

WILD COUNTRY VC PRO II

GENERAL INFORMATION

These instructions must be read and understood before this equipment is used, please retain this information for future reference.

Adhere strictly to the following advice and recommendations, if in doubt please contact Wild Country Ltd.

The information in these instructions is not exhaustive and cannot be substituted for comprehensive instruction by trained and competent persons.

This product should only be used by trained and competent persons or the user should be under the supervision of a trained and competent person.

Climbing and mountaineering are hazardous. Even correct selection, maintenance and use of correct equipment cannot eliminate the potential for danger, serious injury or death.

It is the users responsibility at all times to ensure that he or she understands the correct and safe use of any equipment supplied by Wild Country Ltd., uses it only for the purposes for which it is designed and practices all proper safety procedures.

The manufacturer or supplier will not accept any responsibility for damage, injury or death resulting from misuse.

USE

This product is designed for climbing and mountaineering purposes, for use in normal climatic conditions and in temperatures not exceeding 50°C. This product should be used as instructed. It may be used in conjunction with any appropriate item of CE approved PPE (where relevant) of suitable specification (conforming to the requirements of European Directive 89/686/EEC) with due consideration to the limitations of each individual piece of equipment and of the belay system as a whole. No alterations or markings should be made to it.

The safety that this product provides depends upon its strength, the quality of the rock anchorage used and the integrity of the belay point. The strength will be reduced through age and general wear and tear dependant upon the amount of use to which it is put.

The following will cause a further reduction in strength:

- high impact load/fall arrest
- corrosion
- internal/external abrasion of textile components caused by grit penetration and rock abrasion.
- cuts in textile components
- prolonged exposure of textile components to ultra violet radiation
- placement and/or loading over tight radii
- sharp edges of rock or equipment

See maintenance and obsolescence for more details.

Be aware that this equipment can be damaged in a fall and consequently should always be examined for defects before reuse.

If this equipment exhibits signs of wear or defect or if there is any doubt about its serviceability, replace it. It is recommended that any equipment involved in a serious fall should be replaced. Where practical a history of use and inspection record should be kept.

Wearing a climbing helmet will help protect your head from injury if you fall.

When using belay techniques we recommend the use of appropriate gloves.

Foresee and take appropriate action in situations where rescue may be required.

IN USE

The safe use of the VC Pro II is totally dependant on the skill of the user. The user should have the experience to assess the following:

The suitability of the VC Pro II for the proposed fall arrest situation and its compatibility with the rope type and diameter.

HOW TO USE

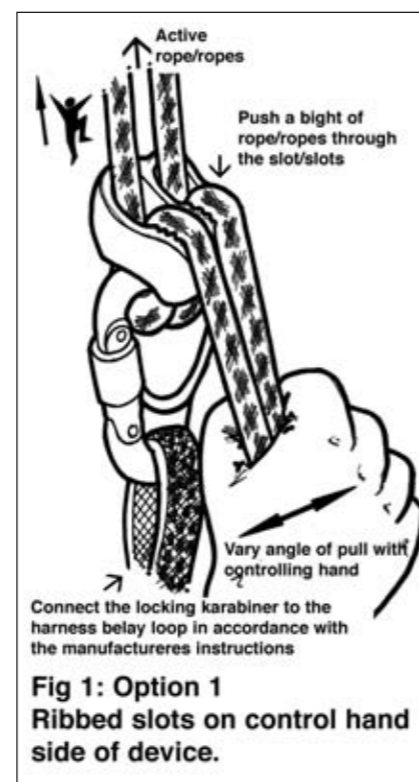
The VC Pro II is designed to act as a friction brake plate for use with twin or double $\frac{1}{2}$ \odot $\varnothing > 7.7$ mm ropes or with a single $\textcircled{1}$ $\varnothing > 9$ mm climbing rope. The VC Pro II should be used in conjunction with a locking round bar stock HMS style karabiner conforming with EN12275 type H. To use the VC Pro II push a bight of rope/ropes through the slot/slots and connect to the harness using a locking HMS karabiner as described above (see fig. 1 & 2).

Note: Every harness is different.

Make sure you attach the locking karabiner to your harness according to the manufacturer's instructions.

Important: The variable action of this device gives two options:

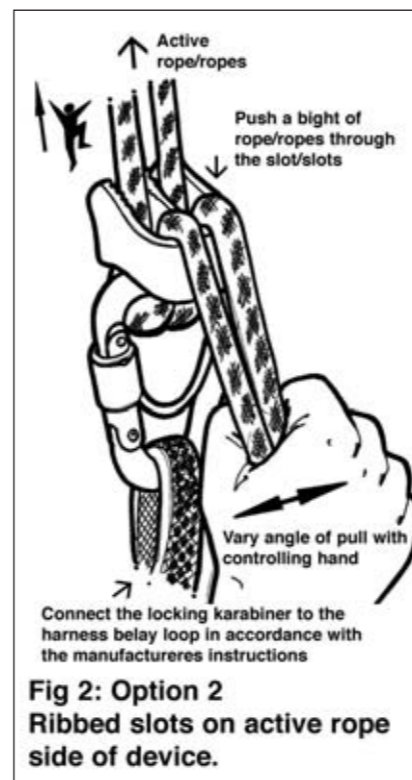
Option 1: When used in this mode, (see fig. 1) the ribbed slots of the VC Pro II increase the holding power on the rope/ropes providing greater control when belaying or rappelling with small diameter ropes e.g. 1 x $\textcircled{1}$ $\varnothing > 9$ mm single or 2 x $\frac{1}{2}$ \odot $\varnothing > 7.7$ mm half or twin ropes.



Option 2: When used in this mode, (see fig. 2) the smooth deep slots of the VC Pro II provide a more dynamic belay on rope/ropes of conventional diameters e.g. $\textcircled{1}$ $\varnothing > 10$ mm single or $\frac{1}{2}$ \odot $\varnothing > 8.5$ mm half ropes. Use this mode in all normal belay/rappel situations for smooth and effective rope control.

WARNING

Be aware that small diameter ropes e.g. 1 x $\textcircled{1}$ $\varnothing > 9$ mm single or 2 x $\frac{1}{2}$ \odot $\varnothing > 7.7$ mm half or twin ropes should not be used in the option 2 mode as the smooth deep slots will not provide sufficient belay/rappel control.



HOLDING A FALL/RAPPELLING

Warning: the VC Pro II does not lock automatically. The belayer must grip the rope/ropes tightly as illustrated in figures 1 & 2. The VC Pro II requires the rope/ropes to pass through a "Z" shape in order to generate enough friction to hold a fall or control a rappel. Varying the angle at which the belayers hand grips the rope/ropes and adjusting the force of the grip will ensure control.

Note: The belayers other hand should be used to assist with taking in and paying out rope, ensure that you have been trained by a trained and competent person.

Warning: It is very important for a belayer at the top of a pitch bringing up a second to maintain the "Z" shape in the rope to ensure control in the event of a fall.

RAPPELLING

Be aware that on long rappels or fast lowers heat will build up in the VC Pro II which can potentially singe the rope or burn unprotected skin. To avoid this it is advised that you always rappel or lower slowly and in control. Monitor heat build up in the device and use belay gloves to avoid rope burn.

WARNING

The Nylon covered wire leash attached to this device is not load bearing. You should avoid trapping the leash whilst belaying or rappelling as this can cause damage and possible melting of the nylon cover.

SEA WATER

It is essential that this equipment is cleaned as soon as is practical after exposure to sea water or any saline environment (e.g. when used on sea cliffs).

CHEMICALS AND CORROSIVE REAGENTS

Avoid all contact with chemical reagents as they will affect the performance of this product (e.g. vehicle battery acid, bleach etc.). Discard this product immediately if contact has or is suspected to have occurred (the product may be permanently weakened without showing any signs).

MAINTENANCE

This product is not user maintainable with the exception of cleaning and lubrication (where relevant).

CLEANING

First rinse the product in clean cold water of domestic supply quality. If still soiled rinse in warm water (maximum temperature 40°C) with pure soap. Thoroughly rinse and dry naturally in a warm ventilated room away from direct heat.

STORAGE

After any necessary cleaning store unpacked in a cool, dark, dry, ventilated place away from sharp edges, pressure, corrosives or any possible causes of damage. Wet equipment should first be allowed to dry as detailed above.

OBSOLESCENCE

This product will deteriorate over time in the course of normal use and because of this we are required to give an obsolescence date. It is difficult to be precise but a conservative estimate for this product is that it has a lifespan of 10 years from date of first use for metal components, however, please note that the following factors will further reduce the safe working life:

Metal Components: normal use, exposure to chemical reagents, heat contamination, high impact load or failure to maintain (clean/lubricate) as recommended. See above (use).

In addition to the normal inspection required before use this product should be thoroughly examined at least once every three months by a competent person. If any defects are found as detailed above or are suspected this product should be withdrawn from use immediately.

WARNING

The safe working life of this product may be as little as one use in extreme circumstances.

TRANSPORTATION

Care should be taken to protect this product against risks such as those detailed under obsolescence. It is recommended that a rucksack or other suitable bag or container is used during transport.

MARKINGS

In addition to the general information accompanying this product the following information is marked on it:

Wild Country:
name of manufacturer/supplier.

Three digit code:
batch/date code 'ABC'.

'A' First letter indicates year of manufacture e.g. A =Year 2000, B = Year 2001 etc.

'B' Second letter indicates manufacturer Wild Country internal reference.

'C' Third letter indicates month of manufacture e.g. A = January, B = February etc.

SPECIFICATIONS

Weight: 80g

Working Range:
2 x $\frac{1}{2}$ \odot $\varnothing > 7.7$ mm
1 x $\textcircled{1}$ $\varnothing > 9$ mm
kernmantle climbing rope in conformance with EN892 or EN1891

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN

Taiwan

Wild Country Ltd reserves the right to modify without notice the design and specifications of products described in these instructions. All weights, dimensions and sizing specifications where quoted are nominal.

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FO94/QA/2/FEB10/V5129

**WILD
COUNTRY**
VC PRO II BELAY DEVICE
Appareil d'assurage VC Pro II

