

Pilot's Manual



Bird

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A - Introduction

TREKKING Parapentes has designed and built more than 20,000 paragliding wings since 1986. We're the oldest paragliding manufacturer in existence. We inspire trust among pilots with equipment known for safety and dependability.

Our wings are designed and built to last. To build the Bird we've selected the best materials currently on the market.

Flying paragliders requires rigorous training from qualified teachers. This manual will not teach you to fly, and cannot replace a good instructor. The flying advice offered here should already have been learned on a training course.

When you fly, take care of the environment, the countryside that you pass through on foot or by car. Leave no trace of litter. Nature gives us the privilege of magnificent flights, let's respect her in return.

The TREKKING Parapentes team.



B - Intended users

The BIRD is designed for solo pilots with a wide range of ability levels. From recently qualified pilots, to experienced flyers aiming to complete long cross country flights without worrying about their wing.

The BIRD is certified EN-B, and complies also with the spirit of the class, to deliver a wing that is safe and pleasurable to fly for all levels of qualified pilot.

C - Overview of materials and construction

Our choice of materials has been informed by over 30 years of experience in building and servicing paragliders. We've chosen the best materials currently on the market to build the BIRD.

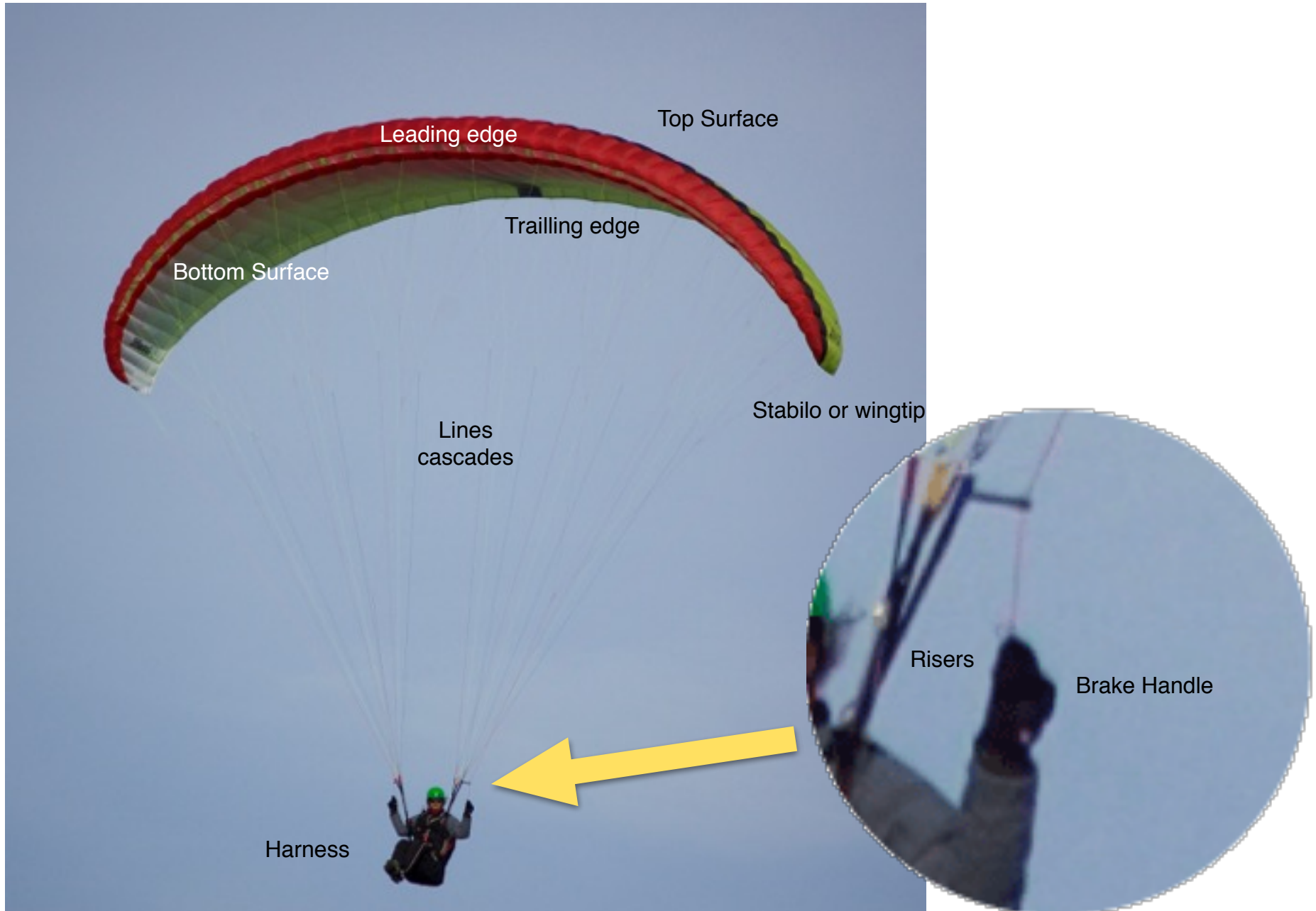
The line layout with 2 or 3 cascades together with the internal structure of diagonal ribs and tensioning bands are optimised to keep the wing shape consistent with a perfectly smooth surface. Because of this the wing responds to external forces in a consistent way. The brake lines operate tensioners towards the wing tips which gather together the trailing edge, helping initiate the turn.

We've developed a new generation of reinforcement rods made from poly-composite P14 © with shape memory. This ensures excellent stability of the leading edge shape.

Our wings have fully sheathed lines, for better durability and ease of use.



D - Description



E - Specification data

| Bird | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Size | XS | S | SM | M | ML | L |
| Weight range | 50 - 75 | 60 - 85 | 70 - 95 | 80 - 105 | 90 - 115 | 100 - 125 |
| Surface area (flat) | 22 | 23,5 | 24,75 | 26 | 27,25 | 28,5 |
| Surface area (projected) | 18,91 | 20,20 | 21,27 | 22,35 | 23,42 | 24,50 |
| Cells | 45 | 45 | 45 | 45 | 45 | 45 |
| Aspect ratio (flat) | 5,33 | 5,33 | 5,33 | 5,33 | 5,33 | 5,33 |
| Aspect ratio (projected) | 3,96 | 3,96 | 3,96 | 3,96 | 3,96 | 3,96 |
| Weight | | | | 4,9 kg | | |
| Line layout | 3/4/3 | 3/4/3 | 3/4/3 | 3/4/3 | 3/4/3 | 3/4/3 |
| Number of lines | 150 | 150 | 150 | 150 | 150 | 150 |
| Longueur suspentes | 244 | 254 | 260 | 266 | 274,5 | 283 |
| Total height of cone | 7,21 | 7,45 | 7,65 | 7,84 | 8,02 | 8,20 |
| Flat span | 10,83 | 11,20 | 11,48 | 11,75 | 12,05 | 12,32 |
| Trim speed | 39 km/h +/- 1 | 39 km/h +/- 1 | 39 km/h +/- 1 | 39 km/h +/- 1 | 39 km/h +/- 1 | 39 km/h +/- 1 |
| Maximum speed | 51 km/h +/- 1 | 51 km/h +/- 1 | 51 km/h +/- 1 | 51 km/h +/- 1 | 51 km/h +/- 1 | 51 km/h +/- 1 |
| Speed bar travel | 11 cm | 11 cm | 11 cm | 11 cm | 11 cm | 11 cm |
| Trims | No trims | No trims | No trims | No trims | No trims | No trims |
| Brake travel | | | | 65 cm | | |
| Minimum sink rate | 1 m/s | 1 m/s | 1 m/s | 1 m/s | 1 m/s | 1 m/s |
| Best glide ratio | 9,3 | 9,3 | 9,3 | 9,3 | 9,3 | 9,3 |
| Certification | EN926-1 | EN LTF B | EN926-1 | EN LTF B | EN926-1 | EN LTF B |



F - Materials

| Part | Manufacturer's reference | Manufacturer | Country of origin |
|---|--------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Fabrics | | | |
| Top surface | 9017-E25 | PORCHER INDUSTRIE | FRANCE |
| Bottom surface | 70032E3W | PORCHER INDUSTRIE | FRANCE |
| Load bearing ribs | 9017-E29 | PORCHER INDUSTRIE | FRANCE |
| Non-load bearing ribs | 70032E4D | PORCHER INDUSTRIE | FRANCE |
| Diagonal and H-straps | 70032E4D | PORCHER INDUSTRIE | FRANCE |
| A-line reinforcements | 6382 | PORCHER INDUSTRIE | FRANCE |
| B-line reinforcements | 2420 | PORCHER INDUSTRIE | FRANCE |
| C- line reinforcements | 6391 | PORCHER INDUSTRIE | FRANCE |
| Trailing edge hem | 6392 | PORCHER INDUSTRIE | FRANCE |
| Leading edge hem and straps | 57501 | GUTH AND WOLF | Germany |
| Sewing thread | TENAX 60 | TENAXFIL | Italy |
| Reinforcement rods | P14 | HIGLIDER SAS | FRANCE |
| Lines | | | |
| Upper A B C lines and brakes | 7850-080 | EDELRID | Germany |
| Upper D lines | 6843-080 | EDELRID | Germany |
| Mid lines A B and brakes | 7850-080 | EDELRID | Germany |
| Lower C lines + mid & lower brake lines | 6843-080 | EDELRID | Germany |
| Lower A B C lines | 7343-230 | EDELRID | Germany |
| Lower brake lines BR04 | 6843-120 | EDELRID | Germany |
| Brake handles | A10/N-300 | EDELRID | Germany |
| Sewing thread upper and mid lines | TENAX 60 | TENAXFIL | Italy |
| Sewing thread lower lines | TENAX 40 | TENAXFIL | Italy |
| Risers | | | |
| ELEVATEURS | ELEVATEURS | KRILO DOO - SWING | CROATIA |
| MAILLONS RAPIDES | DELTA INOX 3.5 | PEGUET | FRANCE |



G - How to use

G-1 - Choosing a harness

Use an ABS type harness with high hang points, with dimensions as close as possible to those used during certification (see annexe page 26). Ensure adequate connection to the risers.

WARNING : Adjust your speed bar so the speed system pulleys meet each other just when your legs are fully extended.

G-2 - Going flying

G-2-1 - Preparation

Launching the BIRD does not require any special preparation or technique other than what you will have learned in school.

Be sure to choose a suitable area to lay out your wing so as not to damage it.

Lay out the wing with the top surface touching the ground, with lines laid down pointing towards the wind.

Check your harness is correctly attached to the wing before putting it on, and after putting it on double check all straps are done up. The leading edge will "pre-inflate" thanks to the Poly-composite P14 © reinforcement rods.

G-2-2 - Inflation

In weak or nil wind use the two front risers (coloured red) for inflation. In a fresh breeze you need only use the central front risers. Inflate your wing gently and progressively, checking that the lines are not tangled. If you have any doubt, gently bring the wing back down, untangle any knots, and begin again.

G-2-3 - Takeoff

The BIRD will progressively lift your weight. Keep running forward until you're completely flying.



G-2-4 - Level flight

With your hands up, your air speed will be around 39 km/h.

The range of travel of the brakes on your BIRD is particularly high, around 60cm. Stalling occurs with both brakes pulled well down – you can tell when you're near the stall point as the brake pressure will increase. The stall speed is around 25 km/h.

The best glide angle is obtained with a little speed bar applied, and an airspeed of 40 to 42 km/h. Maximum airspeed is 50 - 51km/h with full speedbar (15cm travel). Be careful, the wing is more vulnerable collapse in accelerated flight.

G-2-5 - Initiating and ending a turn

Turns should be initiated by a combination of weight shift and brake. The brake travel required may be more than you're used to at first, but it will soon become natural. For greater comfort whilst thermaling, we recommend "taking a wrap" on the inside brake- wrapping the brake handle around your hand. To stop turning simply reverse the brake inputs and weight shift to the outside.

In the unlikely event of a brake line failure, it is possible to steer the wing by pulling gently on the C-risers. Practice this in calm air to get the feel of how much movement is required.

G-2-6 - Landing

There are no special requirements to landing the BIRD. The final glide and flare are easy to manage for a gentle landing.

G-3 - Special manoeuvres

G-3-1 - Descent techniques

G-3-1-a - Big ears

Big ears can be applied using the dedicated outside A risers. Grab the risers at the level of the mallions and pull down their full length, either one after the other or both at the same time. Reinflation is by simply releasing the risers, again either one at a time or both together. We recommend one at a time.



If you pull “big” big ears by pulling two armfuls of outside As, it is advisable to pull normal ears first, apply the speed bar, and then pull big big ears. This reduces the risk of stalling. Re-inflation of the ears happens automatically, within a few seconds of release.

G-3-1-b - Spiral dive

Full Spiral dives can achieve descent rates of 13 m/s, with high g-forces pressing you into your harness. The BIRD exits from spiral dives naturally when you release the inside brake. We recommend you continue turning for another 360 degrees in order to dissipate the energy built up in the dive. To descend quickly with reduced G-forces, we recommend pulling an outside big ear once your turn has begun. This makes the wing turn slower, but descend faster. The result is a little more “comfortable”.

G-3-1-c - B-line stalls

B-line stalls are possible by pulling symmetrically on the B risers, at the level of the mallions. The wing will stop flying forwards, crease across the span, and the descent rate will increase to 6 to 8 m/s. Stability during this manoeuvre will depend greatly on the level of turbulence in the air. To exit the B-line stall, release both B risers at the same time. The wing will pitch forward before resuming normal flight.

G-3-2 - Acro

Acrobatics are not recommended – the BIRD is not designed for this sort of flying.

G-3-3 - Outside the flying envelope, flight incidents

In most cases, the BIRD will recover from flight incidents automatically. Your first priority should be to maintain your heading and avoid over reacting. A basic rule is NEVER PUT YOUR HANDS UP SUDDENLY. An SIV course in a safe environment will allow you to get to know the way the BIRD reacts.

G-3-3-a - Full stall

Keep your hands in the same position until the wing has stabilised above you, then let your hands up gradually to allow return to forward flight, and be ready for the wing to dive forward.



G-3-3-b - Parachutal stall

This is a situation between full stall and normal flight. You'll feel the lack of forward motion. Usually it's enough to raise your hands for the wing to return to normal flight. You might also push on the A risers and/or lean forward in your harness.

G-3-3-c - Frontal collapse

This incident can occur in strong turbulence, or when using the speed bar in stronger conditions. The wing will re-open by itself, and resume normal flight after pitching forward less than 30 degrees. Go with it and let the wing fly as it comes out of the pitching movement.

G-3-3-d - Asymmetric collapse

This type of collapse can happen unexpectedly in thermic conditions or wind shear. Maintain your heading by weight shifting away from the collapsed side. The BIRD will recover progressively without excessive turning.

G-3-3-e - Entering a spin

Generally this occurs as a result of turning whilst flying too slowly, which causes the inside half of the wing to stall. The wing should recover as a result of regaining forward speed when you raise your hands.

G-3-3-f - Cravats

A cravat is when one wingtip gets caught in the lines, normally after a collapse. To recover, pull on the stabilo line situated on the outside of the B riser, coloured orange. This will pull down the wingtip and free it. All the while, maintain your heading using weight shift to the opposite side. Pay attention to where you're going to avoid collisions with other pilots or the ground.

If you are unable to remove the cravat, fly to the nearest landing site whilst maintaining maximum airspeed.

G-3-3-g - Knot in the lines

A knot on the lines can only come about through insufficient pre-flight checks or poor observation during inflation. If you do notice a knot during inflation, abort take-off if at all possible. If you notice a knot whilst flying, try to undo it by pulling on the neighbouring lines. If this does not work, land as soon as possible.

G-3-3-h - Steering without the brakes



In the unlikely event of a brake line failure, it is possible to steer the wing by pulling gently on the C-risers. Practice this in calm air to get the feel of how much force and movement is required.

G-3-3-i - Over-piloting

A frequent cause of paragliding accidents is a cascade of flight incidents caused by over-reactions. To be specific, the pilot either pulls too much on the brakes, or too late. Your control inputs should always be as gentle and well managed as possible. Your wing has its own inertia and response time to your inputs. Developing a feeling for this is a way to become a better pilot.

H - Maintenance

The materials for your BIRD have been carefully selected in order to guarantee the longest durability. However, it is up to you to take good care of your wing and its maintenance in order to fly safely for as long as possible.

Each time unfurl or fold up your wing, examine the fabric and lines to see that nothing has deteriorated.

Brake line lengths should be regularly checked. Brake lines on all wings are susceptible to shrinkage due to the small loads that are placed on them and the materials used. You should always have at least 10cm of free play as you pull the brakes down before there is any pressure.

Have the wing serviced by a centre approved by us every 2 years or 200 flights. The service should cover at a minimum the fabric condition, line length and strength. Small punctures and rips can be repaired with a self-adhesive fabric patch. Any more extensive repairs should be done by an approved repair centre.

H-1 - What contributes to wear

The most significant contribution to wear is contact with the ground: every time the wing is dragged, clipped, or impacted against the ground. Each takeoff counts as several hours of flight.

The second most significant factor is how the wing is folded and stored. A wing that is scrunched up, damp, compressed, and stored in high heat will have a short life.

H-2 - Folding your wing

Your wing should be stored absolutely dry. We recommend you fold your wing one half at a time, with fold lines parallel to the seams. This means that the leading edge should move backwards as you fold towards the tip, whilst the trailing edge should move forwards. Whilst folding check the wing for debris that may have entered the cells: velcro openings at the trailing edge of each wing-tip are useful for cleaning out. At the same time, you should check the condition of the fabric and the lines for any damage.

Use the sausage bag provided and pack the glider without scrunching up the fabric. For this reason, avoid compression straps across the glider - rather arrange any compression strap parallel to the seams. The best storage solution, if you have space, is lightly packed in a large "mushroom" bag.

H-3 - Soiling

If your wing gets dirty, clean it with a damp sponge without scrubbing, and let it dry in the shade

H-4 - Testing the brake line length

The brake lines on all gliders tend to get shorter with time as they don't carry much load. Check regularly that you have at least 10cm of slack before the brakes begin to deform the trailing edge.

H-5 - Scheduled servicing

Your first service is complimentary by our authorised after sales service provider - we will charge you only for delivery and any repairs necessary. This should be done after 1 year or 100 flights - whichever comes sooner.

Thereafter, you should have your wing serviced by a workshop approved by us each year or 100 flights. This should include as a minimum testing the fabric, line length, and line strength.

H-6 - Repairs

Minor tears can be repaired with a self-adhesive patch. More significant damage should be repaired by a professional workshop approved by us.

H-7 - P14 Reinforcement rods

It is possible to break the P14 reinforcement rods if you try hard enough. You have to bend them over a radius of less than 23mm the core will snap. This is difficult to do by accident. Because of the shape memory of the rods, when folding the wing they tend to spring back out of any vulnerable position that might break them. In the

unlikely event of a breakage, please note the rib number and order a replacement from our After Sales Service provider. Replacement rods are easy to fit.

H-8 - Recycling

At the end of its life, your paragliding wing constitutes a significant quantity of material that should be disposed of responsibly. Please contact our After Sales Service provider for information on recycling.

H-9 - Official After Sales Service provider

HORIZON PARAPENTE SAS

Workshop :

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34270 St Mathieu de Treviers - France

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info@horizon-reparation.com

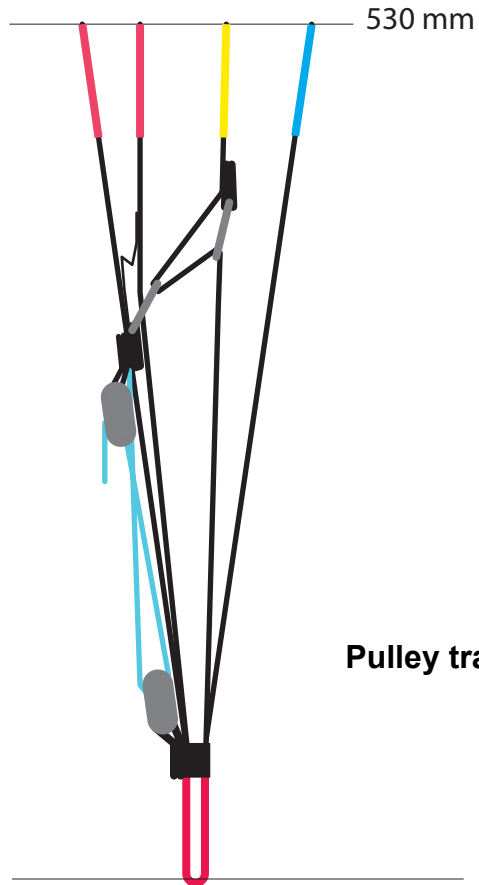
+33 (0)499 620 619 info@horizon-reparation.com

The following pages contain the data necessary for testing and repairing your wing.

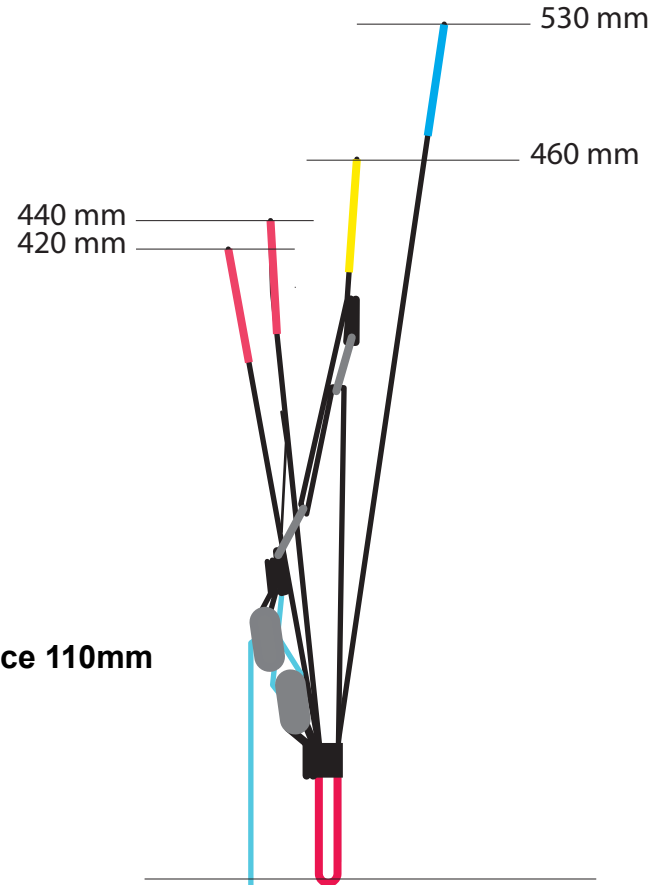


RISERS tolerance +/- 5mm

Trim position



Accelerated position

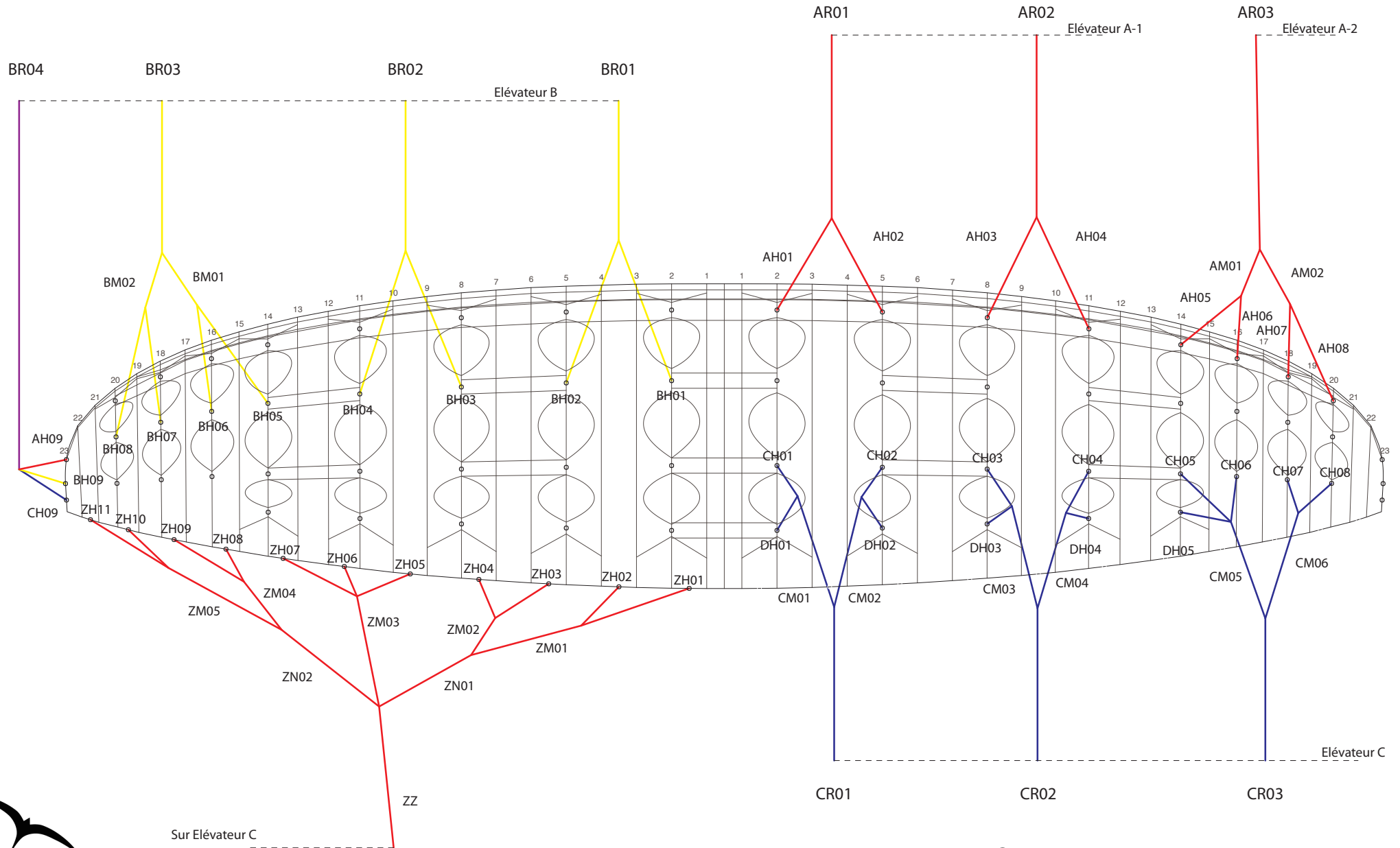


Pulley travel distance 110mm

Warning: The speed bar must be adjusted so that the speed bar system pulleys meet only with your legs fully outstretched. If the pulleys meet before this then there may be increased risk of frontal collapse.



Annexe I - Line plan all sizes



**Annexe II -
Overall line length table BIRD S**



Overall line length table BIRD M

Measurements taken from maillons to fabric, under 5 daN of tension.

Centre

| | | | | |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| A01 7315 | B01 7245 | C01 7340 | D01 7505 | Z01 7920 |
| A02 7280 | B02 7210 | C02 7295 | D02 7460 | Z02 7705 |
| A03 7240 | B03 7165 | C03 7270 | D03 7395 | Z03 7595 |
| A04 7200 | B04 7140 | C04 7240 | D04 7335 | Z04 7595 |
| A05 7120 | B05 7080 | C05 7130 | D05 7205 | Z05 7470 |
| A06 6995 | B06 6965 | C06 7045 | | Z06 7385 |
| A07 6895 | B07 6865 | C07 6930 | | Z07 7405 |
| A08 6865 | B08 6835 | C08 6870 | | Z08 7390 |
| A09 6435 | B09 6410 | C09 6455 | | Z09 7320 |
| | | | | Z10 7260 |
| | | | | Z11 7200 |

Overall line length table BIRD L

**Annexe III -
Individual lines BIRD S in mm**

Individual lines BIRD M in mm

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------|------|--------------|------|------|-----------------|------|------|---------------|------|------|---------------|------|------|---------------|
| AH01 | 2300 | 7850-080-RED | BH01 | 2230 | 7850-080-YELLOW | CH01 | 1130 | 7850-080-BLUE | DH01 | 1295 | 6843-080-BLUE | ZH01 | 1640 | 7850-080-RED |
| AH02 | 2265 | 7850-080-RED | BH02 | 2195 | 7850-080-YELLOW | CH02 | 1085 | 7850-080-BLUE | DH02 | 1250 | 6843-080-BLUE | ZH02 | 1425 | 7850-080-RED |
| AH03 | 2225 | 7850-080-RED | BH03 | 2150 | 7850-080-YELLOW | CH03 | 1060 | 7850-080-BLUE | DH03 | 1185 | 6843-080-BLUE | ZH03 | 1315 | 7850-080-RED |
| AH04 | 2185 | 7850-080-RED | BH04 | 2125 | 7850-080-YELLOW | CH04 | 1030 | 7850-080-BLUE | DH04 | 1125 | 6843-080-BLUE | ZH04 | 1315 | 7850-080-RED |
| AH05 | 905 | 7850-080-RED | BH05 | 865 | 7850-080-YELLOW | CH05 | 920 | 7850-080-BLUE | DH05 | 995 | 6843-080-BLUE | ZH05 | 1890 | 7850-080-RED |
| AH06 | 780 | 7850-080-RED | BH06 | 750 | 7850-080-YELLOW | CH06 | 835 | 7850-080-BLUE | | | | ZH06 | 1805 | 7850-080-RED |
| AH07 | 680 | 7850-080-RED | BH07 | 650 | 7850-080-YELLOW | CH07 | 720 | 7850-080-BLUE | | | | ZH07 | 1825 | 7850-080-RED |
| AH08 | 650 | 7850-080-RED | BH08 | 620 | 7850-080-YELLOW | CH08 | 660 | 7850-080-BLUE | | | | ZH08 | 1010 | 7850-080-RED |
| AH09 | 925 | 7850-080-RED | BH09 | 900 | 7850-080-YELLOW | CH09 | 950 | 7850-080-BLUE | | | | ZH09 | 940 | 7850-080-RED |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | ZH10 | 880 | 7850-080-RED |
| AM01 | 1200 | 7850-080-RED | BM01 | 1200 | 7850-080-YELLOW | CM01 | 1200 | 6843-080-BLUE | | | | ZH11 | 820 | 7850-080-RED |
| AM02 | 1200 | 7850-080-RED | BM02 | 1200 | 7850-080-YELLOW | CM02 | 1200 | 6843-080-BLUE | | | | ZM01 | 1200 | 6843-080-RED |
| | | | | | | CM03 | 1200 | 6843-080-BLUE | | | | ZM02 | 1200 | 6843-080-RED |
| | | | | | | CM04 | 1200 | 6843-080-BLUE | | | | ZM03 | 3000 | 6843-080-RED |
| | | | | | | CM05 | 1200 | 6843-080-BLUE | | | | ZM04 | 1200 | 6843-080-RED |
| | | | | | | CM06 | 1200 | 6843-080-BLUE | | | | ZM05 | 1200 | 6843-080-RED |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | ZN01 | 2500 | 6843-080-RED |
| AR01 | 5000 | 7343-230-RED | BR01 | 5000 | 7343-230-YELLOW | CR01 | 5000 | 7343-230-BLUE | | | | ZN02 | 2500 | 6843-080-RED |
| AR02 | 5000 | 7343-230-RED | BR02 | 5000 | 7343-230-YELLOW | CR02 | 5000 | 7343-230-BLUE | | | | | | |
| AR03 | 5000 | 7343-230-RED | BR03 | 5000 | 7343-230-YELLOW | CR03 | 5000 | 7343-230-BLUE | | | | ZZ | 2580 | A10/N-300-RED |
| | | | BR04 | 5500 | 7343-140-ORANGE | | | | | | | | | |

Individual lines BIRD L in mm

**Annexe IV -
Sticker certification EN BIRD M**

**Annexe V -
Sticker certification LTF BIRD M**

**Annexe VI -
Harness dimensions used during certification :**

BIRD M

| Weight in fly | < 80 kg | 80 kg - | 100 kg > 100 kg |
|---------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------|
| Width | (40 ± 2) cm | (44 ± 2) cm | (48 ± 2) cm |
| Height | (40 ± 1) cm | (42 ± 1) cm | (44 ± 1) cm |

The TREKKING paragliders are presented for certification by:

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