

## **Introduction**

First and foremost we would like to thank you for your purchase of a Kessler Crane. We are confident that you will find the design and quality of materials to meet or exceed your expectations. We have dedicated much time and consideration into each of our products to ensure durability, stability, and ease of use. We extend a Lifetime Warranty so that you will share the confidence in our products, knowing that you have a company that will always stand behind its products.

Please take some time to read this manual in its entirety. This will ensure proper assembly and operation of your crane. Please pay special attention to the safety tips section of this guide. You will experience solid functionality with our cranes but you must adhere to the safety recommendations to ensure a safe environment to the operator and others in the area.

By using a Kessler Crane you will be able to achieve an elevated level of quality that will be evident to your existing clients as well as new ones. Enjoy your new Kessler Crane!

## **Safety Procedure**

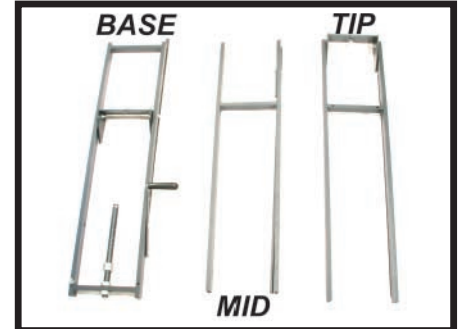
- 1) Before using your Kessler Crane in the field, practice assembly and operation of the unit in a controlled environment such as your studio or warehouse. Please be sure that all those who will be using and operating the crane are present and understand how to use it safely.
- 2) It is a must to use either a floor spreader or midlevel spreader with the tripod when using a Kessler Crane. Using a spreader will strengthen the tripod and increase the level of safety while the crane is in use.
- 3) Always be sure to rest the camera end of the crane on the ground or other stable surface when adding or removing the counter weights. When assembling the crane mount the camera first, then add the counter weights. When disassembling the crane, remove the counter weights first then remove the camera.
- 4) If you are using the optional vertical brake, be sure to never remove any weight from either end of the crane with the brake in a locked configuration.
- 5) If using the crane support tripod with the legs extended, be sure that the legs can be locked securely to disallow slippage and that the entire system is still balanced and stable.
- 6) If using the KC-5.5 with a tripod in this extended configuration, the crane will be too short to reach the ground. Use an elevated surface to rest the camera end of the crane on while setting up and breaking down the crane. This will prevent the crane from possibly tipping over.
- 7) Please be sure to keep cables and fingers clear of any of the pinch points of the crane.
- 8) Attempting to move the tripod with the crane and counter weights attached is dangerous unless you are using a dolly. If you are using a dolly, be sure to have the tripod in its lowest configuration as well as using a second operator for added safety. If you must move the tripod without a dolly, take the time to remove the counter weights and camera first.
- 9) Never operate the crane over people.
- 10) Perform an inspection of the crane before each use. Examination should include areas such as cable frays (when support cables are in effect); welds for any kind of cracks or fatigue; bolts for proper tightening; support rails for stress; collars should be tight and secure; overall integrity.
- 11) Never exceed 75lbs of total counter balance weight, or 45lbs on either side of the frame.

## KC-12

### ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS

#### STEP 1

Begin by positioning each section. The T-Bar (control rod) should be underneath each frame section (base & tip).

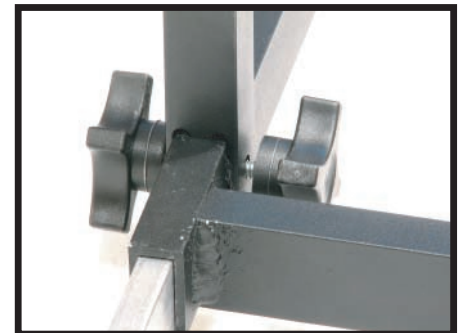


#### STEP 2

Slide the coupler bars into the base section of the crane, aligning the holes with the hole of the frame. Then, slide the first cable support over the aligned frame. Use a 1/4"-20 bolt and nut to secure it but do not tighten.

#### STEP 2B

If you have purchased the optional Tool Less Kit, slide the first cable support over the aligned frame. Use a 1 1/2" threaded knob to secure it. Place the female threaded knob on the inside of the frame. Leave the knobs loosened.



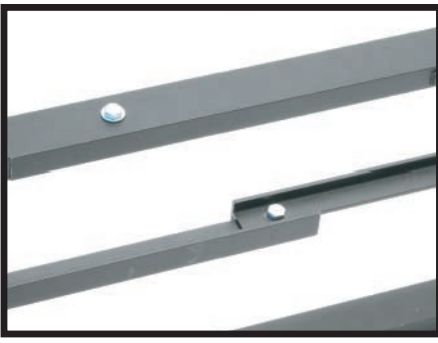
#### STEP 3

Leaving the supports in a loosened state, slide the mid section onto the base section. Use the 1/4"-20 bolts and nuts to fasten and leave them loosened. Making sure the frame sections are tight, tighten the bolts.

#### STEP 3B

If you have purchased the optional Tool Less Kit, leave the supports in a loosened state, slide the mid section onto the base section, use the 1/2" threaded knobs to fasten and leave them loosened. Make sure the frame sections are tight, secure the outside knobs first, followed by the inside.



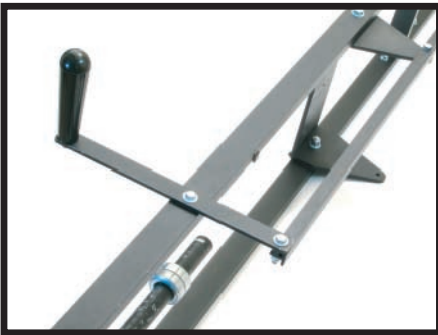
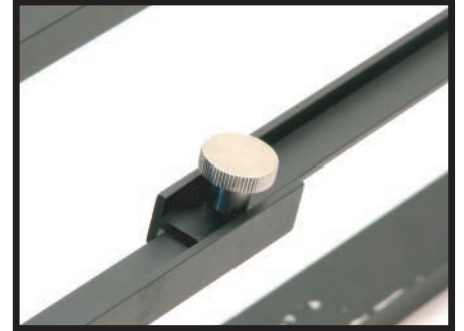


**STEP 4**

Place the crane onto its side and attach the control rods together.

**STEP 4B**

If you purchased the optional Tool Less kit, insert the stainless steel thumb knob, apply wing nut, and securely tighten.

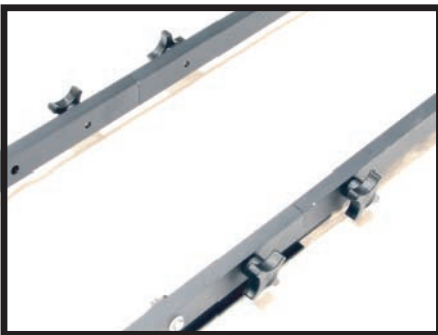
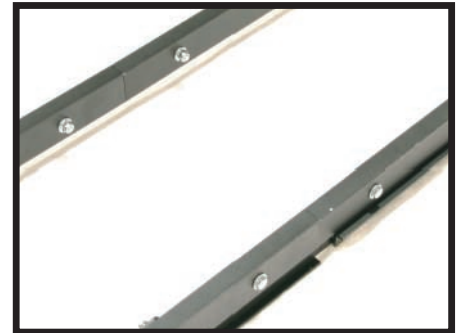


**STEP 5**

Attach the handle to the handle bar.

**STEP 6**

After inserting the coupler bars into the final segment, leaving the 1/4"-20 bolts slightly loosened, slide it into the midsection checking to make sure it's tight before securing the bolts.

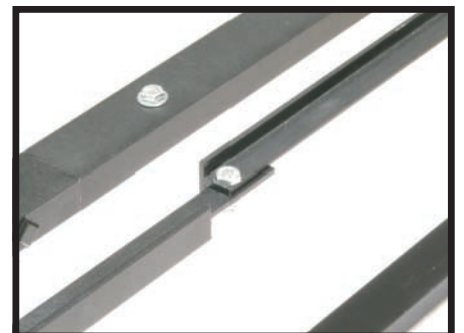


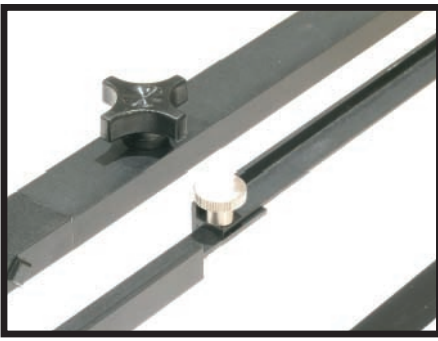
**STEP 6B**

If you have purchased the optional Tool Less Kit, after inserting the coupler bars into the final segment, leaving the 1/2" threaded knobs slightly loosened, slide it into the midsection checking to make sure its tight before securing the knobs.

**STEP 7**

Place the crane onto its side again and connect the last two control rods.



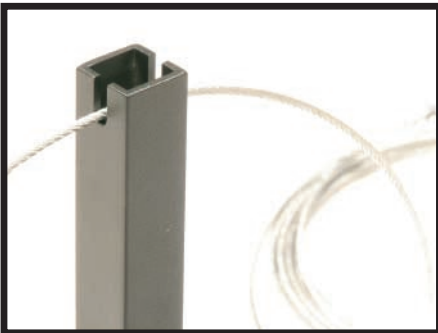
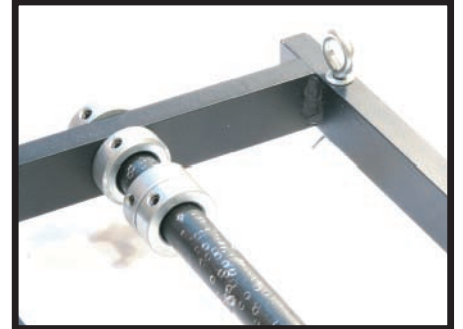


### **STEP 7B**

If you purchased the optional Tool Less kit, insert the stainless steel thumb knob, apply wing nut, and securely tighten.

### **STEP 8**

To attach the support cables, begin by inserting an eyebolt into the base section opposite the handle.



### **STEP 9**

Place the eyebolt that is attached to the cable in the other hole then thread the cable over the first support.

### **STEP 10**

Place the next two eyebolts into the holes in the tip section.



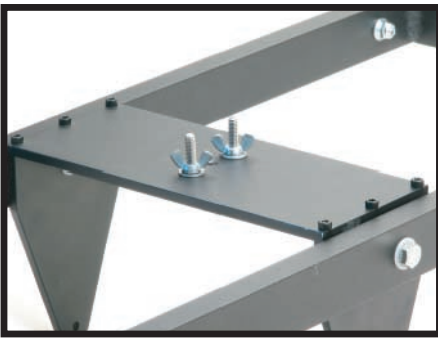
### **STEP 11**

Thread the cable through the last support and hook into the last eyebolt. Tighten the turnbuckle to remove slack.

### **STEP 12**

Attach the handle to the handle bar.





### **STEP 13**

Remove the (2) mounting screws from the pivot plate located on the base frame section.

### **STEP 14**

Replace the camera mounting screw that should already be attached to your tripod head quick plate with the (2) mounting screws.



### **STEP 15**

Lock your quick plate into the tripod head and make sure that you are able to tighten the plate securing lever very firmly.

**IMPORTANT:** For in depth instructions on how to correctly adjust the mounting plate securing lever, please view the appropriate video at [www.KesslerCrane.com](http://www.KesslerCrane.com) (Crane/Quickplate to Fluid Head Mounting Procedure)

### **STEP 16**

Pick up the crane and place it on your tripod so that the pivot plate's two outer holes line up with the (2) mounting screws and tighten with the wing nuts.



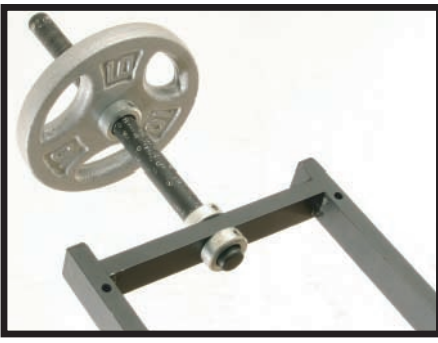
### **STEP 17**

Mount your camera to the camera basket using the supplied thumb knob

### **STEP 18**

Using a 5/32" Allen wrench, remove the outside weight bar collar, flip the weight bar 180 degrees so that it extends beyond the end of the crane's frame, and reattach the collar.





### **STEP 19**

After the camera is securely mounted, begin adding your counter balance weights (not included but can be purchased at any sporting goods store – standard weights with 1” hole). Weights should be applied so that they are sandwiched by two of the collars anywhere on the weight bar.

### **NOTE**

You will want to balance the crane PERFECTLY for best results. This can be achieved by getting the amount of weight as close as possible and then changing the weights positions on the weight bar. Balance may also be achieved by sliding the bar inside the frame and positioning the weights there. ***NEVER exceed 45lbs on the weight bar on either side of the crane's frame.***

To use the crane in automatic mode, simply lock the tripod's fluid head tilt at any angle. The angle of the head will reflect the angle of the camera so if you lock the fluid head level, the camera will remain level as you operate the crane.

To put the crane in manual mode simply leave the tilt lock on the fluid head loose. This will allow you to tilt the head/camera independently from the travel of the boom.

If your camera weights more than 10lbs., it is advisable to put the camera basket in the under slung configuration. This will allow easier manual operation of the tilt lever, as the camera basket will not be so top heavy.

