

## *Posts & Clamps: Ultra<sup>2</sup><sup>®</sup>/Shadow<sup>™</sup>/Clipper<sup>™</sup>*



The images, features, and descriptions are taken from several Steadicam<sup>®</sup> models and all may not be applicable to the model you have purchased.

p/n LIT-257010-C

**STEADICAM<sup>®</sup>**

## Posts & Clamps

### *Posts and clamps*

The sections of the telescoping post are adjusted by opening a blue lever, releasing the clamp at the bottom of the outer post.. Be sure to support all sled portions that will be freed before you release the clamp. This style of clamp is either completely clamped or free, so don't force the lever further open than shown.



Do not extend any section beyond the point where the yellow alignment line becomes red.

Do not twist the bottom section more than 180 degrees from the top section as this will also twist the internal cables. If you think you may have inadvertently twisted the internal cables, remove the camera and battery and make the rig as short as possible. Release the clamp and slide the bottom section (the electronics) completely off. Examine the curly cord. The two rubber tubes that support the wires should be parallel and not twist. Rotate the bottom section until the rubber tubing is not twisted, and put the sled back together.

Note: There is no safety line inside the 3 or more section posts to keep them from separating, but there are electrical wires inside the post that will keep the rig parts together. The longer the rig, the more these wires will act like a safety line, but don't rely on them.

### *Typical extension of bottom retractable 2-section post*

While holding the upper post, release the post clamp and the bottom of the post. Then stabilize the lower post and lift up on the upper post. Once you have extended the post, close the post clamp. (See photos below.)



## Locking the post clamps

The post clamps are positive locking, snapping shut with a sharp click.

**Do not force the lever further open than shown, as this can damage the mechanism.**



It's always good practice to give the rig a whip pan and hard stop to be sure nothing shifts.

If something shifts, the clamps are easily tightened with a small Allen wrench. Adjust the screws with the lever closed — go slowly — 1/8th of a turn or less at a time. Tighten both screws equally, so the clamp remains parallel to the housing. If the screws are over-tightened, the lever may not open or close. Test the clamp strength and lever action frequently as you adjust the tension.



## Accessing the Post 2 to 1 clamp (4-post sleds only)

Sometimes it's difficult to get a finger between the tilt head and the clamp lever if the upper post is fully collapsed. In order to get the sled to its absolute minimum length — fighting for every inch — we decided to allow the clamp to ride up “into” the tilt head, where it just fits.

You can always tilt the head fully upwards to get at the clamp, or, as it takes very little force to open the lever, use a small wooden or plastic tool to pry open the lever. An assistant's orange stick or a small plastic screwdriver works well.



However, unless the camera is very heavy or you need the sled as short as possible, we suggest that you normally set up the sled with the upper post extended about a .5in (13mm) or so, which makes the clamp lever accessible with your finger.



## Maintenance

The Steadicam® sleds use several different toolfree clamps. Although they all come pre-adjusted at the factory, they will have to be adjusted from time to time. The key thing is to tighten the clamps a little at a time; a small change in a clamp's adjustment can produce enormous changes in the pressure on the parts. In general, the clamps should be just tight enough to work.



Use a 3/8ths inch open end wrench to tighten or loosen the lock nut for the monitor rods clamp.

Tighten or loosen in 1/8th of a turn or smaller increments, testing often both for the clamp's holding strength and for the action of the lever.

# Monitor Mounts



Moving the monitor on the 2-post sled.

## Monitor mounts

There are two monitor mounts on the multi-post sleds. The two mounts are identical, and permit a large vertical range of monitor positions. The second monitor mount can be used for securely mounting a gyro, recorder, second monitor, etc.



## Inserting the monitor mount

Align the parts parallel and squarely to each other. Note that the bracket is inserted half-way to start, rather than from above and trying to slide down the whole way from the top. The safety pin automatically retracts as you align the parts, and clicks to lock when the parts are aligned. Tighten the Kipp® handle hard to secure the monitor bracket.



## Accessory shelf

Tucked inside the base of the sled is an accessory shelf for mounting extra monitors and recording devices.



The shelf is adjusted by removing four screws.



Ultra<sup>2</sup><sup>™</sup>



Clipper<sup>™</sup> 312/324



Shadow<sup>™</sup>



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