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Mares 41796

Mares SLS Slide and Lock Ballast System User Manual

Model: 41796 | Brand: Mares

INTRODUCTION

The Mares SLS (Slide and Lock System) is an advanced ballast technology designed for secure, intuitive, and easy-to-use weight management during diving. This system features an innovative mechanical interference mechanism that ensures the weight pocket remains securely locked during dives and allows for smooth, resistance-free removal when needed. The small SLS pocket has a 4 kg weight capacity, is compact, durable, and features a heavy-duty zipper for secure weight storage. Constructed from high-quality materials, it is built to withstand repeated dives and exposure to saltwater.

PRODUCT OVERVIEW



Image: The Mares SLS Slide and Lock Ballast System weight pocket, featuring its robust design and zipper closure.

The Mares SLS weight pocket is designed for integration with compatible BCDs. It features a robust zipped compartment for weights and a unique slide and lock mechanism for secure attachment and easy release. The system is engineered to prevent accidental detachment during underwater activities.

SETUP

- Loading Weights:** Open the heavy-duty zipper on the SLS weight pocket. Carefully insert your desired weights (up to 4 kg for the small size) into the pocket. Ensure weights are evenly distributed and the pocket is not overfilled. Close the zipper securely.
- Attaching to BCD:** Locate the insertion tunnel on your compatible BCD jacket. Hold the SLS weight pocket by its large handle. Guide the male buckle of the weight pocket into the BCD's insertion tunnel.
- Securing the Pocket:** Push the weight pocket firmly into the BCD until you feel and hear a distinct "click." This indicates that the mechanical interference mechanism has activated, pushing the holding prongs into position and locking the pocket securely.
- Verification:** Visually confirm that the lock indicator (often a colored tab or symbol) is fully visible and shows a "locked" status. Gently tug on the pocket to ensure it is firmly attached and cannot be easily dislodged.

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

1. **During Dive:** The SLS system is designed to keep your weights secure throughout the dive. The locking mechanism prevents accidental release.
2. **Emergency Release:** In an emergency, the SLS system allows for quick and easy weight release. Locate the release handle (typically a large, easily accessible handle). Pull the handle firmly and completely. This action retracts the internal prongs, allowing the male and female buckles to disengage smoothly.
3. **Post-Dive Removal:** After your dive, to remove the weight pockets, follow the emergency release procedure by pulling the release handle. The pocket will then slide out of the BCD's tunnel without resistance.

MAINTENANCE

- **Rinsing:** After each use, thoroughly rinse the weight pockets with fresh water to remove salt, sand, and other debris.
- **Drying:** Allow the pockets to air dry completely in a shaded, well-ventilated area before storage. Avoid direct sunlight, which can degrade materials over time.
- **Zipper Care:** Periodically inspect the heavy-duty zipper for any signs of wear or corrosion. Apply a marine-grade zipper lubricant if needed to ensure smooth operation.
- **Inspection:** Regularly check the fabric, stitching, and the integrity of the slide and lock mechanism for any damage or signs of wear. Replace the pocket if any critical components are compromised.
- **Storage:** Store the weight pockets in a cool, dry place, away from direct sunlight and harsh chemicals.

TROUBLESHOOTING

Weight Pocket Not Securing Properly

- **Ensure Full Insertion:** Make sure the weight pocket is pushed completely into the BCD's insertion tunnel until a clear "click" is heard and felt.
- **Verify Lock Indicator:** Always visually confirm that the lock indicator is fully visible and shows a "locked" status. If the indicator is not fully engaged, the pocket is not secure and could be lost during a dive.
- **Check for Obstructions:** Inspect the insertion tunnel and the male buckle for any debris, sand, or foreign objects that might prevent full engagement of the locking mechanism.
- **Inspect Mechanism:** Examine the holding prongs and sliding surfaces for damage or excessive wear. If damaged, the pocket may need replacement.

Difficulty Releasing Weight Pocket

- **Pull Handle Firmly:** Ensure the release handle is pulled firmly and completely to retract the internal prongs.
- **Check for Corrosion/Debris:** Saltwater exposure can sometimes cause minor corrosion or build-up. Rinse thoroughly and inspect the mechanism for any blockages.

SPECIFICATIONS

Model Number	41796
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Brand	Mares
Capacity (Small Size)	4 Kilograms (approx. 9 lbs)
Material Type	Nylon, Composite
Closure Type	Zipper
Product Dimensions	12.2 x 10.3 x 2.6 inches
Item Weight	0.2 Kilograms (0.44 lbs)
Sport Type	Diving

WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

This Mares SLS Slide and Lock Ballast System comes with a full manufacturer warranty. For specific warranty details, claims, or technical support, please refer to the official Mares website or contact their customer service directly. Keep your purchase receipt as proof of purchase.

Mares Official Website: www.mares.com