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› [Sachtler](#) /

› Sachtler Video 20 S1 Fluid Head with ENG 2 Heavy-Duty 3-Section Carbon Fiber Tripod and Ground Spreader User Manual

Sachtler S1 HD CF System

Sachtler Video 20 S1 Fluid Head with ENG 2 Heavy-Duty 3-Section Carbon Fiber Tripod and Ground Spreader

USER MANUAL

Introduction

This manual provides essential information for the proper setup, operation, and maintenance of your Sachtler System 20 S1 HD CF. This professional-grade system, featuring a classic fluid head design and a quick-action, double extension tripod, is engineered to provide superior support for a wide range of camera equipment, from large ENG camcorders to the latest video DSLRs. Constructed from high-quality, durable carbon fiber, the system is designed for robust performance and portability in various shooting environments.

Product Overview



Image: The Sachtler System 20 S1 HD CF, showing the fluid head mounted on the carbon fiber tripod, with the ground spreader attached. A black padded carry bag is visible in the foreground, indicating the complete system for transport and storage.

The Sachtler System 20 S1 HD CF comprises a Video 20 S1 Fluid Head, an ENG 2 Heavy-Duty 3-Section Carbon Fiber Tripod, and a Ground Spreader. This combination offers exceptional stability, precise control, and adaptability for professional videography. The system also includes a padded carry bag for secure transport.

Setup

1. **Unpacking:** Carefully remove all components from the padded carry bag. Verify that all parts are present: fluid

head, tripod, ground spreader, and pan bar.

2. Tripod Deployment:

- Place the tripod on a flat, stable surface.
- Release the leg locks on each section and extend the legs to the desired height. Ensure all leg sections are securely locked before proceeding. The tripod offers a versatile height range from 28.3 inches (72cm) to 70.1 inches (178cm).

3. Attaching the Ground Spreader:

- Connect the ground spreader arms to the lower section of each tripod leg.
- Adjust the spreader to achieve the desired leg angle and stability. The ground spreader enhances stability and prevents leg splay on smooth surfaces.

4. Mounting the Fluid Head:

- Place the Video 20 S1 Fluid Head onto the tripod's bowl mount.
- Tighten the bowl clamp securely to prevent any movement of the head.
- Attach the pan bar to the fluid head's designated receptacle and tighten its locking mechanism.

5. Initial Balance Setup:

- Ensure the fluid head's pan and tilt brakes are engaged.
- Mount your camera and accessories onto the quick-release plate of the fluid head. The system supports a robust 4-55 lbs (2-25kg) payload capacity.
- Adjust the camera's position on the quick-release plate until the camera is balanced, minimizing forward or backward tilt when the tilt brake is disengaged.

Operating Instructions

1. Adjusting Height:

- To change the tripod height, release the leg locks on each section, extend or retract the legs, and then firmly re-engage the locks. Ensure all three legs are adjusted evenly for stability.

2. Pan and Tilt Drag Control:

- The Video 20 S1 fluid head features 7-step drag settings for both pan and tilt movements. Rotate the drag control knobs to increase or decrease resistance. Higher settings provide more resistance for slower, more controlled movements, while lower settings allow for faster, smoother pans and tilts.
- Engage the pan and tilt brakes when the camera position needs to be fixed.

3. Counterbalance System:

- The fluid head is equipped with a 16-step counterbalance system. This system helps to offset the weight of the camera, allowing for precise and effortless tilting movements, especially with heavier loads.
- Adjust the counterbalance knob until the camera remains stable at any tilt angle when the tilt brake is disengaged. This ensures optimal performance and prevents the camera from tipping forward or backward.

4. Mounting and Dismounting Camera:

- To mount the camera, slide the quick-release plate with the attached camera into the fluid head's receiver until it clicks into place. Engage the safety lock if available.
- To dismount, release the safety lock, then press the quick-release lever to slide the plate out. Always support the camera firmly when mounting or dismounting.

Maintenance

- **Cleaning:**

- Wipe down the tripod legs and fluid head with a soft, damp cloth after each use, especially if used in dusty or sandy environments.
- Avoid using harsh chemicals or abrasive cleaners, as these can damage the finish and internal components.
- Ensure all moving parts are free of debris.

- **Storage:**

- When not in use, store the Sachtler system in its padded carry bag to protect it from dust, moisture, and physical damage.
- Store in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures.

- **Regular Checks:**

- Periodically check all screws, bolts, and locking mechanisms to ensure they are tight and secure. Do not overtighten.
- Inspect the fluid head for any signs of leakage or unusual resistance in pan/tilt movements. If issues arise, contact Sachtler support.

Troubleshooting

- **Issue: Tripod feels unstable.**

- *Solution:* Ensure all leg section locks are fully engaged. Verify that the ground spreader is properly attached and extended. Check that the tripod is placed on a level and firm surface.

- **Issue: Pan or tilt movements are stiff or jerky.**

- *Solution:* Check the pan and tilt drag settings; they might be set too high. Reduce the drag. Ensure no debris is obstructing the movement. If the issue persists, contact Sachtler customer support.

- **Issue: Camera is not balancing correctly on the fluid head.**

- *Solution:* Adjust the camera's position on the quick-release plate. Utilize the 16-step counterbalance system to fine-tune the balance for your specific camera setup. Ensure the quick-release plate is fully seated and locked.

Specifications

Feature	Detail
Product Dimensions	42.25 x 11.5 x 11.25 inches
Item Weight	24 pounds (10.9 kg)
ASIN	B00WE2ACGE
Item Model Number	S1 HD CF System
Date First Available	October 7, 2011
Manufacturer	Sachtler
Brand	Sachtler
Payload Capacity	4-55 lbs (2-25 kg)
Height Range	28.3" (72cm) to 70.1" (178cm)

Fluid Head Drag Settings	7-step pan and tilt drag
Fluid Head Counterbalance	16-step counterbalance system

Warranty and Support

For detailed warranty information and technical support, please refer to the documentation included with your purchase or visit the official Sachtler website. Sachtler provides comprehensive support for its products to ensure long-term satisfaction and performance.

You can find more information and contact details by visiting the [Sachtler Store on Amazon](#) or their official corporate website.