STEELTRAK

Distributor Information Guide

Contents

KEENCUT
THE WORLD'S FINEST CUTTING MACHINES

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STEELTRAK

Introduction to the SteelTraK

What is the SteelTraK?

The SteelTraK is a heavy-duty wall-mounted cutter specifically designed to cut and trim sign materials with thicknesses up to 13mm. The cutting head is manually operated and runs on steel bearings along a vertical axis with the weight of the head supported by an integral counterbalance system. The standard setup includes four tools that can be selected by simply rotating the desired blades into position.

The SteelTraK is the most advanced and heavy-duty manual vertical cutter available for sign and graphics materials. The machines are 100% manufactured in England and the components are sourced from suppliers throughout Western Europe ensuring there are no compromises in quality.

Selling Points

Versatile

- Cuts almost all rigid and semi rigid materials used in sign making and display.
- Cuts V-grooves in PVC Foamboard and Aluminium Composite for folding one piece sign trays and boxes
- Can be installed at any point in the pre-production, printing or finishing process
- Tool docking system fits each Twin-wheel & V-groove cutter plus future tools for future materials

Strong

- Manufacture guaranteed for 5 years.
- High spec. Aerospace aluminium alloy construction
- All bearings guaranteed for 20 years
- Steel track and ball-bearing vertical slide system
- High tensile steel cable counterbalance system
- Thick-wall hollow section horizontal squaring arm

Key SteelTraK advantages

- Produces no airborne contaminants and can be installed alongside printers or laminators.
- Can be operated safely and accurately by staff without special skill training
- All adjustments, replacements, lubrication and cleaning are simple and do not require special skills
- 80% less expensive, 99% less noise and 99% less debris and 400% more versatile than a saw.
- 4 ready mounted cutting tools ready for instant selection do not obstruct material loading
- Exact cut sight line strip to accurately align materials with all tools cutting on the same line
- Counterbalance holds the cutting head clear for loading and ready for use with minimum effort
- Easy material loading from either side for optimum installation convenience and material flow

Weights & Dimensions

SteelTraK	ST165	ST210
Weight	75kg	94kg
Packaged Dimensions (Length x Width x Height)	233x46x35cm	280x46x35cm
Standing Dimensions (Height x Width x Depth)	249x213x40cm	279x213x40cm
Maximum Cut Length	165cm	210cm

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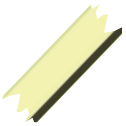
Standard Tools & Accessories Included with the SteelTraK

CA50/019 Medium Duty Blades x 100

STSB Acrylic Scoring Blade x 1

CA50/015 TC Glass Cutting Wheel x 1

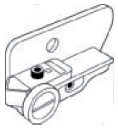
STSLS Sightline Strips x 2



STCOC Aluminium Composite Cutting Head x 1

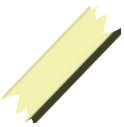
Wall Mounting Bracket

Optional Tools & Accessories

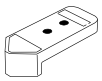


STVG2 2mm 90° V-Groove Tool
STVG3 3mm 90° V-Groove Tool
STVG4 4mm 90° V-Groove Tool
STVG5 5mm 90° V-Groove Tool
STVG6 6mm 90° V-Groove Tool

STSLS Sightline Strips (pack of 3)

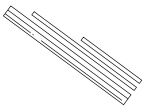


STALC Aluminium Sheet Cutting Head



STVGB 90° V-Groove Blade (pack of 5)

FSK165 Freestanding Kit for ST165 only
FSK210 Freestanding Kit for ST210 only



STGLC Glass Cutting Kit - Instructions available at:
http://www.keencut.co.uk/videos.aspx

Blade Selection Chart

As standard the SteelTraK is equipped with three main cutting systems that cover the majority of customer requirements. Specialist tools are offered as optional accessories to avoid customers paying for equipment they may not use. The following chart matches blades/tools to the materials they cut

Materials	Maximum Cut	Blades/Tools
Acrylic / Plexiglas	6mm	STSB
Aluminium	1.6mm	STALC
Aluminium Composite	5mm	STCOC
Cardboard	13mm	CA50/019
Conservation Board	3.5mm	CA50/010
Corrugated Plastic & Card	13mm	CA50/019
Flexible Polycarbonate	3mm	STCOC
Foam-Centred Board	13mm	CA50/019
Glass	6mm	CA50/015
MDF	3mm	STCOC
Mountboard	3.5mm	CA50/010
Polystyrene	13mm	CA50/019
PVC Foamboard	13mm	CA50/019

*For questions about materials that do not appear on this list please contact sales@keencut.co.uk

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The Features Explained

The SteelTraK sales literature highlights a number of features, the purpose of this section is to explain some of the main features and how they benefit your customer

Primary Features

- **4 turn and lock tools**
  The standard cutting head configuration comprises of three tool holders (CA50/010, CA50/019 & STSB) permanently mounted to a locking turret and one tool (STCOC) mounted to an accessory attachment block. The turret locks in three positions each one selecting a new tool. The composite head pivots 90° on the accessory attachment block to engage or disengage the cutter. The block is designed so that new tools can be created and retro fitted to any SteelTraK whether new or old.

- **Integral counterbalance**
  The counterbalance weight is attached to the SteelTraK cutting head and runs on silent bearings inside the main spine of the SteelTraK; it is designed to support the weight of the head and serves two main functions.
  1) Operators will not become fatigued by having to lift the weight of the head for each cut.
  2) The cutting head can easily be moved out of the way when using the composite or V-groove tools making it much easier to feed materials.

- **All blades cut on the same line**
  By ensuring that all blades cut on the same line the SteelTraK has no need for multiple cut guides. The main advantages are:
  1) Virtually no setup required when switching jobs.
  2) Removes the possibility of expensive operator errors.

- **Pre-lubricated ball bearings on a steel track**
  The SteelTraK has a unique ball bearing system rather than the plastic bearing system found on older machines and competitor products. There are two big advantages to the SteelTraK system.
  1) The bearings generate almost no additional friction so the pressure being exerted by the operator goes directly into the cut. In contrast the plastic bearings generate a lot of friction on heavier materials like Aluminium Composite and PVC Foamboard making them much harder to use. This is a very important feature to consider on a manual cutter.
  2) The combination of ball bearings running on a steel track means the slide system will last a very long time without any adjustment.

- **Transparent cutline cursor**
  The SteelTraK is fitted with a clear cursor (STSLS Sightline Strips) to indicate the actual cutline of the machine for all four tools. The cursor allows materials to be very accurately placed in the machine prior to cutting. The Sightline Strip is replaceable and once fitted to the machine the new cursor is then trimmed using the utility blade cutting head, which guarantees precise accuracy of the cutline.

- **All specified materials can be cut in one pass**
  This point is self explanatory but some customers can be sceptical. We recommend directing them to the Keencut website where they can view a video of the SteelTraK in operation (http://www.keencut.co.uk/videos.aspx).

- **Precise screw adjusted perma-lock squaring**
  The SteelTraK has an extremely simple and effective squaring system. The machine can be calibrated to 90° within a couple of minutes and then locks in position to stay square.

Secondary Features

- **Full length extra grip clamping system**
  The clamp is pressure sensitive and will grip various thicknesses of material without any adjustment. The back of the clamp is fitted with a full-length silicone pad and the print side is fitted with two full-length rubber foam strips. The setup is designed to grip media firmly but also protect any artwork.

- **Hinge-out slide track**
  The slide track is the main piece of vertical extrusion that holds the cutting head. Loosening a single screw at the top and the bottom allows the track to pivot 90° making it possible to easily clean the clamp or replace any grip pads.

- **Telescopic Legs**
  The lower sections of the legs are telescopic and have 50cm of adjustment allowing the customer to set their SteelTraK at the most comfortable working height.

- **Extruded back beams**
  The back beams provide support for materials on both sides of the machine and help keep work flat to reduce the chance of any misaligned cuts.

- **Double-Hollow Chamber Squaring Arm**
  The squaring arm is designed to be as strong as possible by using a single piece of extrusion with a hollow chamber design. The thick wall hollow extrusion of the squaring arm ensures that neither strength or straightness are compromised by machining.

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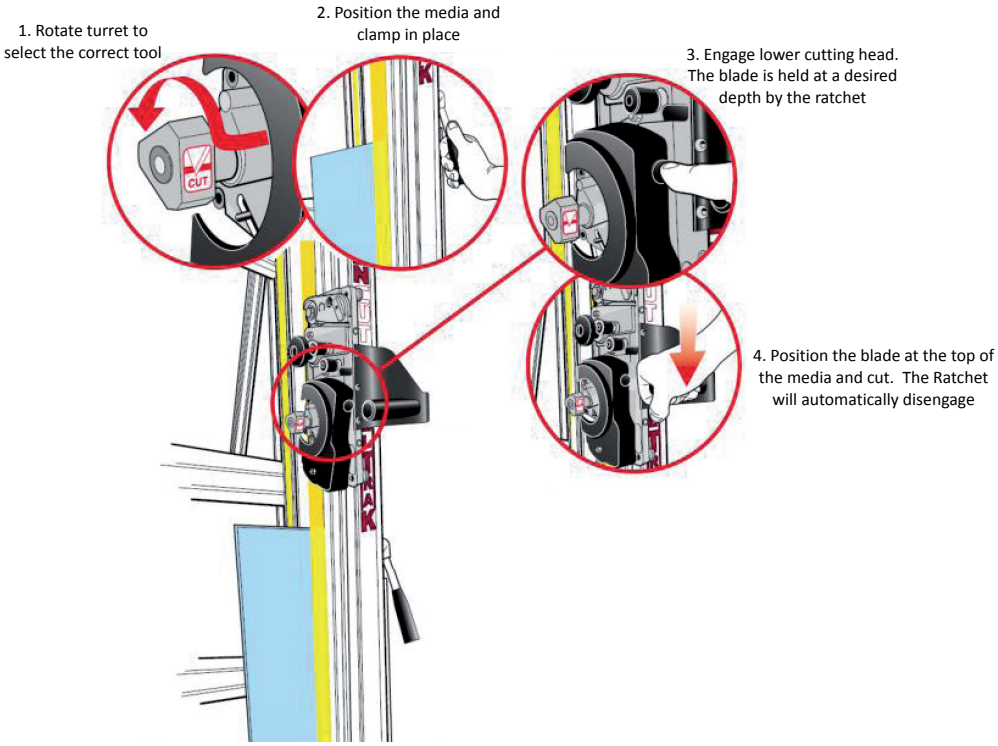
Operating the SteelTraK

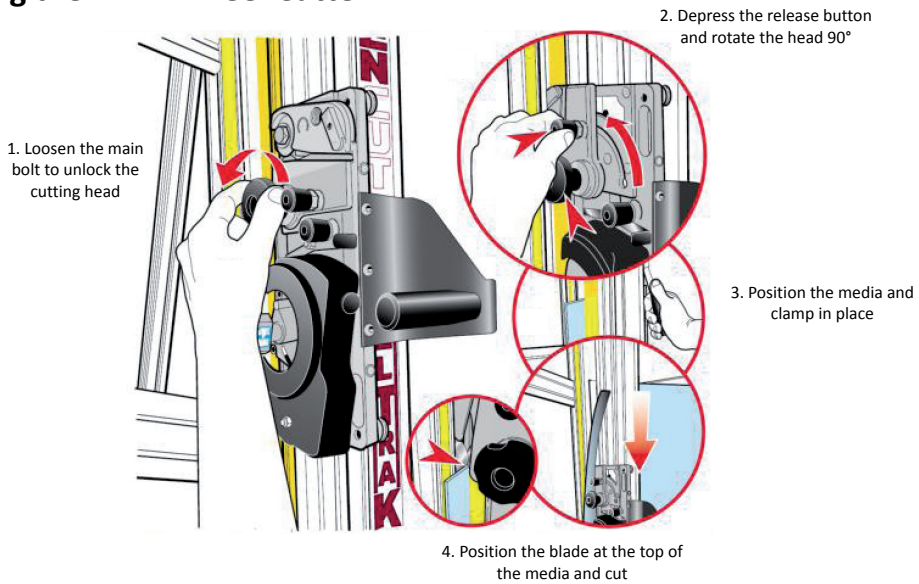
Complete instructions for use of the SteelTraK can be found in the manual, alternatively please visit http://www.keencut.co.uk/videos.aspx to watch a brief video

Operating the Multi-Tool Turret



***Note** - Do not cut PVC Foamboard too fast. At the correct speed a smooth 90° finish will be achieved; cutting too fast will result in a rough and unacceptable edge.

Operating the Twin Wheel Cutter



***Note** - The ST210 has a pull bar that clips onto the main cutting head so the operator can reach the full height of the machine while still standing on the ground. When using the pull bar it is necessary to engage any required cutting tools prior to loading the print media.

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Tips for a Good Demonstration

Materials cut on the SteelTraK require minimal or no finishing. The tips below will help ensure good demonstrations and provide a basic understanding of the techniques required for certain materials

Aluminium Composite and Aluminium

When cutting Aluminium Composite or Aluminium it is important to know that the SteelTraK performs differently on each side; the right hand side (clamp side) is for finished work and the left hand side is for trimming and off-cuts. Materials on the left hand side will develop a curl varying from slight to severe depending on the size of the off-cut. Larger pieces (60cm+) will generally have no noticeable curl and can therefore be used for finished work; smaller pieces of finished work will need to be right of the clamp when cut to avoid any distortion.

The STCOC head can leave a very small burr at the start and end of cut; this is usually more pronounced if the material is cut very fast. There are two easy ways to remove this:

1) Flatten the burr with a pair of bull-nose pliers while protecting the media surface with a soft cloth
2) Use a corner finishing hand tool (retail at approximately €170 – not available from Keencut)

No additional finishing is required since the SteelTraK creates a smooth edge as it cuts.

Acrylic/Plexiglas

Acrylic is cut by scoring the surface and then snapping down the scored line. Snapping Plexiglas and acrylic can be difficult under demonstration conditions so we recommend using relatively small pieces. To snap the acrylic apply thumb pressure to the underside of the score-line; start at one end and let the break run down the line. It may be necessary to reapply thumb pressure if the acrylic does not snap in a single break Larger pieces require a flat surface and a raised profile (a broom handle for example) to be positioned on the underside of the score-line in order to distribute pressure evenly.

Some granular debris will be left along the edge of the cut; this can be instantly removed.

Foam-Centred Board

A dull blade could result in tearing of the soft foam core so we highly recommend using a sharp blade for this material.

PVC Foamboard

The most important factor when cutting PVC Foamboard is to avoid cutting too fast. The fixed blade does not remove material so it must compress the foam instead; if the speed is too great then instead of compressing it splits the foam creating a very poor edge that will be unacceptable for any job.

No additional finishing is required for Foamboard and printed work can be cut on either side of the clamp.

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