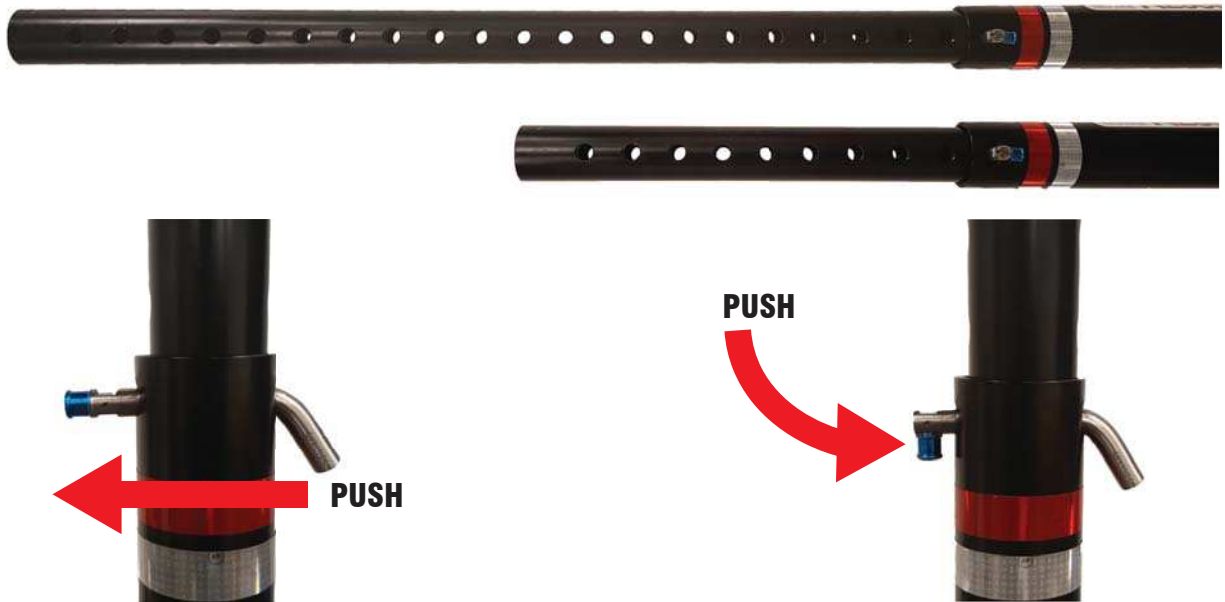
4.2 INSTALLING A UNIVERSAL HEAD (AMK-HSTDUP)



4.2.1 INSTALLING THE UNIVERSAL HEAD ADAPTER (AMK-UTADPT)



4.2.2 POSITIONING TELESCOPIC SECTIONS



Insert spring loaded adjustment pin (AMK-SLAPIN) through the inner adjustment tube and the outer tube (hydraulic middle tube if using hydraulic strut).

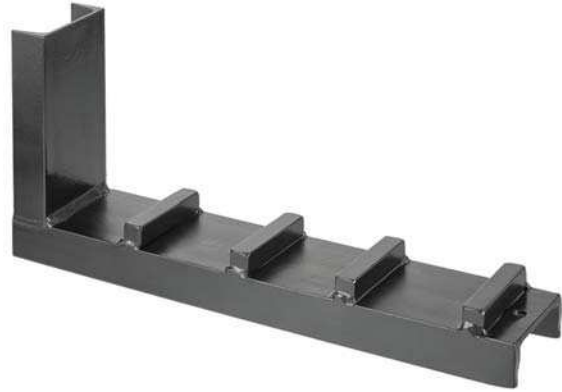
Pull pin head and rotate it towards the curved end of the pin to lock its position

4.2.3 CONNECTING A ROCKER PANEL SUPPORT (AMK-RKRPNL)

The hydraulic strut may be removed from the pivot foot base for use with the rocker panel support for applying diagonal loads.



Remove pivot foot from hydraulic strut



The bottom of the hydraulic strut will mesh with the rocker panel support

4.2.4 SECURING PIVOT FOOT FROM MOVEMENT

The pivot foot must be secured from sliding to maintain a load.

- Sliding can occur in a straight line away from the load
- Sliding can occur sideways to the left or right
- Sliding can be a combination of both

Always ensure the stability of the foot by preventing sliding by the use of chains, straps, and pickets (ground spikes driven through the holes in the pivot foot)

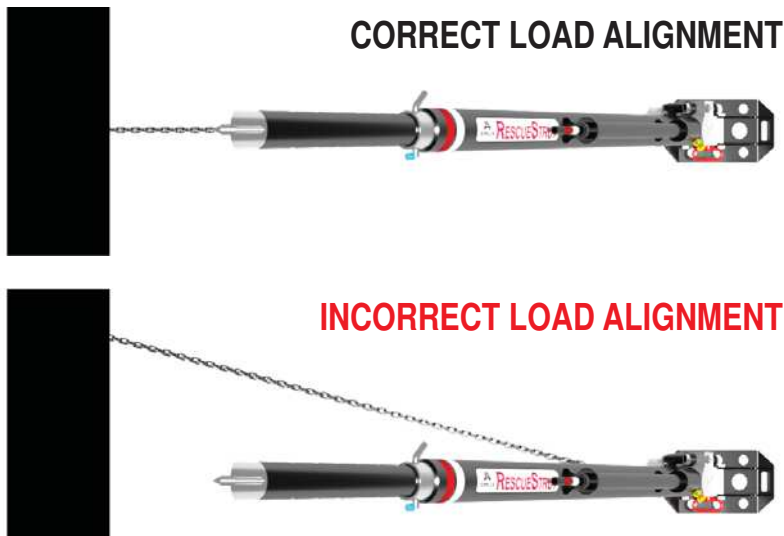
4.2.5 CHAIN USE



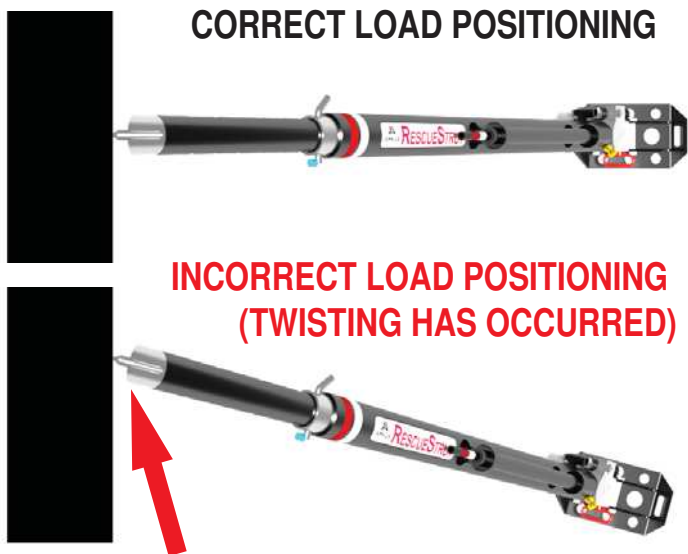
AMKUS chain kits can be attached through the chain stay on the pivot foot or hooked to the back ring.

If one chain is used to prevent backwards sliding the chain should be secured by hooking onto the ring, or by running the chain through the ring and hooking the links to a chain stay slot in the foot. Ensure the foot and strut are placed in-line with the load.

If one chain is used to prevent backwards sliding the chain should be secured by hooking onto the ring, or by running the chain through the ring and hooking the links to a chain stay slot in the foot. Ensure the foot and strut are placed in-line with the load.



Tension from the chain through the ring ensures load is centered on the foot which prevents the foot from twisting.



Unstable; lateral movement of the load, the tip, or the foot

One chain or strap alone can't prevent sideways sliding. Additional support is necessary. Ensure chain tension can be applied by removing slack and observing fully engaged position of chain stays and hooks.



AMK-C70516

Chain rating; 5/16" grade 70 transport chain,
working load limit 4700 lbs (2132 kg)



AMK-C80030

Chain rating; 3/8" grade 80 Lifting chain,
working load limit 7100 lbs (3221 kg)

4.2.6 INSTALLING RATCHET STRAP (AMK-RCHTST)



AMKUS ratchet straps can be attached to the ring on the pivot foot using a snap hook at the end of each strap. Ensure gate opening is closed. Never attach straps to the carrying handle.

Avoid passing straps over unprotected sharp edges, near or through incompatible chemicals, or in situations where high heat could melt webbing. Remove slack in the webbing and apply tension with the ratcheting drive. Avoid overloading the straps by excessive force on the ratchet tensioning mechanism. One ratchet strap alone can't prevent sideways sliding. Additional support is necessary.



CORRECT

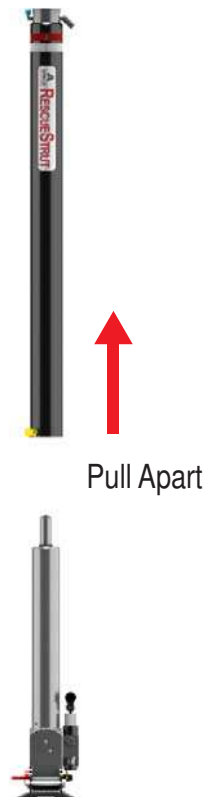


INCORRECT

4.2.7 INSTALLING PICKETS (GROUND SPIKES)

Ground spikes may be driven through holes in the foot to stabilize the foot from sliding in any direction based on the load carrying ability of the material it's driven into. Spikes driven into substrates like asphalt, frozen dirt, or voids in pavement offer the highest load carrying capability. Never rely on poor substrates like mud or loose gravel to carry significant loads. Observe safe practices established by the AHJ (Authority Having Jurisdiction) when driving spikes. Struts may be destroyed if missed blows result in striking the strut. This damage is not under warranty. Consider spike removal when driving spikes by selecting an appropriate depth.

4.2.8 CHANGING HYDRAULIC SETUP



Pull the quick release knob near the valve manifold to remove the outer tube. Insert desired outer tube and rotate until the release knob locks in place.

5.0 OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS























WARNING Loads supported by rescue struts present a crushing hazard to people under or near the load. Reduce crush hazard by insuring people and equipment remain out of the crush zone during lifting and retracting operations.

Upon arrival at an emergency a competent person as defined in NFPA 1670 shall assess the scene to determine the following details.

- Approximate weight of load
- Type of support required (ex. tripod)
- Correct extension tube length for proper support
- Correct AMKUS accessories necessary (ex. Tip Selection)

5.1 RESCUE STRUT UNIVERSAL HEAD SELECTION

AMKUS Rescue Systems offers a number of rescue strut universal heads. Some heads are better suited than others for specific applications. See table below for examples.

 <p>STANDARD UNIVERSAL AMK-HSTDUP</p>	 <p>INCORRECT</p>	 <p>CORRECT</p>	 <p>CORRECT</p>	 <p>CORRECT</p>
 <p>WAFFLE PATTERN AMK-HWAFLE</p>	 <p>CORRECT</p>	 <p>INCORRECT</p>	 <p>INCORRECT</p>	 <p>CORRECT</p>
 <p>WEDGE PATTERN AMK-HWEDGE</p>	 <p>INCORRECT</p>	 <p>CORRECT</p>	 <p>INCORRECT</p>	 <p>CORRECT</p>
 <p>DUCKBILL PATTERN AMK-HDUKBL</p>	 <p>INCORRECT</p>	 <p>CORRECT</p>	 <p>CORRECT</p>	 <p>INCORRECT</p>

5.2 TELESCOPING STRUT OPERATION

NOTICE

When positioning AMKUS rescue struts make sure the spring loaded adjustment pin is locked in. Carry the strut with the telescopic end higher than the footed end so it won't unintentionally slide out of the strut.

Select a position to place the rescue struts which can support the load. Potential for loads sliding sideways is reduced by avoiding metal-to-metal contact when supporting the load. Retract the rescue strut to the fully closed position. Identify the crush zone. These are areas under the load and around the load with risk of crushing from a falling or rolling load. Pull the spring loaded adjustment pin to manually extend the head to the object being supported. Reinsert the spring loaded adjustment pin through the outer tube and extension tube before moving it to the locking position. Ensure nearby people are clear of the crush zone before adjusting the rescue strut. After operation is complete pull the spring loaded adjustment pin to manually retract the extended cylinder before placing in storage.

5.3 HYDRAULIC STRUT OPERATION

WARNING

Do not lift objects heavier than the maximum rated load. Lifting objects above the maximum rated weight using a single strut constitutes as a misuse of equipment. Misuse of AMKUS Rescue Systems can result in a wide variety of hazards and consequences. Remain aware of and avoid misuse situations. (For examples, see LAA-001 Safety Manual for AMKUS Rescue Tools)

NOTICE

When positioning AMKUS rescue struts make sure to hold the hydraulic strut in a way that points the universal head upwards. If the universal head is pointing downward the hydraulic middle tube may partially slide out causing damage to property. Always carry the hydraulic rescue strut with the universal head pointing upwards.

This strut is not designed to work in a position outside of the pivot range allowed by the pivot foot when the pivot foot is resting on a flat surface.

PIVOT RANGE



INCORRECT

CORRECT

INCORRECT

If the strut must be used in a way that does not allow it to be resting on the pivot foot, the carry handle must be facing up and the pump on the side of the strut to allow for fluid flow and strut extension. Hydraulic struts may be used horizontally. To work properly, the pump end cannot be positioned higher than the piston end of the strut.

HORIZONTAL POSITIONING



CORRECT

INCORRECT

Select a position to place the rescue struts which can support the load. Potential for loads sliding sideways is reduced by avoiding metal-to-metal contact when supporting the load. Retract the rescue strut to the fully closed position. Identify the crush zone. These are areas under the load and around the load with risk of crushing from a falling or rolling load. Pull the spring loaded adjustment pin to manually extend the head to the object being supported. Reinsert the spring loaded adjustment pin through the outer tube and extension tube before moving it to the locking position. Ensure nearby people are clear of the crush zone before adjusting the rescue strut. Remove jack handle from the carry handle to insert into the pump side of strut. Ensure load relief valve is closed before extending the head to the object being supported. Once the desired height has been met reinstall the jack handle to its original position. After the operation is complete open the load relief valve and manually compress the extended cylinder before placing in storage.

6.0 STRUT CONFIGURATION



For rope rescue applications, see LAA-002

6.1 AMKUS RESCUE STRUT ACCESSORIES

Part Number	Description	AMKUS Rescue Strut Accessory Compatibility			Working Load Limit	
		Telescoping Strut	Hydraulic Strut	Hydraulic Ram/Jack	Lbs	Kgf
AMK-PIKET1	42" Picket Anchor Pin	X	X	X		
AMK-STAKE1	18" Base Anchor Stake	X	X	X		
AMK-TPODAD	Tripod Adapter	X	X		10000	4540
AMK-BPODAD	Bipod Adapter	X	X		10000	4540
AMK-MPODAD	Monopod Adapter and Receiver Kit	X	X			
AMK-INTUB2	Inner Extension Tube 2'	X	X			
AMK-INTUB3	Inner Extension Tube 3'	X	X			
AMK-INTUB4	Inner Extension Tube 4'	X	X			
AMK-INTUB5	Inner Extension Tube 5'	X	X			
AMK-SCRHD1	Adjustable Screw Head (Stationary Base Included)	X	X		10000	4540
AMK-STACUP	Stationary Base Vertical/Horizontal	X			10000	4540
AMK-HSTDUP	Head Standard Universal	X	X			
AMK-UTADPT	Universal Tube Adapter	X	X			
AMK-HWAFLE	Head Waffle Pattern	X	X	X		
AMK-HWEDGE	Head Wedge Pattern	X	X	X		
AMK-HDUKBL	Head Duckbill Pattern	X	X	X		
AMK-HPYRMD	Head Pyramid Pattern	X	X	X		
AMK-C70516	Grade 70 -5/16"- 20' Attachment Chain	X	X	X	4700	2130
AMK-C80038	Grade 80-3/8"-20' Lifting Chain		X		6600	2994
AMK-RCHTST	Ratchet Strap 3670 lb Snap Lock	X	X	X	3760	1710
AMK-JHOOKC	J Hook w/Chain Hook	X	X	X	5400	2450
AMK-CLUSTR	Multi Hook Cluster	X	X	X	4700	2130
AMK-RKRPNL	Rocker Panel Support		X	X		
AMK-SSTRAD	Steel Structural Adapter	X	X			
AMK-STDBAS	Standard Base Plate	X	X	X	10000	4540
AMK-BASPIN	Base Plate Fastening Pin	X	X	X	10000	4540
AMK-SLAPIN	Spring Loaded Adjustment Pin	X	X		10000	4540
AMK-BAG12E	Carry Bag 12"	X	X	X		
AMK-BAG15E	Carry Bag 15"	X	X	X		
AMK-HNDL20	Jack Handle 20" for 12" Stroke	X	X	X		
AMK-HNDL24	Jack Handle 24" for 16" Stroke	X	X	X		

7.0 TROUBLE SHOOTING GUIDE

Any problem not resolved by the following suggestions may require you to contact your local dealer or AMKUS Rescue Systems for further guidance.

PROBLEM	SOLUTION
Rescue tool head does not swivel smoothly	Clean surfaces. If problem persists contact AMKUS Rescue Systems.
The hydraulic unit does not extend	Ensure that the load relief valve is closed (If problem persists contact AMKUS Rescue Systems)
The hydraulic unit does not compress	Remove the adjusting, outer, and middle tubes before inverting the pump to open the check valve. Allow air to bleed out then compress the push rod. (If problem persists, contact AMKUS Rescue Systems)

8.0 MAINTENANCE

8.1 ROUTINE MAINTENANCE

Periodically check the strut for leakage, damage to the outer tube, damage to the inner tube, damage to the pad, and loose or missing screws. Inspect the tool for damage and excessive wear. Remove the tool from service upon finding damage or excessive wear. Contact your local dealer or AMKUS rescue system to correct the issue. When performing a visual check it is important to remove the inner tube from the outer tube before laying the two tubes down on a flat surface. It is also necessary to remove the hydraulic middle tube if a hydraulic rescue strut is being inspected. Clean the rescue strut with some soapy water and a soft brush. Check for frayed/cut/damaged straps, bent/damaged ratcheting mechanisms, and snap hooks with bent or missing gate opening. Replace as needed.

8.2 HYDRAULIC MAINTENANCE

Periodically inspect all hydraulic fittings for leakage. Clean excess dirt away from the area where the inner tube reenters the outer tube.

9.3 MAINTENANCE RECORDS

It is the responsibility of the user to keep maintenance records for each component of the rescue system. Maintenance shall be performed by qualified service technicians in accordance with the recommendations as outlined in this manual.

9.0 INSPECTION, CLEANING, DECONTAMINATION, AND STORAGE

STORAGE

1. Always store the tool securely in a clean dry space.
2. Never store hydraulic tools under pressure. Always relieve the pressure on tools after use.

BEFORE BEING PLACED BACK IN SERVICE, rescue tools must be inspected to this checklist;

1. Check to see that important tool markings are legible.

Contact your local dealer or AMKUS Rescue Systems for replacement labels.

2. Wipe tool clean.
3. Inspect the rescue tool after each use for damage (ex. hammer blows), leakage and excessive wear.
4. Ensure hydraulic strut reaches full stroke. If rescue tool does not reach full stroke, remove the rescue tool from service immediately; contact your local dealer or AMKUS Rescue Systems for service.
5. If rescue tool damage or excessive wear is noticed, remove the rescue tool from service immediately. Contact your local dealer or AMKUS Rescue Systems for service.
6. Check for frayed/cut/damaged straps, bent/damaged ratcheting mechanisms, and snap hooks with bent or missing gate opening. Replace as needed.
7. If the rescue tool becomes contaminated, determine the nature of the contamination. IE: biological, chemical, radioactive. The authority having jurisdiction may follow internal decontamination guidelines or request technical advice from AMKUS Rescue Systems.



WARNING Any rescue tool failing any part of the checklist is unsafe for use and must have the problem corrected before use or being placed back into service. Operating a rescue tool which failed an item on the checklist is a misuse of this equipment. Contact your local dealer or AMKUS Rescue Systems.

10.0 PARTS, SERVICE AND TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Parts, service and technical information may be obtained from your local AMKUS dealer, or by contacting AMKUS Rescue Systems.

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