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# A-LIFT SERIES HAND WINCH LIFT TRUCKS

INSTRUCTION MANUAL



#### **Receiving instructions:**

After delivery, IMMEDIATELY remove the packaging from the Hook-Base in a manner that preserves the packaging and maintains the orientation of the product in the packaging; then inspect the product closely to determine whether it sustained damage during transport. If damage is discovered during the inspection, immediately record a complete description of the damage on the bill of lading. If the product is undamaged, discard the packaging.

#### NOTES:

1) Compliance with laws, regulations, codes, and non-voluntary standards enforced in the location where the product is *used* is exclusively the responsibility of the owner/end-user.

2) VESTIL is **not liable** for any injury or property damage that occurs as a consequence of failing to apply either:

a) Instructions in this manual; or

b) Information provided on labels affixed to the product. Neither is Vestil responsible for *any* consequential damages sustained as a result of failing to exercise sound judgment while assembling, installing, using or maintaining this product.

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#### Hazard Identification: Explanation of SIGNAL WORDS

This manual uses SIGNAL WORDS to indicate the likelihood of personal injuries, as well as the probable seriousness of those injuries, if the product is misused in the ways described. Other signal words call attention to uses of the product likely cause property damage.

The signal words used appear below along with the meaning of each word:



Each person who assembles, installs, uses, or maintains this product should read the entire manual in advance and fully understand the directions. If after reading the manual you do not understand an instruction, ask your supervisor or employer for clarification, because failure to adhere to the directions in this manual might result in serious personal injury.

#### SAFETY GUIDELINES

Vestil diligently strives to identify foreseeable hazards associated with the use of its products. However, no manual can address every conceivable risk. The end-user ultimately is responsible for exercising sound judgment at all times.

**ADANGER** Electrocution might result if any part of the mezzanine ladder contacts electrified wires. Reduce the likelihood of electrocution by applying **common sense**:

• Electrocution Risk: DO NOT contact electrical wires with the winch lift or load! Be aware of all overhead obstacles and take precautions to avoid contact with them.

**AWARNING** If this product is used improperly or carelessly, the operator and/or bystanders might sustain serious personal injuries or even be killed. ALWAYS use the product properly:

• Failure to read and understand the entire manual before assembling, installing, using or servicing the product <u>constitutes misuse</u>. Read the manual to refresh your understanding of proper use and maintenance procedures.

• ALWAYS inspect the Lifter before each use according to the inspection instructions on p. 10. DO NOT use the Lifter unless it passes the inspection.

• Prior to each use, ALWAYS inspect the area where you intend to use the lifter. Inspect the area for unusual conditions that might require special precautions. See "Notice" on p. 7-8.

• DO NOT use a malfunctioning lifter. Always perform the "Function Test" described in the Notice on p. 8 before each use.

• Regardless of whether the lifter is loaded or unloaded, DO NOT stand or travel under the forks and DO NOT allow any other person to stand or travel under the forks.

• Inform all persons in the area that you are going to use the Lifter, and instruct them to stay clear of the device and the supported load during operation.

• ALWAYS make sure that your clothing and body do not contact the mast structure, lifting mechanisms, or carriage during operation. ONLY operate the lifter from the "Operator's Position," shown in Step 2 on p. 8. DO NOT move the lifter or raise or lower the forks unless you are in the operator's position.

• DO NOT allow people to ride the lifter.

• ALWAYS load the A-lift according to the list of recommendations that appears below. Failure to properly position a load on the forks (or platform) might cause the lifter to tip over and you could be injured as a consequence.

1. DO NOT exceed the A-Lift's maximum rated load. The rated load (capacity) of your Lifter is posted on a product label as shown in "Label placement diagram" on p. 11.

2. ONLY move loads using the forks or the optional deck platform ("load-engaging means").

3. DO NOT handle off-center loads or loads that cannot be centered. ALWAYS properly center the load.

4. Start and stop gradually to avoid upsetting the load from the forks/platform.

5. NEVER tilt the lifter while carrying a load. All four casters must maintain contact with the ground when a load is on the forks/platform.

• DO NOT modify the lifter in any way UNLESS you <u>first</u> obtain written approval from Vestil. **Unauthorized** modifications automatically void the limited warranty (see p. 12) and might make the table unsafe to use.

# Product Specifications by Model:

Model	Overall Size in Inches	Maximum Rated	Net Weight in
	(W x L x H)	Load in Pounds	Pounds (~kg)
A-Lift-R	24 x 35 x 68	500 (~227kg)	136 (~62kg)
A-Lift-R-HP	24 x 35 x 68	400 (~182kg)	140 (~64kg)
A-Lift-S	29 x 43 x 68	500 (~227kg)	140 (~64kg)
A-Lift-S-HP	29 x 43 x 68	400 (~182kg)	145 (~66kg)
A-Lift-S-EHP	29 x 43 x 79	350 (~159kg)	154 (~70kg)
A-Lift-CB	29 x 47 x 68	500 (~227kg)	396 (~180kg)
A-Lift-CB-HP	29 x 47 x 68	400 (~182kg)	418 (~190kg)
A-Lift-CB-EHP	29 x 47 x 79	350 (~159kg)	449 (~204kg)
A-Lift-DK (Deck Platform)	20-1/2 x 24-1/4		25 (~11kg)
A-Lift-PN: 10in. pneumatic	rear wheels		20 (~9kg)





#### Parts List

"Standard Units" refers to A-Lift-R, -S, & -CB models; "HP Units" means A-Lift-R-HP, -S-HP, and -CB-HP models; "EHP Units" indicates A-Lift-S-EHP and -CB-EHP models.

Diagram Number	Description	Part Number	Quantity	Diagram Number	Description	Part Number	Quantity
1	Operator Handle	A-Lift-1	1	17	4 inch Fixed Wheel	A-Lift-CB-17	2
2	Loading Wheels	A-Lift-2	2	18	Adjustable Leg (-CB counterweight base models)	A-Lift-CB-18	2
3	Upper Inner Frame Pulley (casting)	A-Lift-3	1	19	5 inch Swivel Caster	A-Lift-CB-19	2
4	Large Pulley	A-Lift-4	3	20	Counterweight Base	A-Lift-CB-20	1
4a	Large cable anchor bolt & nut	A-Lift-4a	3				
5	Cable (Standard Units) Cable (HP & EHP Units)	A-Lift-5 A-Lift-HP/EHP-5	1	21	Caster: 2in. double wheel	A-Lift-R-21	2
6	Telescoping Inner Mast Frame (only HP & EHP Units)	A-Lift-6	1	22	Legs - Standard base (R models)	A-Lift-R-22	2
7	Mast Frame	A-Lift-7	1	23	Solid Rubber Wheel	A-Lift-23	2
8	Decal Plate	A-Lift-8	1	24	Brake (optional)	A-Lift-24	1
9	10 in. Pneumatic wheel (optional)	A-Lift-9	2	25	Fork Lock Pin	A-Lift-25	4
10	Carriage	A-Lift-10	1	26	Winch Mounting Bracket	A-Lift-26	1
11	Fork Mounting Tube	A-Lift-11	2	27	Winch	A-Lift-27	1
	ç			27a	Winch Handle	A-Lift-27a	1
				27-SPG	Winch Spring	A-Lift-27-SPG	1
12	Fork	A-Lift-12	2	28	Not Available	N/A	N/A
13	Adjustable Leg (Straddle base)	A-Lift-S-13	2	29	Deck Platform (optional)	A-Lift-Deck	1
14	Lower Inner Frame Pulley (casting)	A-Lift-14	1	30	[-S models with 4-point casters] 4in. caster – option A 5in. caster – option B	A-Lift-29A A-Lift-29B	
15	Leg Lock Pin	A-Lift-CB-15	2	31-32	Not Available	N/A	N/A
16	Caster: either 2in. (optior in. (option B)		2 2	33	Pivoting carriage latch (stop block)	A-Lift-33	1
				34 34a	Small pulley Small Cable Anchor Bolt & Nut	A-Lift-34 A-Lift-34a	1 1

Assembly Instructions Vestil ships winch lifts to its customers in a mostly assembled form. The minimal assembly that is required differs by model, so follow the directions that correspond to your lifter.

If you purchased an A-Lift-R or A-Lift-S, you will receive 3 pieces:



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Step 1: Connect the support legs to the main assembly by following instructions (a) through (e).



- (a) Insert a support leg into each of the openings in the main assembly.
- (b) One at a time, pull the retaining pegs to allow the legs to slide further into the openings.
- (c) Slowly release the pegs. You may have to wiggle the leg to get the peg to drop.
- (d) Pull upwards on each of the support legs to verify that they are held in place by the pegs. The legs should not be able to slide out of the opening
- (e) If a leg comes out of the opening, the corresponding peg did not engage properly. Repeat (a) though (d).

<u>Step 2</u>: Lift the assembly to the upright position (photo a), lock the brakes (photo b) and fasten the winch handle to the winch body (photos c - f).





Engage the brakes by pressing down on the brake actuator



Remove the handle retaining bolt and washer (circled)



Winch body with bolt and washer removed



Slide the handle onto the handle connector



Set the handle latch pin (circled) to lock the handle, and then fasten the handle to the handle connector with the bolt and washer that you removed in step (c).

**Note:** Secure the washer against the bolt head with a nut BEFORE fastening the bolt to the connector. to prevent the bolt from loosening when the handle is rotated counterclockwise to lower the forks.



#### Step 3: Attach the forks to the carriage.



Instructions b-d correspond to steps shown in the photographs to the right:

**b.** Align the holes in the forks with the carriage cross- bars (11); then push the forks until they contact the carriage. *Note:* It may be necessary to tap the forks into place with a rubber mallet. NOTE: Forks shown installed right side up, but they can also be installed upside down (.

**c.** Slide fork retaining pins (25) through the holes in each of the carriage crossbars.

**d.** Lock the pins into place by swinging the ring portion of each pin downward



<u>Step 4</u>: Turn the winch handle counterclockwise to lower the forks. Lower the forks until they are a few inches above the support legs (22), and then push the lifter to the desired location.

#### Counterbalanced lifters (A-Lift-CB):

<u>Step 1</u>: Attach the 5 inch swivel casters (19) to the counterweight base weldment (20).



Step 2: Attach the weldment to the main assembly.





**d.** Align the bolt holes in the weldment with the holes present in the weldment brackets (circled in photos c & d).

e. Bolt the weldment to the main assembly, and then secure the bolts with nuts.



**f.** Set the four counterweights on the weldment; then insert the counterweight retaining bolts beginning with the outermost weight.



**g.** Fasten the bolts in place using a flat washer, followed by a lock washer and then a nut.

Step 3: Install and position the forks by following R & S model fork installation steps 3 & 4 on p. 7.

# **Operation Instructions:**

The operating instructions in this manual are meant to **supplement** the operation recommendations of ITSDF standard B56.10-2006. According to the standard, the A-Lift is a, "Manually propelled high lift industrial truck". Safe operation of this type of device is the operator's responsibility.

**AWARNING** DO NOT operate the winch lift until you read AND understand all of the instructions. If you do not understand an instruction, contact Vestil for clarification.

- Review ALL of the safety guidelines on p. 5 before each use;
- ALWAYS use proper lifting techniques;
- Enlist a coworker to help you lift, load, and unload the A-lift;
- DO NOT use the lifter on stairs.

**NOTICE** An "Operator" is a person who is trained and authorized to control a manually propelled high lift industrial truck. ONLY persons who have successfully completed the suggested training program outlined in B56.10-2006, at 4.17 on p. 4, and 4.18.1-.4 on p. 4-5 should operate the A-Lift. Operators must:

- Develop safe working habits and an awareness of hazardous conditions occurring or present during operation of the lifter;
- Inspect the area where the lifter will be used **before each use** to identify unusual operating conditions. Implement additional safety precautions as conditions require. Such conditions might include:
  - 1. Irregularities in the floor/surface;
  - 2. Debris or other obstructions on the floor/surface;

- 3. Unsound surfaces or surfaces that cannot support the weight of yourself, the lifter and the load either together or separately;
- Perform the following function test before each use:
  - 1. Test the winch: raise and lower the forks;
  - 2. Test the brakes: press down on the brake actuator to engage the brakes; then attempt to push the lift forward.
  - 3. Test the casters: push the lifter to test the casters.

The end-user bears responsibility for verifying that the lifter complies with all regulations, codes, and standards that apply in the location where it is *used*.

Inspect the lifter as recommended in the "Maintenance and Inspection" section of this manual (p. 10). Use the lifter <u>ONLY IF the lifter passes the inspection and is deemed safe to use by designated inspection personnel</u>.

<u>Step 1 (for S and CB Models)</u>: Adjust the legs to provide the desired wheel base. Set the brake (-S models) or lock the casters (-CB models). Remove the forks and lock the carriage using the pivoting carriage latch (photo a). Slowly tilt the lifter backwards until the loading wheels contact the ground. Pull the leg adjustment peg (photo b) and slide the leg in the desired direction. Reset the peg in the first or second adjustment setting (photo c) as the job requires.



Step 2: Always maneuver the A-lift from the "Operator's Position" using the Normal Maneuvering Stance shown below.



**a.** Grasp the operator handle at each end. This will provide the greatest degree of steering control.



**b.** Walk behind the lifter and keep your feet clear of the castors.

**AWARNING** DO NOT place one foot on the counterweights and propel the lifter with the other foot. Doing so will make the lifter more difficult to control.

<u>Step 3</u>: Move the lifter to a position near the intended load and lock both of the locking casters.



Raise the forks to a comfortable height.



Set the load on the forks. The load must rest against the back of the forks.



Lower the forks until the load is a few inches above the adjustable leg (shown by arrow in photo above).

#### Step 4: Move the load to the desired location.



After you arrive at the unloading destination:

- Lock the castors or set the brakes;
- Unlock the winch handle and turn it clockwise until the load is positioned at a comfortable height;
- Lock the winch handle;
- Remove the load.
- Lower the forks until they are a few inches above the legs.

<u>Step 5</u>: Return the lifter to its storage location. Engage the brakes, fold the winch handle, fully lower the forks, and set the handle latch pin to lock the winch handle

**NOTICE** Store the lifter in a dry location that is protected from weather.

# Using the Deck Platform:

[NOTE: To use the deck, the forks must be attached to the carriage right-side up, as shown below & on p. 3.]



Slide the connecting channel (see arrow) under the lower carriage cross bar.

Set the connecting channel on top of the lower carriage cross bar; let the deck rest on top of the forks.

After you finish using the deck, remove it and store it in a dry location.

<u>Transporting the lifter</u>: before loading the A-lift into a transport vehicle, perform the following steps to minimize the chance of damaging the lifter:

- 1. Remove the forks and store the forks and fork retaining pins.
- 2. Lower the carriage completely.
- 3. Rotate the pivoting carriage latch as shown by photos a & b to the right.



# Maintenance and Inspections:

Only trained, authorized persons should inspect of and maintain this device. The end-user is responsible for ensuring that the lifter is properly inspected and maintained.

#### Inspections:

**AWARNING** DO NOT use the lifter if structural damage exists. Structural damage includes, but is not limited to, cracked welds, warping or other deformation of the mast, forks, or carriage Restore the lifter to normal operating condition BEFORE using it again.

Inspection and maintenance personnel should engage the brakes and immobilize the carriage with the pivoting carriage latch before conducting inspections or performing maintenance on the A-Lift.

Persons authorized **by the end-user** to inspect the lifter should do so <u>before</u> it is used for the first time, and before each subsequent use. If the lifter is infrequently used, inspect the unit at least once every 2 weeks.

Before each use, inspect the lifter for the following conditions:

- 1. Fraying of or damage to the cable, such as a marked decrease in cable diameter;
- 2. Structural damage or deformation;
- 3. Proper functioning of the latch mechanism;
- 4. Unusual noise, binding or rough movement of the carriage when the winch handle is rotated;
- 5. Excessive wear of any part(s);
- 6. Noisy or rough operation of the casters;
- 7. Dirt or other matter on the surface of the lifter.

**Maintenance:** the <u>end-user</u> should implement a maintenance program to ensure the proper function and safety of the lifter. Some recommended maintenance and inspection procedures appear on pages 8-9 of ANSI/ITSDF standard B56.10-2012 (downloadable at http://www.itsdf.org/pB56.asp). The following steps should be utilized in conjunction with those recommendations.

**AWARNING** The end-user is responsible for selecting and training employees to work on the lifter, i.e. operating, loading, cleaning, servicing, maintaining, or repairing the product. ONLY trained, authorized maintenance personnel or contractors should perform inspection, maintenance, or repair work.

Step 1: Tag the unit, "Out of Service."

Step 2: Conduct a "Before each use" inspection.

- If deformity, corrosion, rusting, or excessive wear of structural members is present, DO NOT use the lifter.
- If the carriage does not move smoothly or makes noise as it moves up or down the mast, apply a silicon wax or silicon spray to the inside of the mast frame.

Step 3: Remove dirt and foreign matter from the surfaces of the forks and other lifter surfaces.

Step 4: Perform all other necessary adjustments and/or repairs, but DO NOT modify the lifter.

#### NOTES:

- The reader should understand the significant difference between necessary adjustments and repairs, and modifications. "<u>Adjustments</u>" are simple corrections that restore the lifter to normal operating condition, such as tightening loose fasteners, or removing dirt or other debris from surfaces. "<u>Repairs</u>" means to replace worn parts with new parts.
  - DO NOT use the unit if adjustments and/or repairs are incomplete! Return it to service ONLY after finishing all necessary repairs and adjustments.
- A modification is a change that <u>alters the lifter from normal operating condition</u>, like bending the structural members or removing a part or several parts. <u>NEVER</u> modify the unit without first receiving express, written approval from Vestil. Modifications automatically void the limited warranty and might make the lifter unsafe to use.

<u>Step 5</u>: Make a dated record of the repairs, adjustments and/or replacements.

## Label placement diagram:

Only use the A-Lift if ALL labels are readable and undamaged. Contact Vestil for replacement labels.



### LIMITED WARRANTY

Vestil Manufacturing Corporation ("Vestil") warrants this product to be free of defects in material and workmanship during the warranty period. *Our warranty obligation is to provide a replacement for a defective original part if the part is covered by the warranty, after we receive a proper request from the warrantee (you) for warranty service.* 

#### Who may request service?

Only a warrantee may request service. You are a warrantee if you purchased the product from Vestil or from an authorized distributor AND Vestil has been fully paid.

#### What is an "original part"?

An original part is a part *used to make the product as shipped* to the warrantee.

#### What is a "proper request"?

A request for warranty service is proper if Vestil receives: 1) a photocopy of the <u>Customer Invoice</u> that displays the shipping date; AND 2) a <u>written request</u> for warranty service including your name and phone number. Send requests by any of the following methods:

Mail	<u>Fax</u>	<u>Email</u>
Vestil Manufacturing Corporation	(260) 665-1339	sales@vestil.com
2999 North Wayne Street, PO Box 507	Phone	
Angola, IN 46703	(260) 665-7586	

In the written request, list the parts believed to be defective and include the address where replacements should be delivered.

#### What is covered under the warranty?

After Vestil receives your request for warranty service, an authorized representative will contact you to determine whether your claim is covered by the warranty. Before providing warranty service, Vestil may require you to send the entire product, or just the defective part or parts, to its facility in Angola, IN. The warranty covers defects in the following <u>original dynamic components</u>: motors, hydraulic pumps, electronic controllers, switches and cylinders. It also covers defects in <u>original</u> parts that wear under normal usage conditions ("<u>wearing parts</u>"), such as bearings, hoses, wheels, seals, brushes, and batteries.

#### How long is the warranty period?

The warranty period for original components is <u>90 days</u>. The warranty period begins on the date when Vestil ships the product to the warrantee. If the product was purchased from an authorized distributor, the period begins when the distributor ships the product. Vestil may extend the warranty period for products shipped from authorized distributors by *up to* 30 days to account for shipping time.

#### If a defective part is covered by the warranty, what will Vestil do to correct the problem?

Vestil will provide an appropriate replacement for any *covered* part. An authorized representative of Vestil will contact you to discuss your claim.

#### What is <u>not</u> covered by the warranty?

- 1. Labor;
- 2. Freight;
- 3. Occurrence of any of the following, which <u>automatically voids the warranty</u>:
  - Product misuse;
  - Negligent operation or repair;
  - Corrosion or use in corrosive conditions;
  - Inadequate or improper maintenance;
  - Damage sustained during shipping;
  - Accidents involving the product;
  - <u>Unauthorized modifications</u>: DO NOT modify the product IN ANY WAY without first receiving written authorization from Vestil. Modification(s) might make the product unsafe to use or might cause excessive and/or abnormal wear.

#### Do any other warranties apply to the product?

Vestil Manufacturing Corp. makes no other express warranties. All implied warranties are disclaimed to the extent allowed by law. Any implied warranty not disclaimed is limited in scope to the terms of this Limited Warranty.

