PRODUCT
DOCUMENTATION

Westscan
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AUSTRALIAN DESIGN

GATIC LIFTER

PRODUCT SAFETY GUIDE

INSTRUCTIONS

GATIC LIFTER TOOL CAN APPLY 10,000KG OF BREAKING FORCE BETWEEN PIT LID AND A FRAME.

LIFT SMARTER. REDUCE RISK

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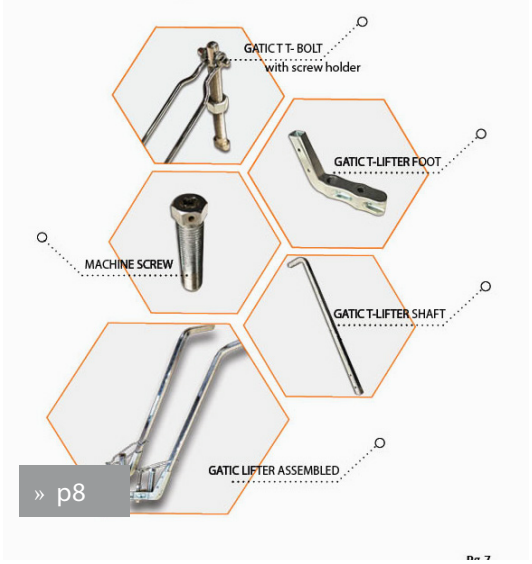
GATIC LIFTER DOCUMENTATION



Pg4 INTRODUCTION

Westscan Pty Ltd is committed to providing safe, reliable, and high-quality infrastructure solutions. Our mission is to equip operators with tools and training that ensure safety, efficiency, and peace of mind on every job site...

Pg5 ABOUT THIS MANUAL

This manual provides guidance for the safe, correct and efficient use of the Gatic Lifter, including operation, safety and maintenance.

Pg6 COMPATIBLE COVER TYPES

The Gatic Lifter is designed for use with a range of Gatic manhole, pit and access covers. This section outlines compatible cover types commonly found in civil, utility, commercial and industrial applications.

Pg8 COMPONENTS OF GATIC LIFTER

This section identifies the main components of the Gatic Lifter and their arrangement within the assembled tool.

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The Gatic Lifter comes fully assembled. This section explains preparation, key engagement and how to safely open and remove Gatic covers.

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Range of spare parts available per request.

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GATIC LIFTER DOCUMENTATION

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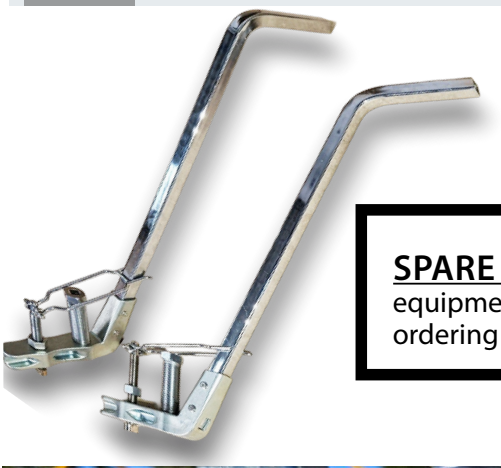
Pg17 PRODUCT SPECIFICATION

This section provides detailed specifications for the Gatic Lifter, including product construction, materials, dimensions, weight and technical capabilities, to provide a clear overview of the tool and its performance.

Pg18 LIABILITY STATEMENT

This section outlines Westscan's liability in relation to the use of the Gatic Lifter. It also sets out operator responsibilities and prohibited uses to support the safe and correct use of the tool.



SPARE PARTS: We offer a range of genuine spare parts to help keep your equipment operating reliably. Please contact us for current availability and ordering information.

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Intro

The Gatic Lifter was developed following many years of practical experience using a wide range of traditional lifting methods and tools for pit and manhole covers. Throughout this time, recurring safety and usability issues were observed across different environments, cover types, and site conditions.

Operators frequently relied on improvised solutions, excessive manual force, or impact methods to free sealed or corroded covers. These practices not only increased the risk of musculoskeletal injuries, hand injuries, and uncontrolled cover movement, but also often resulted in damage to covers, frames, and surrounding surfaces.

Drawing on this accumulated experience, the Gatic Lifter was purpose-designed to reduce these risks by providing a controlled, mechanical approach to breaking the seal and lifting covers safely. The design reflects real-world site challenges, including restricted access, uneven surfaces, and covers that have not been lifted for extended periods.

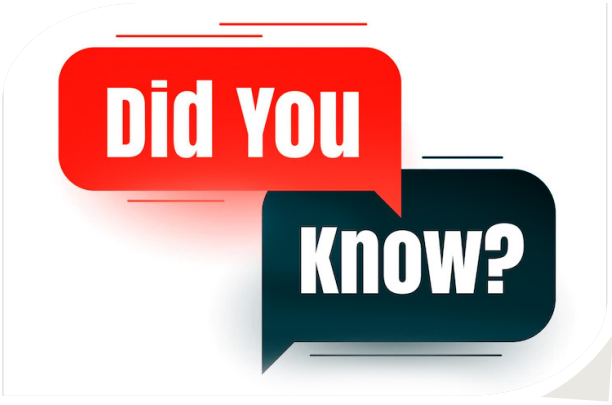
The result is a tool shaped by experience, engineered for reliability, and aligned with modern WHS expectations.

NEW TOOL
For Real-World Site Conditions

ABOUT WESTSCAN PTY LTD

Westscan is a Western Australian owned and operated company founded in 2009 by James Horton.

The company provides professional scanning and locating solutions, with a strong focus on quality, accuracy, and safety.



Gatic lifter tool can apply 10,000kgs of breaking force between pit lid and a frame to assist breaking stubborn manhole cover seals.

Developed from years of real-world use, not theoretical design.

About This Manual

This manual has been designed to provide guidance for the safe and efficient use of the Gatic Lifter.

It has been developed to provide clear guidance on the safe, correct, and efficient use of the Gatic Lifter. It is intended for operators, supervisors, maintenance personnel, and site managers involved in the lifting and handling of pit and manhole covers.

The information contained in this manual reflects real-world site conditions and is designed to support compliance with workplace health and safety (WHS) requirements.

It outlines recommended operating procedures, safety precautions, maintenance guidelines, and technical information to ensure the Gatic Lifter is used as intended.

The manual also serves as a reference document for training, site inductions, and safe work method statements (SWMS).

This manual should be read and understood before using the Gatic Lifter and retained for future reference.

WHO SHOULD USE THIS MANUAL

- Civil and infrastructure workers
- Local government and council maintenance teams
- Utility service providers (water, gas, telecommunications, electrical)
- Contractors and subcontractors engaged in public works
- Site supervisors and leading hands

All users should be trained in safe manual handling practices and familiar with applicable WHS requirements and site-specific safety procedures.

This manual does not replace site-specific risk assessments or SWMS. All work must be conducted in accordance with local WHS legislation and organisational procedures.

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Compatible Cover Types

- **Circular access covers / manhole covers** — the standard round cover for stormwater and sewer manholes; simplifies forming the pit top.
- **Square and rectangular access covers** — single-part frame-and-cover units for square or rectangular pit and shaft openings.
- **Multi-part / "Gatic lid" systems** — large openings (transformer pits, generator sets, lift wells, valve chambers) covered by several individual cover sections sitting on an engineered frame.
- **Concrete infill covers** — an iron (or composite) frame and cover designed to be filled with pavers, concrete.
- **Solid top covers** — a cover with no infill tray
- **Trench run covers** — long, linear cover sections for cable ducts, oil/steam/gas conduit trenches and general service trenches.
- **Drainage grates** — modular grates (ductile iron or galvanised steel) for factory floors, road crossings, wharves, trench drains, and pedestrian "heel guard" grates designed to stop heels/wheels catching in the slots.
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- **Gas- and airtight covers and lids** — sealed covers for sewer or odour-control applications where gas must not escape past the lid.
- **Communications/telecommunications pit lids** — the Telstra/NBN "P-series" pit lids (P2, P3, P5, P6, P8, P9 etc.) covering telecom pits; lighter-duty than civil infrastructure covers but use the same recessed lift point.
- **Valve box covers** — small covers over underground stop valves and similar fittings, typically in footpaths or verges.
- **Trade waste covers** — secure covers over trade waste pits at commercial/food premises.
- **Maintenance shaft lids and encasements** — lids for deeper maintenance shafts, often supplied with a concrete encasement collar.
- **Checker plate covers** — flat plate covers (often galvanised steel) used on walkways and platform access points rather than in-ground pits.
- **Retention pit covers** — covers for stormwater retention/detention pit chambers

Cover Materials

Suitable for Gatic Lifter

- **Ductile iron** — Used for frames, solid tops, and grating.
- **Grey cast iron** — the older, more brittle iron traditionally used for covers
- **Ductile iron with concrete infill** — an iron frame and tray filled with concrete either on-site or pre-filled at the factory as a ready-to-install unit.
- **Composite (fibre-reinforced polymer/resin), including composite–cast iron hybrids** — lighter than solid iron, corrosion-resistant, used for both civil access covers (hybrid composite/iron construction) and communications pit lids.
- **Precast concrete** — used alone (with or without an iron frame) for communications/NBN pit lids and some infill cover trays.
- **Polymer/plastic ("poly")** — lightweight lids used on lower-load communications pits.
- **Glass-reinforced concrete (GRC)** — offered by some suppliers as a lightweight, non-corrosive alternative for lids and encasements.
- **Galvanised steel** — used for checkerplate covers and grates (heel guard, trench, trash, V-grates).
- **Stainless steel** — used for pit lids in corrosive or wash-down environments, and as decorative/security edging on concrete infill covers.
- **Brass** — used as decorative or anti-theft edging/trim on concrete infill covers.

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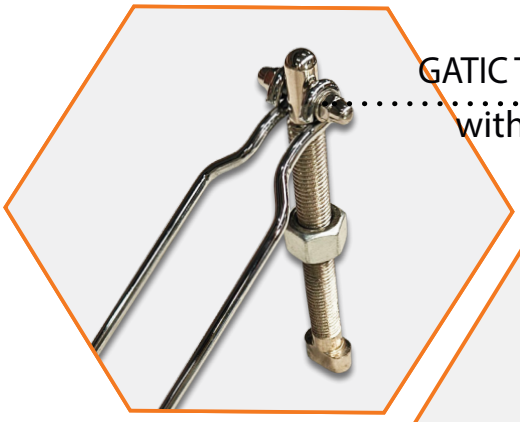
Components of Gatic Lifter



GATIC T- BOLT
with screw holder

GATIC T-LIFTER FOOT

MACHINE SCREW

GATIC T-LIFTER SHAFT

GATIC LIFTER ASSEMBLED

Assembly, Setup & Use

The Gatic Lifter comes fully assembled. Apply a small amount of tool lubrication to threaded parts and Gatic Lifter tool is ready to use.

01 Preparation

Before use, ensure the work area and cover are properly prepared:

- Prepare a safe work environment e.g. barricading and signage.
- Remove any keyhole plugs (plastic) from the pit lid.
- Clear all dirt, sand, and debris from the keyhole slots to ensure correct key engagement.
- Brush away loose soil and gravel from around the cover so it can be rolled clear without obstruction.
- Ensure the surrounding surface is free of loose material.

02 Assembly & Key Engagement

- Ensure the pressure bolt is not protruding below the lifter foot (as this will prevent correct contact with Gatic foot).
- Insert the Gatic T-bolt into the Gatic slot on the manhole cover or pit lid.
- Turn the T-bolt 90 degrees within the slot using the round bar handle and set it into position on either side of the lifting handle.
- Tighten the securing nut on the T-bolt to firmly seat the breaker lifter against the cover or lid using an adjustable spanner.

NOTE: Circular covers generally require one lifter.
Square or rectangular covers require two lifters, positioned evenly

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Assembly, Setup & Use

(continued)

03 Breaking the Seal

Before lifting, the seal between the cover and the frame must be broken.

With the T-bolt locked at 90° to the Gatic Keyhole and the Round bar handle positioned either side of the lifter handle, apply force by turning the pressure bolt.

- The pressure bolt may be operated using:
  - Adjustable spanner
  - Correct-size socket or wrench
  - ½-inch drive impact (rattle) gun (recommended)
  - Maximum recommended torque: 250 Nm.

NOTE: If using two Gatic Lifters, apply force evenly by alternating from one lifter to the other.

04 Lifting and Rolling the Cover Clear

- Once the seal is broken,
- Position a length of pipe behind the cover.
- Lift the cover just enough to allow the pipe to be rolled underneath.
- Gently roll the pipe under the cover.
- Lower the cover onto the pipe and roll it back, clear of the pit opening.
- If required, a second pipe may be introduced to manoeuvre the cover further away.

Assembly, Setup & Use

(continued)

05 Replacing the Cover

- Scrape and wire-brush all seating surfaces to remove dirt, grease, or corrosion.
- Apply grease.
- Roll the cover back into position and tilt it down onto the frame.
- Remove the pipe and lower the cover onto its seating.
- Lift and drop lightly if required to fully seat the cover.
- Remove the lifter keys and replace the plastic keyhole plugs.

NOTE: Always reinstall the cover in the same orientation it was removed, particularly for square or rectangular covers.

06 Breaking Hard-To-Lift or Seized Covers

For covers that remain stuck:

- Tighten the pressure bolt further; the lifter foot acts as a bridge to jack the cover from the frame.
- Applying upward jacking force combined with light hammer taps around the cover edge may assist.
- Avoid excessive hammering, especially on cast iron covers, as this can cause cracking, splintering, or sparks.
- The clockwise rotation of the pressure screw applies controlled upward force, breaking corrosion and incrustation.

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Maintenance & Safety TIPS

01 Maintenance & Storage

- Clean the tool after use and lubricate as required.
- Protect threads of T-bolt and pressure bolt during storage or transport.

02 Safety Tips

- Understand the task you are performing
- Setup a safe work area
- Do not overload tool
- Use correct manual handling techniques

Inspect your Gatic Lifter — if it's bent, worn, or damaged, do not use it.

Engage the lifter fully under the lifting point. Make sure it's secure before you apply any force.

NOTE: Safe lifting isn't about strength — it's about technique, awareness, and respecting the risks.

Shipping & Return Policy

1. SHIPPING

1.1 Delivery Area

- We currently ship Australia-wide only. We do not offer international shipping at this time

1.2 Delivery Address Requirements

A physical street address must be provided for delivery. We are unable to ship to PO Boxes, Locked Bags, Private Bags, Private Lockers, or any automated Australia Post Parcel Locker or Parcel Collect location.

1.3 Order Processing & Dispach

Orders are processed and dispatched within 48 business hours of payment being received. We ship Monday to Friday only, excluding weekends and public holidays, so this timeframe is counted in business hours, not calendar hours. You will receive a confirmation email once your order has been dispatched.

1.4 Delivery Timeframes

Estimated delivery times from dispatch are:

Destination	Estimated Delivery Time
Metro (Perth)	1–3 business days
Adelaide, SA	3– 4 business days
Sydney, NSW	3– 4 business days
Brisbane, QLD	5–7 business days
Canberra, ACT	4–5 business days
Darwin, NT	6–8 business days
Hobart, TAS	9–11 business days

Other regional and remote areas may take longer. These are estimates only and are not guaranteed.

1.5 Shipping Costs

Shipping costs are based on FedEx's pricing at the time your order is shipped, and depend on the destination postcode, total shipment weight, and package dimensions. If a shipping cost is quoted to you when you place your order, this is an estimate only - the actual cost may change if FedEx's rates change between the time of the quote and the date of shipping

1.6 Carrier & Shipping Insurance

Orders are shipped using FedEx (TNT is now part of the FedEx network). Optional shipping insurance is available (FedEx Option B), which provides added cover for loss or damage in transit. Let us know when you place your order by phone or email if you would like this cover added — we recommend selecting this option.

1.7 Order Tracking

Once your order has been dispatched, you will be emailed a tracking link so you can follow its progress.

1.8 Lost or Damaged in Transit

If your order does not arrive, or arrives damaged, please contact us as soon as possible (see Section 3 Contact Us) so we can lodge an investigation with the courier and arrange a replacement or refund where appropriate. Where optional shipping insurance was selected for the order, any claim will be handled in accordance with that cover

2. RETURNS, REFUNDS & WARRANTY

2.1 Change of Mind

We do not offer refunds or exchanges for change of mind. Please choose carefully and check product specifications before purchasing.

2.2 Faulty, Damaged or Incorrect Items

If a product you receive is faulty, damaged, or not what you ordered, you are entitled to a remedy under the Australian Consumer Law. Depending on whether the issue is a major or minor failure, this may include a repair, replacement, or refund.

To make a claim, contact us within a reasonable time of the issue becoming apparent (see Section 3 Contact Us) with your order number, a description of the fault, and photos where possible. We may ask you to return the item for assessment.

Where a product is confirmed to be faulty, we will cover the cost of return shipping and, once the claim is assessed, provide a repair, replacement, or refund as required by law.

2.3 Manufacturer's Warranty

Some products may also be covered by a separate manufacturer's warranty in addition to your rights under the Australian Consumer Law (for example, the Long Handled Gatic Lifter carries a 12-month warranty against manufacturing defects). Warranty terms for a specific product are set out on its product listing or included documentation.

Some products are manufactured by Westscan. As with any Westscan-manufactured item, minor variations in finish or appearance between individual units are normal and are not considered a defect for warranty purposes.
was selected for the order, any claim will be handled in accordance with that cover

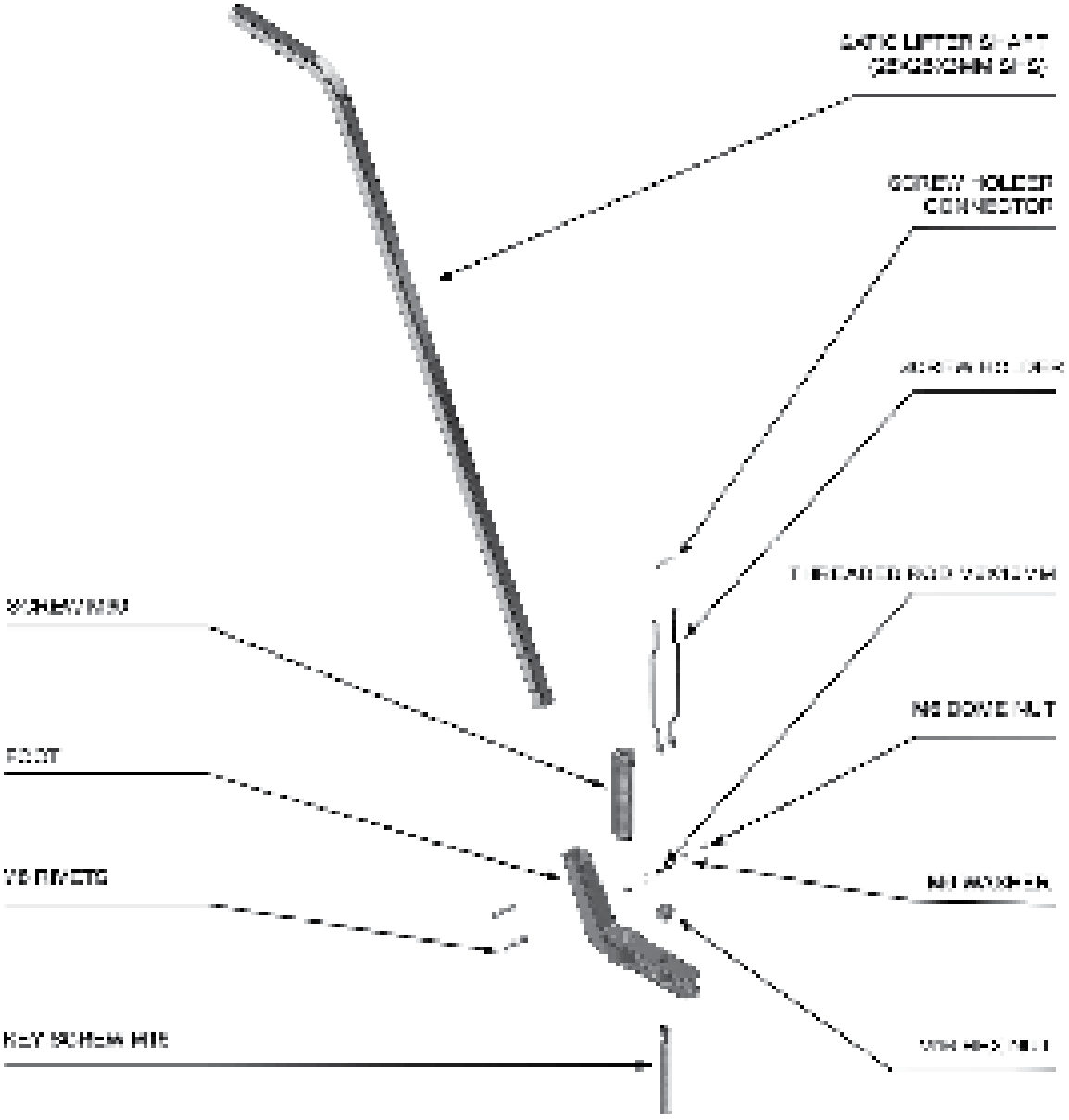
2.4 How to Lodge a Return or Claim

To lodge a return, claim or report a faulty product, please contact us via our Contact Page or by phone on 1300 858 404.

We will guide you through the appropriate procedure and advise you of any information required to process your claim.

3. SPARE PARTS

We offer a range of spare parts—please contact us for availability and assistance.



Product Specifications

Gatic lifter tool can apply 10,000kgs of breaking force between pit lid and a frame to assist breaking stubborn manhole cover seals!

- Product Name: Heavy Duty Gatic Lifter – (Long handle gatic lifter)
- Product Code: JHGL01_01
- Warranty: 12 Months
- Weight: 4.8 Kgs (5.7Kgs including shipping carton)
- Tool Type: Gatic lifter
- Handle Tyope: Long handle
- Construction: Fabricated steel
- Head: Steel 45
- M30 Machine Screw: Steel 45
- T Bolt: Steel 45
- Product Length: 1000 mm +_ 5mm
- Product Width: 200 mm
- Product Height: 45mm
- Surface Finish: Zinc Coated
- Carton QTY: 1 Unit
- Shipping Carton Measurements: L 996 mm x W 226 mm x H 60 mm

Technical

- Maximum torque applied to M30: 250Nm
- Handle Maximum lifting capacity: 180Kgs
- Handle Maximum Pushing Down capacity: 150Kgs

WATCH INSTRUCTION VIDEO
https://www.westscan.com.au/gatic-lifter-instruction-video.html

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Liability Statement

Disclosure

By purchasing and using the Gatic Lifter, you acknowledge and agree that Westscan Pty Ltd is not liable for any injury, damage, loss, or consequential damages arising from the use, misuse, or incorrect maintenance of this product. Westscan provides this tool on the condition that the owner/user accepts full responsibility for safe operation, correct handling, and compliance with all instructions.

Operator Responsibilities

- The owner/user must ensure that all operators have read, understood, and followed the operating instructions before using the equipment.

- The owner/user must ensure that the lifter is inspected, maintained, and stored according to the procedures outlined in the operating instructions.

- Failure to follow operating, maintenance, or storage instructions may result in increased risk of injury and will void warranty rights.

Prohibited Use

- DO NOT modify this equipment as it will void Warranty benefits.
- Do NOT attach this tool to machinery such as cranes, backhoes, excavators, or lifting devices.
- This equipment is designed to limit the lifting height of manhole covers or plates for operator safety. Using it outside its intended purpose is strictly prohibited.

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Cockburn Central WA 6164

www.westscan.com.au/contact-us.html