



## Maintenance and Instruction for Distel Carbon Climbers

### WARNING!

Failure to observe the following information could endanger the user's life! Read all information carefully before use. Special training is essential before using climbing spurs. Activities at height are dangerous and can lead to severe injury or death.

The user assumes all risks and responsibility for property damage, personal injury or death which may occur during the use of this product. If the user is not able or in a position to take this risk, do not use this product.

**ELECTRICAL HAZARD!** Do not use near energized power lines, these climbers are conductive.

Don't use climbers if there are deformations of the shank, gaffs or mountings.

When climbers are **NOT IN USE**, always apply gaff protectors. This product is designed for climbing wooden poles and trees and must only be used together with a harness, lanyard and overhead life support line.

Only competent and responsible persons or those placed under direct and visual control of a competent person or instructor should use climbers.

It is up to the user to foresee situations that may require rescue in case of difficulties encountered while using climbers.

Obtaining training in appropriate climbing techniques and methods of safety is the user's responsibility.

User is responsible for confirming that this product is compatible with other components of the user's climbing system.

Tree climbers and gaffs are not guaranteed to hold safely within wood. Restraint from a fall can only result from the active use of a safety lanyard and overhead line.

Chainsaw use with the climbers is not recommended. The user assumes all risk and responsibility for damage, injury or death which may occur during or following the use of a chainsaw together with these climbers.

Avoid rubbing against abrasive surfaces or sharp edges.

Do not drop the climbers from a height. Climbers that have fallen from height may have visible or non visible damage to the upper shell, the shank, gaffs or mountings. Climbers, which are damaged or dropped, should be disposed of properly.

Follow the relevant standards, safety instructions and laws issued by the appropriate authorities and professional associations.

To avoid accidents, do not walk around in climbers.

### TEMPERATURE

Use this product above a minimum of -15°C (5°F) and below a maximum of +50°C (122°F)

### USER WEIGHT

This product is limited to users weighing less than 109kg (240 pounds) with equipment.

### ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTION

If not already assembled, attach the lower straps (nylon straps with split-ring attached) so that the buckle portion of the strap is closest to the toes.

### ADJUSTMENT INSTRUCTION

Properly adjusted climbers should fit with the cuffs just below the knee joint. If the climbers don't fit you can adjust the height of the cuff with an hex key.

Unscrew the cuff screws and reposition in one of the other 3 positions for proper fit. Climbers can be adjusted from 406 mm up to 534 mm. If you have problems adjusting the height contact Treertools.

**IMPORTANT:** Do not bend, cut, drill or otherwise alter the shank, mountings or gaffs. Anyone altering this product assumes all risk of use.

### OPERATING INSTRUCTION

Climbers should be worn with appropriate work-duty boots with sufficiently strong steel shanks in the sole portion of the boots. Such boots are normally marketed for use with climbers. Always climb with protective gloves, safety goggles, helmet with face protector, long sleeved protective clothing and protective boots.



Always use a positioning lanyard around the climbing pole or tree and an overhead lifeline.

Step each foot into the climbers with gaffs on the instep side of the foot. The longest curvature of the cuff designates the front of each climber.

Pull both lower and upper straps tight.

Before climbing, remove the gaff guards.

Always climb in small steps to maximize efficiency and minimize the risk of cut-out. If you do cut-out, use the lanyard as a brake against descending by pulling it tight against your body. Before and during climbing, use a handsaw to clean the stem of dead and protruding branch stubs. Use of a handsaw requires two lanyards for safety. Guard against anything, which could block action of the buckles or the action of the gaffs (ie loose bark). Always make sure that gaffs are in a safely anchored position before taking the additional steps or before working.

### CLEANING

Soiled climber pads can be removed and washed with gentle detergent in lukewarm water and rinsed with clean water, then air-dried. Do not dry the pads near heat or fire. For cleaning the hook side of the Velcro use compressed air or a stiff brush. The climbers must not be in contact with corrosive or aggressive materials or stored at extreme temperatures.

### MAINTENANCE

The lower straps with buckle and the upper Velcro strap should be changed every 2-years.

Chemical exposure: All chemical products, corrosive materials and solvents should be regarded as harmful. If it is absolutely necessary or if there is risk of contact with chemical products, please contact us, stating the precise name of the chemicals concerned. After study we will give you an appropriate reply.

**Tree saps must be regarded as very corrosive. Therefore prevent corrosion of gaffs by putting oil or grease on after every use.**

Sharpen the gaffs with a fine flat file: don't change the 30° angle of the gaffs. Don't bend the shanks, the cuff, mountings or the gaffs.

### GUARANTEE

This product is guaranteed for 1 year against defaults in materials or craftsmanship. Limitations of the guarantee include but are not limited to: normal wear and tear, modifications or alterations and bad storage.

Equally excluded from the guarantee is damage due to accident or negligent use that the product was not designed for. The use of climbers not in accordance to the checklist below will result in complete loss of guarantee. Distel manufacturing and distributors or dealers of their product are not responsible for consequences, direct or indirect, resulting from the use of Distel products.

