

# Instruction manual for Positioning Belts

## C1, C11, V1, V11, V15, V15 WEB, KOALA, KOALA+ certified according to EN 358

C1



C11



V1



V11



V15



V15 WEB



KOALA



KOALA+



Thank you for choosing VERTIQUAL®! You have purchased a high quality product that will reliably protect you and will be your companion for a long time when working at heights and depths.

This manual must be read and understood before using the product! This product will be used with other equipment (components) thus forming a system for working at heights. Please refer to the instruction manual of each component in your system for compatibility and correct use! Following these instructions accordingly is essential for your safety. Failure to do so can result in serious or even fatal accidents! Keep these instructions together with the product, accessible to all users, so they can consult them whenever is needed!

### WARNING!

These instructions are a basic comprehensive guide to the safe use of the purchased equipment. They contain general information about the product, intended to help the user, but cannot cover all the situations that may occur in the daily activities and cannot in any case replace the specialized training courses for safety at heights. This PPE against falls from heights can only be used by well-trained users, who are familiar with the relevant legislation and who have successfully completed a special safety training course for working at heights.

### WARNING!

For works with risk of falling from heights or in depths, a risk assessment must be carried out in advance in accordance with current regulations and legal provisions (EN standards or specific national rules) that will provide adequate measures for safety and rescue!

### WARNING!

Instructions for use are updated when technical or legislative changes occur. The latest version of the instructions overwrites previous versions and is the only valid version. Please make sure you follow the instructions of the most recent version. You can download the most recent instructions from our website [www.vertiqualsafety.com](http://www.vertiqualsafety.com) by accessing the section of each product. For help or additional questions, please contact us at [office@vertiqualsafety.com](mailto:office@vertiqualsafety.com) or Tel. (+40) 0365/882143.

**WARNING!** The user must be medically fit and capable to ensure his own safety and act accordingly in possible emergency situations! Seek medical approval according to the national legislation in force!

**WARNING!** If the product is re-sold outside the original country of destination, the reseller must provide these instructions manual in the language of the country where the product will be used.

## FIELD OF USE

Positioning belts are components of the positioning system and of the restraint system according to EN 358.

**Positioning system** is used for working at heights by passing the positioning lanyard around an anchor structure (e.g. a pole, a beam) which is then connected to the lateral rings of the positioning belt. The length and position of the lanyard must be chosen in such way that the maximum fall distance, in case of slippage, does not exceed 50cm. This system allows the user to carry out works using both hands while standing on his feet and being supported by the belt in an upright position.

**Restraint system** is used on horizontal or slightly inclined surfaces where the user carries out the work and its purpose is to limit the movement of the user in order to prevent reaching areas with fall hazard. If the belt is not fitted with a positioning lanyard a separate positioning lanyard (certified according to EN 358) can be attached to one of the lateral rings and a mobile or fixed anchor point. The length of the lanyard must be carefully chosen so that it is shorter than the distance from the anchor point to the closest fall hazard area.

If fall hazard cannot be completely removed, the positioning systems must be supplemented with other appropriate means of fall protection such as collective type fall protection (e.g. safety nets) or individual (fall protection systems according to EN 363).

The components of a fall protection system must be connected using EN 362 certified connectors with automatic closing and locking or automatic closing and manual locking.

The positioning belts are designed, manufactured and tested as PPE equipment and can be used only in positioning systems or restraint systems in normal environments with temperatures between -30°C and +50°C, without potentially explosive atmospheres, far away from flames, sparks or hot metal splash! Avoid contact with sharp edges, electricity, chemicals, corrosive solutions and substances, excessive heat, oils, paints or any other contaminants! The structures used for anchoring have to meet the requirements of EN 795:2012, must have NO sharp edges and must be capable to withstand minimum 12 kN for full metallic anchors and 18 kN for any other types of anchors.

**Special versions V15 PLASMA and V15 PLASMA WEB** are the only positioning belts that can be used in environments where they may come in brief contact with flames or sparks. Do not use in environments where they can come in contact with electricity, sharp edges, acids solutions, solvents, paints or in environments with potentially explosive atmospheres.

## DESCRIPTION

VERTIQUAL® Positioning Belts are made of 45 or 85 mm wide, special high tensile webbings. The V15 PLASMA and V15 PLASMA WEB are made of 85mm wide fire-resistant PES webbing. The rings and the buckles are manufactured from high tensile steel or high tensile aluminum alloy. The buckles can have manual locking (classic type), automatic locking (click type) or double-frame and double-pin buckles (e.g. V15 type, KOALA type).

A positioning belt is comprised of a waist strap, lumbar padding, lateral rings and buckle(s) for opening, closing and adjusting. The C11, V11, V15 WEB and KOALA+ models are equipped with non-removable positioning lanyards. These integrated positioning lanyards are fitted with a buckle for adjusting its length. V15 PLASMA WEB is fitted with a non-removable positioning lanyard of fixed length.

In order to be used for work positioning, a certified positioning lanyard (according to EN 358) must be connected to the belt. This lanyard must be connected to the lateral rings only and should be used only in work positioning systems or restraint systems. Any other uses are strictly prohibited! The positioning lanyard must be passed around the anchor structure and the lanyard ends will be connected to each lateral ring using a certified connector. The length and position of the lanyard must be chosen in such way that the maximum fall distance, in case of slippage, does not exceed 50cm.

All VERTIQUAL® positioning belts have a minimum breaking load of 15 kN. All positioning belts were tested according to EN 358 requirements with a dummy weighing 150 kg. All belts are approved for users up to 150 kg (including equipment).

**WARNING!** Before use, the integrity and compatibility of the equipment must be checked. If damage is identified, the belt must be immediately withdrawn from use! If there is any doubt regarding the condition of the equipment it must be sent to the manufacturer or to an authorized representative of the manufacturer for a professional evaluation.

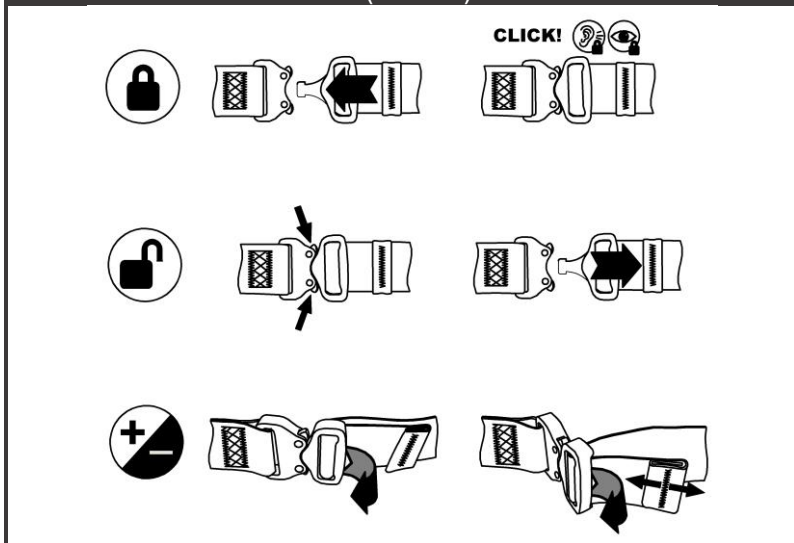
### The positioning belt must be immediately removed from service if:

1. The marking/label is missing or is unreadable.
2. Damage has been identified (incisions, worn seams, discoloration, hardened or thinned areas, burns, rusted or deformed metal parts, defective buckles) or if any abnormalities of the parts or structure have been found.
3. Contact with paints or unknown chemicals had occurred (irreversible contaminations).
4. The equipment was involved in an accident or had been subjected to heavy loading.
5. The integrity of the equipment is questionable and the inspection log is incomplete or missing.
6. The equipment was in service longer than **10 years**.

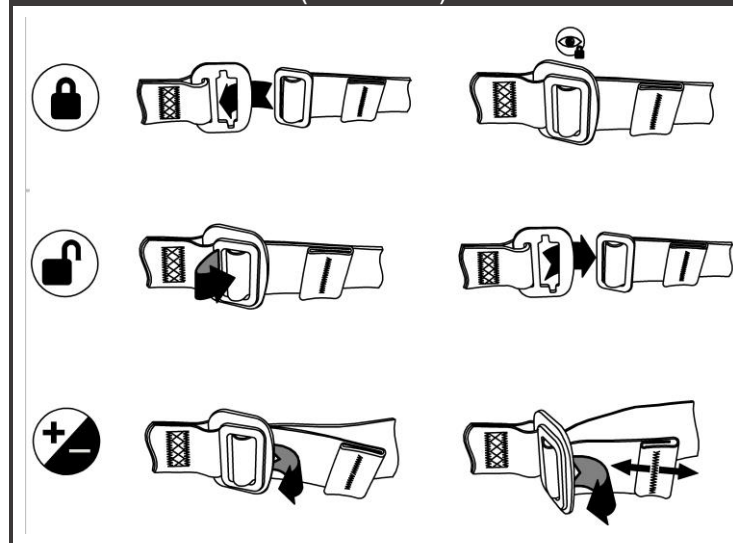
### Fitting the positioning belt:

1. Open the buckle then place the belt around your waist. The buckle must be positioned in front of the body and the webbing must not be twisted (check!)
2. Close the buckle (check images below) and make sure it fully closed and locked properly.
3. Use the buckle to tighten the belt. The positioning belt will be tightened so that one or two fingers can slide in between the body and the belt (check the images below). If the adjustment is too tight the belt will be uncomfortable and the user will have difficulties working. Insufficiently adjusted or loose belt can lead to serious or even fatal accidents!
4. Before working, it is recommended to perform a quick positioning test from a low and safe height, in order to check the adjustments and the comfort of the belt.

#### Automatic (CLICK) buckles



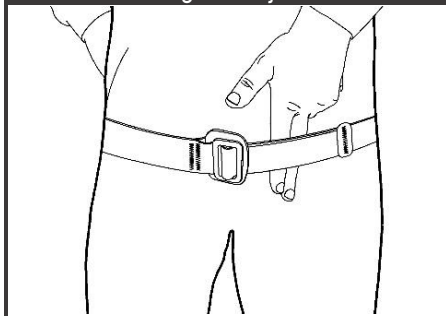
#### Manual (CLASSIC) buckles



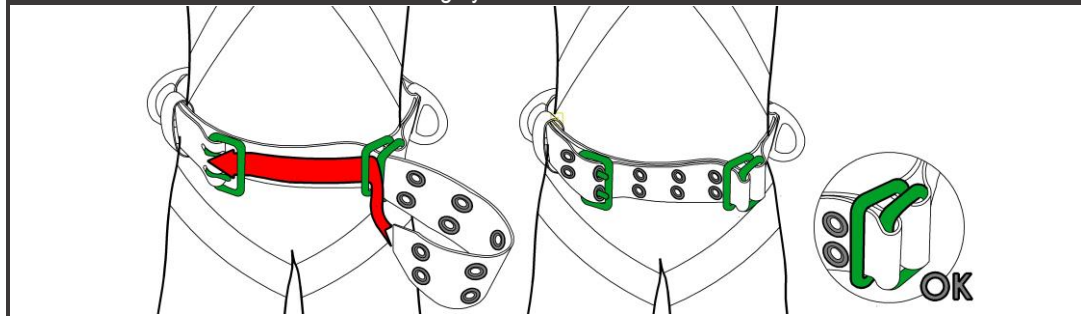
Fastening the 85 mm wide belts (e.g. V15 PLASMA, KOALA) will be done as follows:

Insert the webbing through both rings of the first buckle, adjust to the correct level, then return the end between the two rings of the buckle, as shown in images below. After fastening the first buckle pass the end of the webbing through the second buckle (the one with two pins) and secure both pins through the metal eyelets. The resulting free end must be held using the retaining loop fitted on the belt.

#### Checking belt adjustment



#### Fastening system for 85mm wide belts



**WARNING!** This product is developed as a Personal Protective Equipment against Fall (PPEaF). Bringing modifications to it or assigning other uses are strictly forbidden! Each user shall use his own PPEaF as well as his own rescue equipment. The user must know the performances and limitations of his equipment! In case of uncertainty regarding the equipment seek advice from the manufacturer or distributor.


**The SERVICE LIFE** \* of PPE against falls, made of textile materials is 6-8 years under normal conditions, but a **maximum of 10 years** \* from the date of first use. The date of the first use must be noted in the logbook, otherwise the date of manufacture is considered as the date of the first use. **The storage** of new, unused products under optimal conditions (darkness, dryness, original packaging, constant temperature, without chemical vapors, etc.) should not exceed **2 years**. \* PPE that belongs to a single user, has not been used excessively and not often, has been subjected to regular checks by experts, has been found to be "safe" and recorded in the test book, has a complete product history, has not been involved in a fall, is carefully treated and cared for, have been stored in accordance with regulations, have not come into contact with oils, fats or aggressive chemicals, (attention - incomplete list) can remain in use for up to 10 years. Intensive use, heavy and demanding working conditions, incorrect application, incorrect maintenance and care can greatly reduce the service life of the equipment. Certain events, such as falls, high exposure to heat, exposure to corrosive chemicals, can limit the use of your equipment to a single time. A generally valid, binding statement about the duration of use of textile PPE cannot be made, as this depends on a large number of factors such as UV light exposure, working conditions, contact with various substances, etc. The service life of the equipment ends when one of the cases mentioned in the previous chapter occurs or when the inspector / certified expert decides this on the basis of other facts. The theoretical total service life of textile PPE against falls (Storage time + Service life) is limited to a maximum of 12 years from the date of manufacture.

## STORAGE, MAINTENANCE, TRANSPORT

The equipment should be stored in a dry, cool and well-ventilated room, if possible, in its original packaging. While in storage, this PPEaF must be protected from UV radiation, solar radiation, heat, sparks, incandescent metal splash, electricity, chemicals, sharp objects, heat sources, dust, cement, oils and greases or any kind of contaminants. Buckles and metal parts can be cleaned using a soft cloth or using compressed air. If necessary, the textile parts can be cleaned using warm water (30°C) then rinsed. Drying the wet equipment will be made by hanging it in well-ventilated room away from any heat source. When fully dried, the equipment can be stored accordingly in its packaging (bag or box). Transport of the equipment must be made in its protective bag or box, away from any factor that could contaminate or inflict damage.

## MARKING

All VERTIQUAL® PPEaF are fitted with a label which contains the following elements and essential information. The label must be always present and readable!

<b>vertiqual</b> <sup>®</sup> <small>engineering</small> Vertiqual Engineering – name of the manufacturer	<b>Positioning belt</b> ..... – PPE type and name of the model (E.g: Positioning belt V1 NEON)	<b>Art. No. 11-0101-94-22-00</b> – article number (example)
<b>Manufactured: mm/yyyy</b> – manufacturing date (month and year)	<b>EN 358:2018</b> – standards/norms the product complies to	<b>Size:....</b> – size of the harness (E.g.: Size: L-XL) <b>Waist: ...-...cm</b> – waist circumference (E.g: Waist 90-120cm)
<b>Max. 150kg</b> – allowed weight of the fully equipped user	<b>Serial No. 000000</b> - product's serial number	 International symbol/icon for reading the instructions before use
<b>CE 2756</b> European CE marking with identification number of the notified body carrying production control	<b>L.max. ... m</b> – maximum length of the positioning lanyard (only for models with an integrated positioning lanyard)	

## PERIODIC INSPECTIONS AND CHECKS

The user must perform a visual and functional inspection of his equipment before and after each use! During use, it is important to monitor your equipment in order to identify possible damages inflicted in use, without being aware of it. The equipment must be inspected **at least once every 12 months** or more often if required, depending on the working conditions and compulsory after every incident it has been involved in. Inspections can be carried out only by the manufacturer or by an authorized inspections center. **If the periodic inspections were not performed at least once every 12 months, were carried out by unqualified persons, or without strictly respecting the manufacturer's instructions, the warranty is lost and the manufacturer declines any responsibility related to the equipment!**

**Inspection Log!** Every PPEaF is delivered with an Inspection Log. This document must be kept safely and sent along with the product for every inspection. The Log (table) contains important data regarding your equipment. The date, signature of the inspector and the results are also recorded. The **date of first use** must be written in the Inspection Log by the user!

**Repairs** or any other modifications can be performed only by the manufacturer! Any repairs, modifications or additions (even minor ones) performed by anyone else are strictly forbidden, lead to the loss of the manufacturers guarantee and any responsibility related to this product!

## WARRANTY AND LIABILITY!

The manufacturer offers a 24 month warranty for this PPEaF from the date of first use. The user has the obligation to write the date of first use in the Inspection Log. If the date of first use was not filled in, the warranty period will be calculated from the manufacturing date. The warranty is applicable only for material or manufacturing defects! Damage resulting from normal wear and tear, corrosion, poor maintenance (or no maintenance at all), those resulted from carelessness, accidents, fall arrest, unauthorized repairs or modifications, wrong use of this PPEaF or any other reasons are NOT covered by the warranty!

The warranty does NOT cover the springs of the carabiners and automatic buckles as these can be damaged due to inadequate storage or improper use. Warranty claims only apply to the product. All claims by the user or any other party for the direct, indirect or any consequential damages resulting from the use of this PPEaF are excluded from guarantee and liability assumptions. Any claims in this regard are hereby expressly rejected.

The user must be informed regarding the dangers of work at heights and depths. He should be aware of the risks and he has to be aware that he is the only responsible for eventual damage, accidents or even death which may result from the use of this equipment. If the user is unable to do so or if he does not have the competence to do so, he cannot use this PPEaF.

VERTIQUAL Engineering SRL herewith rejects any liability claims for direct, indirect, accidental or consequential damages resulting from the use of this PPEaF (Personal Protective Equipment against Fall).

This products comply with the **European PPE Regulation (2016/425)** and the harmonized standard **EN 358:2018**.

**The EU type examination** was carried out by: INCDPM (The National Research and Development Institute for Occupational Safety-Bucharest). European notified body: NB 2756.

The **EU Declaration of Conformity** can be downloaded from our website [www.vertiqualsafety.com](http://www.vertiqualsafety.com) by accessing the product's dedicated section.