



**NORTH**  
KITEBOARDING



USER MANUAL  
**IRON HEART**  
ENGLISH





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## **WARNING: Kiteboarding is Dangerous**

- Always use extreme caution when using this product.
- Only use this product if you are in good physical health.
- Never act in a careless manner when using this product.
- You are responsible for your own safety and the safety of others when using this product.

**This product has been developed by the North Kiteboarding team and is design to meet the highest standards of quality, function and safety for kiteboarding.**

Please read all the information contained in this user guide carefully. This manual provides important information on how to use and maintain this product properly and safely. Keep this guide for later reference and make it available for additional or subsequent users of this product. We wish you a lot of fun with your new Iron Heart Quick Release!

North Kiteboarding Team

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# 1. RELEASE OF LIABILITY

By assembling and/or using this North Kite Product, you agree that you have read and understood the entire North Kiteboarding Product Owner's Manual, including all instructions and warnings contained in that Manual, prior to using the North Kiteboarding Product in any way. You additionally agree that you will ensure any additional or subsequent user of your North Kiteboarding Product will read and understand the entire North Kiteboarding Product Owner's Manual, including all instructions and warnings contained in that Manual, prior to allowing that person to use your North Kiteboarding Product.

## **ASSUMPTION OF RISK:**

Use of the North Kiteboarding Product and any of its components involve certain inherent risks, dangers, and hazards which can result in serious personal injury and death to both the user and to nonuser third parties. In using the North Kiteboarding Product, you freely agree to assume and accept any and all known and unknown risks of injury to you and to third parties while using this equipment. The risks inherent in this sport can be greatly reduced by abiding by the warning guidelines listed in this owner manual and by using common sense.

## **RELEASE AND WAIVER OF CLAIMS:**

In consideration of the sale of the North Kiteboarding product to you, you hereby agree to the fullest extent permitted by law, as follows:

*TO WAIVE ANY AND ALL CLAIMS* that you have or may in the future have against Boards & More and all related parties resulting from use of the North Kiteboarding Product and any of its components.

*TO RELEASE* Boards & More and all related parties from any and all liability for any loss, damage, injury or expense that you or any users of your North Kiteboarding Product may suffer, or that your next of kin may suffer, as a result of the use of the North Kiteboarding Product, due to any cause whatsoever, including negligence or breach of contract on the part of Boards & More and all related parties in the design or manufacture of the North Kiteboarding Product and any of its components. In the event of your death or incapacity, all provisions contained herein shall be effective and binding upon your heirs, next of kin, executors, administrators, assigns, and representatives. Boards & More-related parties have not made and expressly deny any oral or written representations other than what is set forth herein and the North Kite Product User's Manual.

## 2. SAFETY

As active kites and wind fanatics we are convinced that kiteboarding is one of the most fascinating adventures in the world. Kiting is a sport that draws its fascination from the interplay of the elements. However, the sport also involves considerable inherent risks and is potentially very dangerous. Therefore it is of utmost importance to assess your kiteboarding abilities realistically.

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### We strongly recommend the following guidelines:

- If you are not yet able to kite or if you feel insecure, do attend a licensed kiteboarding school to learn the basics of this fantastic sport.
  - Familiarize yourself with standard safety precautions as they are indispensable for safe kiteboarding.
  - Kiteboarding is a physically demanding sport. You should only engage in kiteboarding if you are in good physical condition and do not suffer from medical conditions that may be aggravated by practising this sport.
  - No risk, no fun ... but: be careful when practicing this sport. Playing safe always pays off, as you should be able to enjoy the wind for many years to come.
- 

### Dangers of Kiteboarding

When kiting, the extreme powers of the elements may come into play. In rare cases, the kite or its lines may cause dangerous situations:

- The canopy can pull you into the air giving you involuntary "air time". When landing, there is a high risk of getting injured.
- When the kite gets out of control, you may collide with obstacles and objects on the water.
- In case of improper use, the canopy or its lines may get caught up with other people. Due to the enormous powers involved, this may lead to life-threatening situations.
- People who get caught in the lines of the kite may suffer from severe gashes or burns.
- Collapsing canopies may injure onlookers. Risks Caused by the Kiteboard
- If you bang your head against the kiteboard, there is a risk of severe head injuries.
- Feet, ankles and legs may also be injured by the board. This list of dangers cannot be complete. The basic rules for kiteboarding correspond to those of common sense and are to be applied to all (outdoor) sports:

*(1) Never jeopardize the safety of onlookers in your surroundings.*

*(2) Be aware of the risk you are taking and take measures to reduce this risk to a minimum (depending on your skills).*

### Threats to Onlookers

It is your responsibility to make sure that uninvolved people or other athletes are not exposed to danger by your actions or your equipment. Do not kite in spots where onlookers may be harmed!

- Only fly your canopy over unobstructed water.
- When kiting, do not fly over people or pets.
- Ensure that a semi-circle extending 100 meters downwind and to each side of your flying position is clear of people and obstructions.
- Use a kite leash that allows you to keep the kite under control.
- Avoid flying the kite in the vicinity of other water users such as swimmers, kayakers, (wind-)surfers and water-skiers as well as near boats.
- If not in use, inflated canopies must be secured with sand or heavy objects. A canopy filled with air can fly away at any time, thus it may injure people and in extreme cases even cause death.

### Safety of the Kiteboarder

- Fly this kite only over unobstructed water. Never fly it on land.
- Fly this kite only if you are a strong swimmer and are wearing a Coast Guardapproved PFD.
- Go no further from land than you're able to swim back in case of an emergency.
- Use only bars with a safety system that you can open in emergency situations.
- Use a quick-release kite leash with which you can unhook your body from the gear in case of an unforeseeable emergency.
- Avoid power lines, telephone poles, airports, streets, buildings and trees.
- If you use a board that is leashed to your body, wear a helmet!
- Consider the general risks associated with water sports such as rocks, waves, sunburn, hypothermia, jellyfish etc. Threats through Kite Lines
- Never touch the kite lines when the kite is under wind load as these lines can become dangerously sharp when under tension.
- Never use damaged lines. Replace damaged lines immediately.
- Use only lines that have no knots in them, as knots can reduce line strength by as much as 50%.
- Do not touch the lines of the canopy, unless the kite has been secured to the ground. An unsecured kite can re-launch unexpectedly, putting the lines dangerously under tension. Never tie lines around your arms or other body parts!

### Weather-related Dangers

- Avoid offshore wind.
- Be careful with onshore wind.
- Get information about local conditions such as tidal patterns and currents at your kiting spot!
- Get information from both weather reports and locals on prevailing weather conditions.
- Never use the kite when the wind is so strong that you are unable to maintain precise control.
- Do not use the kite when wind conditions are likely to change dramatically.

- Never use the kite during thunderstorms or when storms are likely to develop in your spot or its vicinity (check the weather report!).
- Leave the water immediately when a storm is approaching. Thunderstorms represent a life-threatening situation as you may be struck by lightning!

### Maintenance

Every safety system must be checked and maintained regularly to ensure its proper and reliable function. Please read the CAUTION remarks carefully and refer to section 7.Maintenance and Care for the proper maintenance of the safety system's individual parts.

### General Safety Precautions for Kiteboarding

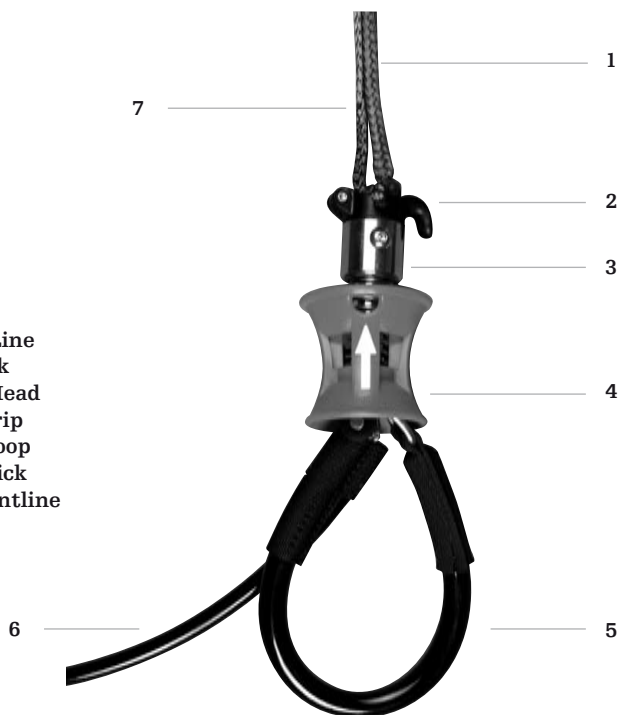
- Never practice the sport alone.
- Make sure that anybody who assists you in launching and landing has the necessary knowledge and skills to perform this task safely and is able communicate effectively with you.
- Make sure that you have a third party insurance that covers possible claims against you.
- We recommend membership in a kiteboarding club.

BFT	M/S	KM/H	MPH	Knots	Designation
0	0 – 0,2	0 – 0,8	0 – 0,6	0 – 0,5	Calm
1	0,3 – 1,5	0,9 – 5,5	0,7 – 3,5	0,6 – 3,0	Light Air
2	1,6 – 3,3	5,6 – 12,1	3,6 – 7,5	3,1 – 6,5	Light Breeze
3	3,4 – 5,4	12,2 – 19,6	7,6 – 12,2	6,6 – 10,5	Gentle Breeze
4	5,5 – 7,9	19,7 – 28,5	12,3 – 17,8	10,6 – 15,5	Moderate Breeze
5	8,0 – 10,7	28,6 – 38,8	17,9 – 24,0	15,6 – 20,9	Fresh Breeze
6	10,8 – 13,8	38,9 – 49,8	24,1 – 31,0	21,0 – 26,9	Strong Breeze
7	13,9 – 17,1	49,9 – 61,7	31,1 – 38,3	27,0 – 33,3	Near Gale
8	17,2 – 20,7	61,8 – 74,6	38,4 – 46,4	33,4 – 40,3	Gale
9	20,8 – 24,4	74,7 – 88,0	46,5 – 54,7	40,4 – 47,5	Strong Gale
10	24,5 – 28,4	88,1 – 102,0	54,8 – 63,6	47,6 – 55,3	Storm
11	28,5 – 32,6	102,1 – 117,0	63,7 – 73,0	55,4 – 63,4	Violent Storm
12	32,7 +	117,1 +	73,1 +	63,5 +	Hurricane

### 3. THE IRON HEART SYSTEM - OVERVIEW

Fig. 1

1. Depower Line
2. Micro Hook
3. Rotating Head
4. Release Grip
5. Chicken Loop
6. Chicken Dick
7. Safety Frontline



## 4. FUNCTION

North's bar system with the new quick release mechanism (Iron Heart) has a number of functions. (FIG. 1) The release system has a clear and simple design to ensure optimum functionality and to facilitate the safety check. You must be familiar with all the details of the system's function as described below. This is the only way for you to ensure proper function of the quick release system before launching. Many kiteboarders prefer to ride permanently hooked into the trim loop. North's new quick release system and standard trim loop M and S eliminate the danger of riding permanently hooked in and do not require a special harness hook. Before launching and after a general safety check of the entire equipment, the rider hooks the trim loop into the harness hook and secures it with the flexible plastic rod. (FIG. 2)



FIG. 2

### Quick Release, how it works and how to use it:

The release mechanism is permanently preloaded by a spring. When the system is closed, the spring presses against a ring at the trim loop, when it is released, it presses against a rubber stopper. (FIG. 3) Before every start you must make sure that these parts are completely flush against each other and that there are now objects such as sand or pebbles inside the release grip. If you see any objects inside, shake them out, then dip the grip into the water and rinse it thoroughly while pushing the grip back and forth. The spring keeps the release grip from moving by itself and prevents accidental release. To actively trigger the system, simply push the red grip away from you and towards the bar. (FIG. 4A / 4B) The kite will then depower and collapse without twisting on the water surface. The kite is then hanging from your safety leash and 5th Element bar.



FIG. 3



FIG. 4A



FIG. 4B

**Reassembling the system after releasing it:**

While you are pulling in the 5th Element line, keep an eye on the kite and make sure that the line is beside you so that you and your board cannot get tangled. Furthermore, you must never wrap the 5th Element line or any other line around your hand or your finger!! (FIG. 5A/5B) As soon as the 5th Element line is pulled in, rotate the head once so that the 5th Element line is wrapped once around the depower line and press it with your hand against the head while holding the line between your ring finger and index finger. (FIG. 5A/5B) Push the release grip as far as it will go with your other hand and hold it in this position with your upper hand. (FIG. 5C/5D) insert the trim loop ring into the groove, lock the pin and let go of the release grip. (FIG. 5E/5F)

Now hook the trim loop into the harness hook and secure the trim loop with the elastic plastic rod (chicken dick). (FIG. 5G/5H)



FIG. 5A



FIG. 5B



FIG. 5C



FIG. 5D



FIG. 5E



FIG. 5F



FIG. 5G



FIG. 5H



FIG. 6

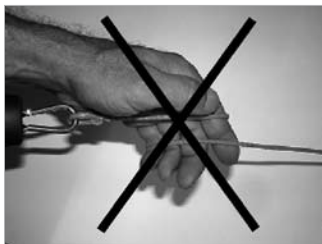


FIG. 6A

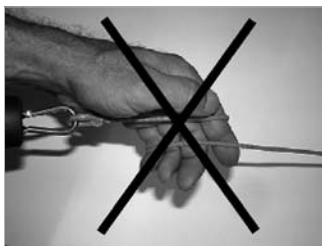


FIG. 6B

**CAUTION:** After reassembling or water-relaunch, make sure that the 5th Element line does not wrap around the Micro Hook as shown in (FIG. 6).

#### Trim-Loop M (chicken loop) and rotating rod (chicken dick):

The loop and metal pin are attached to the center piece and swivel around it.

Tip: to get the metal pin out of the center piece, simply rotate the center piece downwards and lift the tube and the pin will fall out. (FIG. 7A/7B) Make sure that all these parts are clean and that the pin moves freely. If you regularly rinse the quick release system after each use in freshwater and dry it afterwards, there is normally no need to open the mechanism.



FIG. 7A



FIG. 7B

For further information on maintenance and care refer to chapter 7 – Maintenance and Care.

When performing unhooked moves, pull the elastic rod out of the harness hook and push it to the side where it is not in the way when you want to hook back in. (FIG. 8A/8B)



FIG. 8A



FIG. 8B

#### Rotating head:

The new Iron Heart system is easy to rotate when it is not fully loaded. This permits untwisting the system after many rotations in one direction.



FIG. 9

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„Caution! For safety reasons you should first land the kite before untwisting the system.“

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**Micro Hook:**

The Micro Hook system permits a new way of riding permanently hooked in with North bars. This setup transfers a larger percentage of the load to the harness and reduces arm fatigue. To connect or disconnect, pull the bar towards you and twist it. The Fix Loop is fitted at an angle that makes accidental connecting impossible. To unhook, simply pull the bar towards you and let it glide forward again. (FIG. 10A/10B) In case of emergency simply pull the quick release at the trim loop. This releases the bar and depowers the kite through the leash.



FIG. 10A



FIG. 10B

## 5. FITTING AND CHANGING MODULES

**Changing the depower line:**

Special tools are supplied to change the depower line. First open one of the two screws at the side of the upper rotating head (opening on screw is sufficient). Then use the tool to push out the bolt. (FIG. 11A/11B)



FIG. 11A



FIG. 11B

Now tie the knot exactly as shown in the illustrations below. (FIG. 12A-12D) Make sure that you have a tail of approximately 1.5-2cm left. (FIG. 12D)



ABB. 12A



ABB. 12B



ABB. 12C



ABB. 12D

Now thread the loop through the conical centerpiece and use the pricker to make space for the bolt. Insert the bolt and secure it by tightening the screws. CAUTION: make sure that the little tail is sticking out at the side with the notch. (FIG. 13A-D)

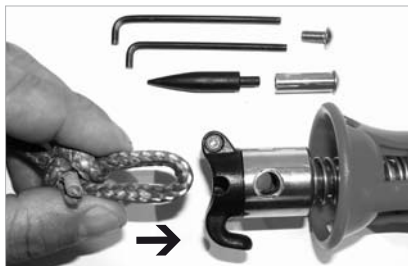


FIG. 12A

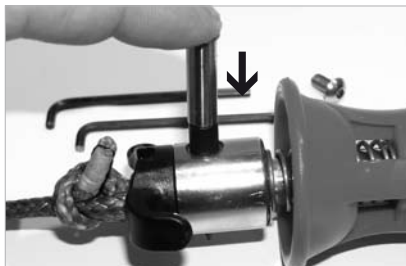


FIG. 12B



FIG. 12C



FIG. 12D

## 6. FITTING THE CHICKEN LOOP

The Iron Heart has a modular chicken loop system, the chicken loop can be removed as shown in (FIG. 14A-14C) and fitted as shown in (FIG. 15A-15H).

### Removing the chicken loop



FIG. 14A

Push the release grip up and secure it with the Allen key. Flatten the head of the cotter pin with a pair of flat nose pliers. (see small image).



FIG. 14B

Use the pliers to pull the cotter pin out.



FIG. 14C

Pull the bolt out and remove the chicken loop. The Iron Heart is now ready for assembly.

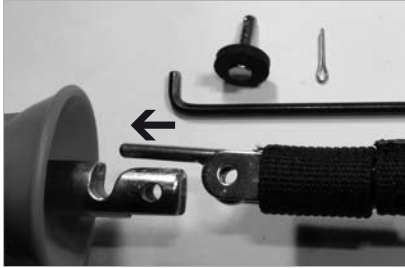


FIG. 15A

Place the pin between the plates and push all parts into the center part nut as shown in the illustration, then insert the bolt.

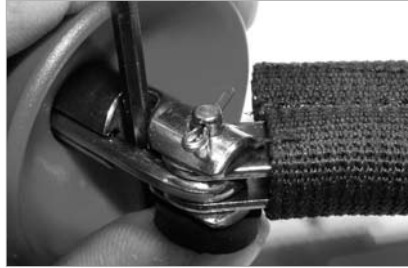


FIG. 15B

Lock the release grip with the Allen key and insert the cotter pin.

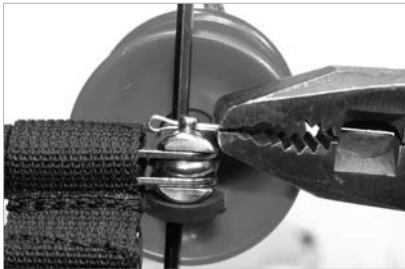


FIG. 15C

Take hold of the long end of the cotter pin and pull it upwards with the help of a pair of flat nose pliers.

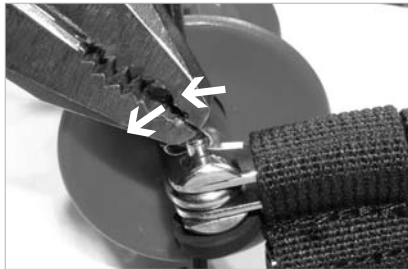


FIG. 15D

Bend the long end of the cotter pin up at an angle of more than 90° (the higher the better).



FIG. 15E

Now take hold of the straight end of the cotter pin with the pliers (as shown in the illustration).



FIG. 15F

Place the end of the pin on a suitable edge, e.g. on a wooden board as shown above, and bend the pin over the edge as far as it goes.

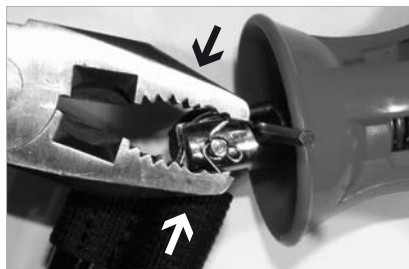


FIG. 15G

Carefully press both ends of the cotter pin together.



FIG. 15H

Make sure that the pin is bent as shown in the illustration. The pin must be flat to avoid any risk of injury.



FIG. 16A



FIG. 16B

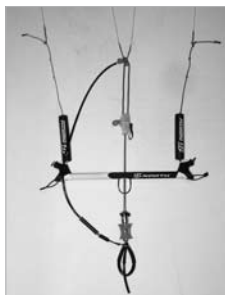


FIG. 16C

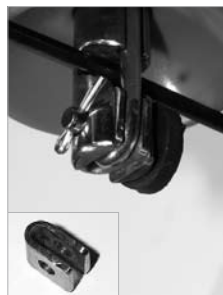


FIG.. 16D

### Trim-Loop S and Roto Leash:

Together with the optional chicken loop S and Roto Leash, the Iron Heart's modular system (FIG. 16A/16B) offers the possibility of converting the five line to a four line system. (FIG. 16C) To fit the pinblock or cotter pin, follow the instructions above (fitting the chicken loop). (FIG. 16D)

## 7. MAINTENANCE AND CARE

Follow the instructions below to regularly check the safety system's individual parts for possible defects, malfunction and wear and replace any broken or damaged parts with original spare parts.

### Injection Molded Plastic Parts

Inspect the release grip carefully for

- cracks (risk of breakage)
- sharp edges caused by breakage (risk of injury and possible damage of the lines!!!)

Check the hole of the Iron Heart release grip. The shape or diameter of the hole should not be altered significantly.

### Metal Parts

The surfaces of Cr-Ni steel parts should not show any black discoloration (see also maintenance of Cr-Ni steels in the Iron heart Manual).

Metal parts must not be bent out of shape (pins, center part).

Moving and locking parts must not show excessive wear.

Thoroughly check all parts for evidence of cracks and replace any parts that show the smallest evidence of cracks or fissures.

### Lines

The depower line consists of thousands of fine fibers. This line is exposed to friction that can cause these fibers to break. If a high number of these fine fibers are broken, the depower line's strength may be considerably reduced even though there is now visible reduction in the line's diameter.

The leader lines are not exposed to friction and should therefore not show any fiber breakage. Wear and tear may occur, however, due to external influences.

### Chicken Loop

Check the sleeve for cracks and fissures.

The sleeve must not show excessive wear in the area of the hook (excessive wear causes the sleeve to lose its rounded shape in this area).

The seams must not be worn, torn or undone.

Check the loop in the Dyneema line at the end of the chicken loop for excessive wear and evidence of broken fibers.

Recommended intervals for inspection and maintenance depending on the rider's weight:

- up to 75 kg body weight, after 30 days of usage
- above 75 kg body weight, after 20 days of usage

### Safety Leash

The shackle joint mechanism of the leash must not have excessive play.  
 The Dyneema line that holds the pin must be checked for fiber breakage.  
 The sleeve must not show any signs of cracks.  
 The plastic sleeve above the release grip must not be bent or cracked.  
 The seems must not be undone, torn or damaged by abrasion.

### Important information on Cr-Ni steels and care of the quick release system

Stainless steel is a material that does not corrode even if it is in contact with water or moist air for extended periods of time. However, it is a common and, unfortunately, widespread misconception that stainless steel never corrodes and does not require any care. To ensure a long lifespan of your equipment, we would like to provide some important information on Cr-Ni steel and instructions for its care. Please follow these instructions to ensure that your safety system remains functional for a long period of time.

**Corrosion:** Corrosion is caused by external influences and becomes visible as a dark and rough spots on the surface. Corrosion is often mixed up with rust or oxidation and it is wrongly assumed that stainless steels are not affected by these conditions. Smooth surfaces and correct passivation ensure optimum corrosion resistance of stainless steel. It must be stressed though, that there is no Cr-Ni steel that is immune to the highly corrosive effects of hydrochloric acid, hydrofluoric acid or sulfuric acid.

**Types of corrosion:** We distinguish between the rather harmless general surface corrosion (slow process, early to detect), and the more dangerous pitting corrosion and stress corrosion cracking. The latter two are particularly dangerous as they form under the surface and are therefore difficult to detect. Contact corrosion, for instance, is caused by a gap between materials that restricts oxygen supply and thus interferes with the spontaneous formation of a protective layer on the steel surface (passivation). This lack of oxygen facilitates local corrosion. Stress corrosion cracking is aggravated by chlorine containing compounds.

**Galvanic corrosion:** „Iron“ is the enemy of stainless steel. Galvanic corrosion can originate from weld seams or surface irregularities, foreign particles and particularly small particles of iron that damage the submicroscopic passive film of Cr-Ni steel. In the case of galvanic corrosion the material needs to be cleaned and treated depending on the extent of corrosion. Conventional abrasive cleaners can be used for this purpose. Tools (workshop tools, files, brushes, abrasives, polishing disks, etc.) that have been used for nonalloy steel should generally not be used for Cr-Ni steel.

**Care:** The surface of a Cr-Ni steel has self-preserving properties. Due to its alloy content it forms a so-called passive film on the surface. Even if the surface is damaged, the steel spontaneously forms a very thin transparent layer under the influence of oxygen. This is why you should store your bar and quick release system in a dry place.

**Important:** Stainless steels are not completely corrosion resistant if they are in contact with salt water. They do require minimum care. Rinsing in freshwater and applying a passivator for stainless steel is recommended.

Suitable lubricants are readily available on the market. The general rule is the smoother and shinier the surface of stainless steel, the higher its resistance against corrosives. To avoid surface damage by the abrasive effect of sand you should rinse the system thoroughly or at least shake out the sand.

**Our tip:** When you are kiteboarding in the sea you should pamper your quick release with a quick freshwater shower after each session. When it is not in use, keep it in a dry place!

## 8. ACCESSORIES AND SPARE PARTS



SAFETY LEASH STANDART



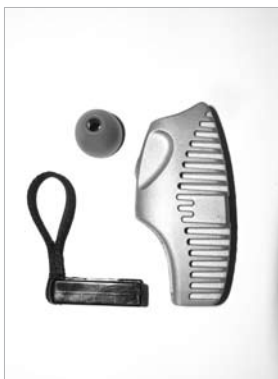
ROTATION LEASH



4 LINE CHICKEN LOOP + ROTO LEASH"



DEPOWER LEINE



VARIO CLEAT



IRON HEART



CHICKEN LOOP S/M/L



RELEASE GRIP



WASHER



THREADED BOLT



MICRO HOOK



STOPPER RUBBER



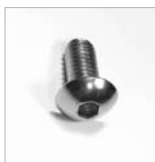
PIN 3.5



LONG BOLT



CONICAL TOOL



ROUND HEAD SREW  
M5X10



COTTER PIN

## 9. WARRANTY

North Kiteboarding warrants this product to be free of major defects in material or workmanship to the original purchaser, for a period of six (6) months from the date of purchase. This warranty is subject to the following limitations:

The warranty is valid only when the product is used for **KITEBOARDING ON WATER**, and does not cover products used in rental or teaching operations. North Kiteboarding will make the final warranty determination, which may require inspection and/or photos of the equipment, which clearly show the defect(s).

If necessary, this information must be sent to the North Kiteboarding distributor in your country, postage prepaid.

If a product is deemed to be defective by North Kiteboarding, the warranty covers the repair or replacement of the defective product only.

North Kiteboarding will not be responsible for any costs, losses, or damages incurred as a result of loss of use of this product.

This warranty does not cover damage caused by misuse, abuse, neglect or normal wear and tear including, but not limited to, punctures, rigging with other than North Kiteboarding components, damage due to excessive sun exposure, or damage due to over inflation of the bladders, damage caused by improper handling and storage, damage caused by use in waves or shore break, and damage caused by anything other than defects in material and workmanship.

This warranty is voided if any unauthorized repair, change or modification has been made to any part of the equipment.

The warranty for any repaired or replaced equipment is good from the date of original purchase only.

The original purchase receipt must accompany all warranty claims.

The name of the retailer and date of purchase must be clear and legible.

There are no warranties, which extend beyond the warranty specified herein.

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**Warranty claims must be processed and be issued a return authorization prior to shipping to North. Please call or write for claims processing to the national North Kiteboarding distributor.**

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<b>ARGENTINA</b> Hard Wind / Tsunami S.A. Tel ++54-11-4733-3796 Fax ++54-11-4792-1133 info@hardwind.com	<b>CROATIA</b> Big Blue Sport D.O.O. Tel ++385-21678030 Fax ++385-21678031 bbsport@big-blue-sport.hr	<b>HUNGARY</b> FREE Time 200 Ltd. Tel ++36-1-2123866 Fax ++36-1-2123867 windsurf@mail.elender.hu	<b>NEW ZEALAND</b> Ultra Sport NZ Ltd Tel ++64-3-3845086 Fax ++64-3-3842604 sailboards@extra.co.nz	<b>SPAIN</b> SG Diffusion S.A. Tel ++34-9322-19412 Fax ++34-9322-19546 sgd@sgddiffusion.com
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