

## **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**

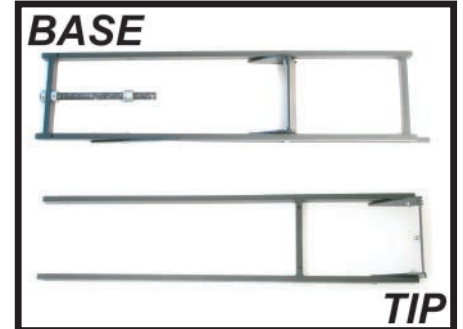
- 1) Before using your Kessler Crane in the field, practice assembly and operation of the unit in a controlled environment such as your studio or warehouse. Please be sure that all those who will be using and operating the crane are present and understand how to use it safely.
- 2) It is a must to use 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-5.5 and KC-8**

### **ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS**

#### **STEP 1**

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



#### **STEP 2**

Slide the coupler bars into the base section so that the holes line up. Insert the 1/4"-20 bolts and apply the nuts but do not tighten.

#### **STEP 2B**

If you purchased the optional tool less kit, line up the holes and apply 2 of the tool less knobs but do not tighten.



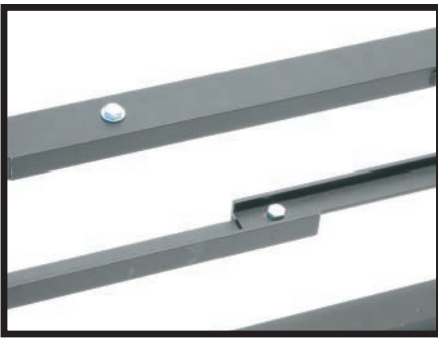
#### **STEP 3**

Slide the exposed coupler bars into the tip section and insert the 1/4"-20 bolts and apply the nuts. With socket and wrench, tighten all four bolts.

#### **STEP 3B**

If you purchased the optional Tool Less kit, apply the remaining (2) knobs and tighten all four knobs.



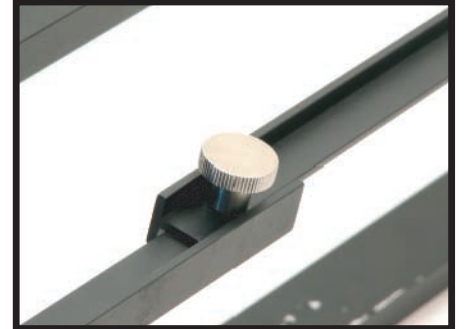


#### **STEP 4**

Overlap the two T-Bars (control rods), align the holes and insert the ¼"-20 bolt from the backside and apply the nut. Use the socket and wrench to securely tighten.

#### **STEP 4B**

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

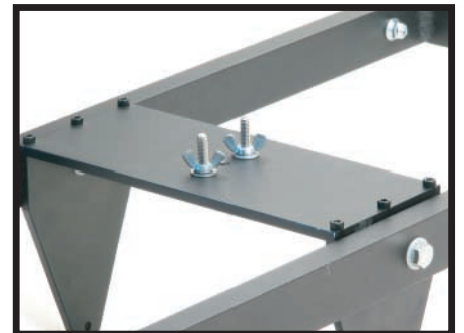


#### **STEP 5**

Attach the handle to the handle bar.

#### **STEP 6**

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



#### **STEP 7**

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

#### **STEP 8**

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 9**

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 10**

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.

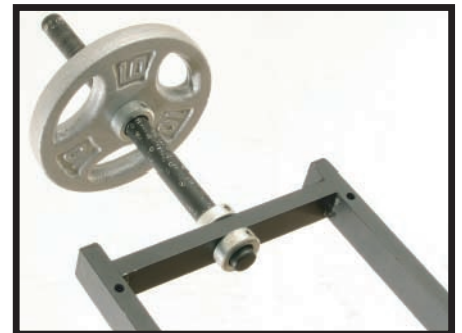


### **STEP 11**

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

### **STEP 12**

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 weighs 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.

