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CMI RP162

CMI Micro Arborist Block RP162 Instruction Manual

Model: RP162 | Brand: CMI

1. INTRODUCTION

This manual provides essential information for the safe and effective use of the CMI Micro Arborist Block, model RP162. The RP162 is a compact and robust arborist block designed for rigging applications. It features a 1/2-inch rope capacity and a Minimum Breaking Strength (MBS) of 21,900 lbs. Constructed with stainless steel axles, aluminum side-plates, and wheels, it offers durability and reliability for professional use. Please read and understand all instructions before operating this equipment.

2. SAFETY INFORMATION

WARNING: Failure to follow these instructions may result in serious injury or death.

- **Training:** This equipment should only be used by trained and competent arborists or individuals under direct supervision of a qualified professional.
- **Inspection:** Always inspect the arborist block, ropes, and all associated rigging equipment before each use. Look for signs of wear, damage, corrosion, or deformation. Discard any damaged equipment immediately.
- **Load Limits:** Never exceed the Minimum Breaking Strength (MBS) of 21,900 lbs. for this block. Always consider the Working Load Limit (WLL) of your entire rigging system, which is typically a fraction of the MBS.
- **Rope Compatibility:** Ensure that the rope used is compatible with the block's 1/2-inch capacity and is in good condition.
- **Secure Attachment:** Ensure the block is securely attached to a stable anchor point capable of withstanding the anticipated loads.
- **Environmental Factors:** Be aware of environmental conditions such as wind, rain, ice, and extreme temperatures, which can affect equipment performance and safety.
- **Clearance:** Maintain a safe working distance from the rigging area and ensure no personnel are beneath the load.

3. PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The CMI Micro Arborist Block RP162 is engineered for high performance in demanding arboriculture tasks. Its compact design does not compromise on strength or durability.

Key Features:

- **High Strength:** MBS of 21,900 lbs.
- **Rope Capacity:** Accommodates ropes up to 1/2 inch.
- **Compact Design:** Weighs only 1 lb, with dimensions of 2.25" x 4".
- **Durable Construction:** Features stainless steel axles, aluminum side-plates, and wheels.
- **Secure Locking:** Equipped with a screw-in top knob for positive lock.
- **Origin:** Made in USA.



Figure 1: Side view of the CMI Micro Arborist Block RP162, displaying its Minimum Breaking Strength (MBS) of 21,900 lbs and 1/2 inch rope capacity. The screw-in top knob is visible.



Figure 2: Angled view of the CMI Micro Arborist Block RP162, showcasing its robust aluminum side plates and compact form factor.

4. SETUP

1. **Inspect:** Before each use, thoroughly inspect the arborist block for any signs of damage, cracks, sharp edges, or excessive wear on the side plates, sheave, or axle. Ensure the screw-in top knob operates smoothly and locks securely.
2. **Select Rope:** Choose a rope with a diameter of up to 1/2 inch that is appropriate for the intended load and task. Inspect the rope for any damage or wear.
3. **Open Block:** Unscrew the top knob to open the side plate of the arborist block.
4. **Insert Rope:** Place the rope over the sheave (wheel) of the block.
5. **Close Block:** Close the side plate and securely tighten the screw-in top knob. Ensure it is fully engaged and cannot accidentally open during operation.
6. **Attach to Anchor:** Securely attach the arborist block to a suitable anchor point (e.g., a tree limb, rigging plate) using appropriate slings or connectors. Ensure the anchor point is strong enough to support the anticipated load.

5. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

The CMI Micro Arborist Block is designed to facilitate efficient and controlled lowering or lifting of loads in tree care operations. Proper technique is crucial for safety and effectiveness.

1. **Positioning:** Position the arborist block at the desired height and location on the anchor point. Ensure it is oriented correctly to allow the rope to run freely without obstruction or excessive friction against other surfaces.
2. **Rope Management:** Feed the working end of your rigging rope through the block. Ensure the rope is not twisted or tangled.
3. **Load Attachment:** Attach the load (e.g., cut branch) to the working end of the rope using a suitable knot or hitch.
4. **Controlled Lowering/Lifting:** Use a ground crew or mechanical advantage system to control the lowering or lifting of the load. Always maintain control of the rope to prevent uncontrolled descent.
5. **Friction Management:** Utilize appropriate friction devices (e.g., Port-a-Wrap, bollard) on the ground to manage the rope and control the speed of the load.
6. **Communication:** Maintain clear communication between the climber and ground crew throughout the operation.

6. MAINTENANCE

- **Cleaning:** After each use, clean the arborist block to remove dirt, sap, and debris. Use mild soap and water, then rinse thoroughly and dry completely.
- **Lubrication:** Periodically lubricate the sheave axle with a light, non-corrosive lubricant to ensure smooth operation. Avoid over-lubrication, which can attract dirt.
- **Storage:** Store the block in a clean, dry place away from direct sunlight, chemicals, and extreme temperatures. Protect it from physical damage.
- **Detailed Inspection:** Conduct a more detailed inspection periodically, checking for any signs of wear on the sheave, axle, side plates, and the screw-in top knob. Pay close attention to any areas where the rope makes contact.

7. TROUBLESHOOTING

- **Rope Jamming:** If the rope jams, immediately stop the operation. Check for twists in the rope, obstructions, or improper seating of the rope in the sheave. Ensure the block is correctly aligned with the load path.
- **Squeaking/Rough Operation:** This may indicate a need for cleaning or lubrication of the sheave axle. Inspect for debris or wear.
- **Difficulty Opening/Closing:** Check the screw-in top knob for dirt or damage. Clean and lubricate as necessary. Do not force the mechanism.
- **Visible Damage:** Any visible damage such as cracks, bends, or deep gouges means the block must be immediately removed from service and replaced.

8. SPECIFICATIONS

Attribute	Value
Model Number	RP162
Brand	CMI
Minimum Breaking Strength (MBS)	21,900 LBS
Rope Capacity	Up To 1/2"
Dimensions (L x W x H)	2.25" x 4" (Item Package: 5.24 x 3.74 x 2.32 inches)
Item Weight	1 lb. (0.99 Pounds)
Material	Aluminum (Side-plates and wheels), Stainless Steel (Axles)
Manufacturer	Colorado Mountain Industries
Origin	Made in USA

9. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For specific warranty information or technical support, please refer to the official CMI website or contact their customer service directly. Always ensure you are using genuine CMI replacement parts if any components require servicing.