Fall arrest equipment

Fall arrest device - STOPFOR M range

Operating and Maintenance Instructions

equipment in accordance with CE directives

Tractel Group
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Always concerned to improve the quality of its products, the TRACTEL Group reserves the right to modify the specifications of the equipment described in this manual.

The companies of the TRACTEL Group and their agents or distributors will supply on request descriptive documentation on the full range of TRACTEL products: lifting and pulling machines, permanent and temporary access equipment, safety devices, electronic load indicators, accessories such as blocks, hooks, slings, ground anchors, etc...

The Tractel network is able to supply an after sales and regular maintenance service. Should you have any queries or require technical assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us.
1. The STOPFOR M should not be used as a fall arrest device if the textile rope is vertical (0° to 30° with respect to the vertical).

2. The STOPFOR M textile rope grab from Tractel is a safety device, designed to protect the user against falling.

3. Before using STOPFOR M textile rope grab devices, it is essential that users read this manual and comply with its instructions, in order to ensure safe and efficient operation of the equipment. This manual must be kept and made available to all users. Additional copies can be supplied on request.

4. Before using this safety device, it is essential that users are trained in its use.

5. Never use a STOPFOR M which is not visibly in good condition. It is recommended that a visual check is carried out before each use. Return any STOPFOR M which is damaged in any way to Tractel or its distributor.

6. TRACTEL S.A.S. accepts no responsibility for the consequences of dismantling a STOPFOR M or any modification not made under its control, in particular in the event of the replacement of original parts by parts from another source.

7. The equipment as described in this manual must only be used for individual protection of persons against falling.

8. Never use a STOPFOR M for the protection of more than one person at a time.

9. If a STOPFOR M has stopped a fall it must not be re-used. It must be immediately inspected by a competent person from TRACTEL S.A.S. or its approved repairers.

10. The instructions for attaching fall arrest equipment together must be followed.

11. For employee or similar person, it is recommended to assign a personal fall protection equipment.

12. IMPORTANT: If you are responsible for assigning the equipment to an employee or similar person, ensure that you comply with the applicable health and safety at work regulations (see section 12).

### SPECIAL APPLICATIONS

For any special applications, please do not hesitate to contact TRACTEL S.A.S..

For Belgium and Luxembourg, contact TRACTEL Benelux B.V.

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<tr>
<th>Model</th>
<th>Stopfor MLC 0.9-10</th>
<th>Stopfor MLC 0.9-41</th>
<th>Stopfor MLC 0.9-42</th>
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1. **FUNCTIONS AND DESCRIPTION**

The Stopfor M is designed to protect users from falling when working on a sloping plane (roof) or a horizontal plane (for example a terrace with no guard rail).

The Stopfor M is a sliding rope grab mounted on a textile rope. The user operates an operating lever to move the device along the rope, and once the work position is reached, the operating lever is released and the Stopfor M grips the rope.

The fall protection system consists of the components described below.

1.1 **Fixed anchor point**  
(see section 2.1 Installation)

1.2 **Textile rope**  
The 14mm diameter polyamide textile rope is supplied in lengths which are multiples of 10 metres. An eye is made at one end, to attach the rope to the anchor point, and the other end has a stop splice to prevent the Stopfor M being accidentally desengaged from the rope.

The breaking strength of the textile rope is greater than 40 kN.

1.3 **Stopfor M**

The red operating lever (1) is operated by the user to release the cam (3) and allow the device to move along the rope (8).

The cam, which forms part of the operating lever, grips the rope using a strong spring. If the user applies a force on the lanyard, the grip of the cam increases.

The clevis has an anchor point (2) for attaching the lanyard.

The casing is hinged and can be opened to insert the rope in the Stopfor M. The casing is closed using a serrated button (4) and a threaded screw on the opening cover (7) side which is screwed into a nut crimped on the casing. Two simultaneous operations are required to open the casing: press the release lever (6) and unscrew the serrated button (4).

An upside-down mounting prevention system, created by a washer which moves under the effect of gravity and positions itself to face a groove, enables the casing to be closed, if the device is correctly fitted on the rope.

1.4 **Lanyard**

Two types of lanyard are available: a 12mm diameter polyamide rope lanyard, and a 27mm wide polyester webbing lanyard. The length of both is 0.9 m.

The breaking strength of the lanyard is greater than 22 kN.

1.5 **Connectors**

The connectors supplied with the lanyard have a breaking strength greater than 22 kN.

The approved connectors are the M10, M41 and M42.

2. **INSTALLATION**

2.1 **Anchorage to the structure**

The textile rope is fixed to the anchorage point by its eye and a connector.
The anchorage point must have a minimum strength of 10 kN.

2.2. Mounting arrangement

2.2.1 The textile rope runs on a plane which slopes 0° to 60° from the horizontal and the user moves in a plane which is vertical to the anchorage point. If the user moves away from the vertical plane, he will swing from side to side in the event of a fall and may collide with an obstacle.

⚠️ Warning: protect the rope when passing over or sharp edge.

2.2.2 The textile rope runs on a horizontal plane, and the user must adjust the position of the Stopfor M on the rope to prevent any slack in the rope.

⚠️ The directional arrow on the opening cover (7) MUST point towards the anchorage point.

2.2.3 The textile rope is vertical (0° to 30° in relation to the vertical), and the Stopfor M is only used to hold the user in this work position, while the fall protection function is performed by a second Stopfor S fall arrest device fitted to the same textile rope.
**WARNING**

There must be no slack in the belaying rope between the anchorage point and the Stopfor M. The length of the textile rope must be 5 m longer than the longest distance between the fixed anchorage point and the Stopfor M.

**2.3. Clearance**

The clearance must be equal to the height of fall (2 x lanyard length + stopping distance = 2.5 m) plus 2.5 (height of the anchorage point above the harness on the lower limbs 1.5 m + 1 m for safety)

- **For work which involves spraying products (painting, sandblasting, etc) the Stopfor must be protected against any of the product being sprayed entering the casing.**

**2.5 Rescue operation**

A study should have been carried out to define how (in terms of personnel and equipment) an injured person is to be rescued. The rescue should take no more than 15 minutes. Any longer time will endanger the life of the person being rescued.

**3. INSPECTION BEFORE USE**

- There must be no deformation of the housing.
- Visual inspection of the condition of the textile rope and the lanyard.
- Check that the Stopfor M grips the textile rope correctly, by pulling sharply on the lanyard.
- Press the operating lever and check that the cam releases and the Stopfor M moves along the rope.
- Check the system installation conditions, see section 2.
- Check that the Stopfor M is the correct way round on the rope.
- Check the condition of the attachments: harness and connectors

**4. OPERATION**

The user connects the Stopfor M to his harness via the lanyard. He then fits the Stopfor M on the textile rope in an area where there is no risk of his falling (see drawing p.2)

- Open the casing by simultaneously pressing the release lever (6) and unscrewing the serrated button (4).
• The Stopfor M must be fitted on the textile rope the correct way round so that the directional arrow (5) is pointing towards the anchorage point (see section 2.2). The device is held in the hand with the arrow (5) pointing upwards. If the arrow (5) points downwards, the upside-down mounting prevention system will prevent the cover (7) from closing.
• Place the rope inside the cover and close the casing, at the same time pressing on the operating lever (1).
• Re-tighten the serrated button (4).

The user moves along the textile rope keeping the operating lever depressed. Once the work position is reached, the operating lever is released and the Stopfor M and the system will support the weight.

At the work position, the user can move in a radius of 0.9m around the Stopfor M.

The lanyard is either:
• Tensioned
  • Force must be applied downwards only when the user is working in a sloping plane
  • The lanyard and the rope are in line if force is applied.
• Untensioned : slack in the lanyard is acceptable

⚠️ WARNING ⚠️
The textile rope must be in a straight line between its anchorage point and the Stopfor M.

Slack in the textile rope increases the height of fall and could lead to a disaster (see diagram).

The system is dimensioned to stop a free fall of 1.8m, which corresponds to twice the length of the lanyard, without injury.

5. STORAGE

The Stopfor, together with the rope and lanyard, must be stored in a location sheltered from adverse weather conditions, and kept at a temperature of between -35°C and +60°C.

6. MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR

The device must be maintained regularly by the user. In addition to the inspections described in section 3, the following maintenance operations should be performed:

• Clean the textile rope and the lanyard with soapy water, leave them to dry in the open air, away from sunlight, and coil the rope.
• Lightly oil the device.
Annual servicing and repairs must be carried out by Tractel or an approved repairer.

7. WARNINGS AGAINST HAZARDOUS OPERATIONS

Warnings against hazardous operations and use have been given in the preceding sections. However we would draw your attention to certain operations which are dangerous. It is forbidden:

- To use a device which has not been inspected for the past 12 months
- To use a device which has stopped a fall and not been inspected
- To use the device to protect a number of people, attached to the same device, against falling
- To use components other than those supplied by Tractel and in particular using a lanyard which is longer than 0.9m
- To use a textile rope or a lanyard which has faults, broken strands, kinks or knots

8. PERMISSIBLE ATTACHMENTS

The Stopfor M is a component in a fall arrest system, which must consist of:

- An anchorage device (EN 795)
- A connector (EN 362)
- The Stopfor M
- A connector (EN 362)
- A fall arrest harness (EN 361) (back or front attachment point)

All other configurations are prohibited

In the European Union, these attachments are subject to CE marking. This is the result of an EC type-examination. Manufacture is subject to monitoring.

9. STATUTORY INSPECTION

Assessment of the compliance of the Stopfor M with the PPE directive 89/686/EEC is based on the relevant articles in standard EN 353.2. This assessment has been carried out by the Apave Lyonnaise, 177 route de Sain-bel – B.P.3 – 69811 TASSIN-LA-DEMI-LUNE Cedex

Any company providing personal fall arrest equipment to employed persons must ensure that the obligations under safety at work regulations are fulfilled and that its employees have been fully and properly trained in the safe operation of the equipment.

In the European Union such equipment must be periodically inspected in accordance with directive 89/656/EEC dated 30/11/89 (at least annually by TRACTEL S.A.S. or by a TRACTEL S.A.S. approved repairer).

The annual inspection allows a one-year extension of operation, but with a maximum time limit of 10 years.
### Warning *

* Please copy these details into the table below.

| Identification marking for a product with no attachments |

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#### ANNUAL INSPECTION

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* Connecting other fall arrest items - see chapter: Permissible attachments*