



BFGC Skylaunch

**Skylaunch Winch &
Tractor
Daily Inspection
Checklists**

June 2020



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Tractor (Prime Mover) Complete the DI on this first

- Fuel- check it is full and plan to uplift fuel on the way to gassing up as required.
- Oil- do not overfill.
- Water- you should be able to see the water level
- Wheels-bolts and damage to rims
- Tyres- check pressures damage
- Towing attachments- winch is connected correctly with the brakes off and support leg stowed
- Ensure there are no objects to restrict your reversing out of the garage before moving.



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Winch maintenance Log-

- Open this first before inspecting the winch. (this should be clearly visible in the windscreen of the winch)
- **Monthly Guillotine inspection-** check this is still valid, if not, carry out a full inspection, clean, and lubrication of the guillotine mechanisms
- **DI booklet-** check previous entries for any outstanding issues. (treat this as you would a glider SDI Booklet)



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Winch Chassis-

- **Cleanliness and damage-** Check for oil mud and grease which increases wear n tear, hides damage and reduces cooling ability of the power pack.
- **Wheels-** tyre pressures and check for damage including wheel bolts.
- **Winch Cab-** unwanted items, remove if found.
- **Controls-** Check position of all controls which should be in neutral safe positions.
- **Rollers and shock absorbers-** check for wear, cracks, defects, and free movement.
- **Roller housings-** Check for wire cuts/erosion
- **Pay-out Brake-** operate brake a couple of times to re-establish any loss in pressure. (check the main drum for movement. You should be able to move it with pressure)
- **Cable gear-** check the shock ropes, parachutes and cable attachments are clean and free of damage. (any misshaped shackle or grommet should be replaced)



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Chassis rear housing-

- **Winch drums-** Check the wire locking on both main hubs including the outside wire guide rings for damage.
- **Differential Oil Bevel box-** check the oil is on or close to the red line marker. Seek assistance if addition is required. (do not over fill)
- **Cable drums brakes & callipers-** check pads sufficient
- **Propane Gas Fuel Tanks-** check levels and position of valves for fuelling later if required.



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Winch Power Pack-

- **Cooling System fluid-** in expansion tank, the fluid level should be on the main joint of the tank. (best seen from the right-hand panel.
- **Water pump and cooling fan-** check belt tension (25mm or 1inch vertical movement) is fine.
- **Alternator-** check as above.
- **Engine oil-** check and replenish if necessary.
- **Brake fluid-** check reservoir.
- **Automatic Transmission fluid-** check level.



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Propane gas refuelling-

- **Gas Storage-** move to the storage area and secure the tractor and winch safely with handbrake and gears.
- **Connect hose-** (use gloves) and open storage tank valve.
- **Gas Taps-** open by turning the valves anti clockwise to open, and clockwise to close. (see labels on tanks) **finger tight** pressure is all that should be used.
- **Fill Top Gas Tank** to minimum $\frac{3}{4}$ on **top tank only** (the tanks are equalised automatically)
- Close the valve under the gas bowser after filling.
- Remove Hose from top Tank and secure
- **Gas Fuel Safety Checks-**

Before releasing the winch onto the field and completing the DI Booklet ensure that a second person checks and confirms that the gas taps are open. (refer to gas tap safety leaflet)

Note this must also be signed off in the same manner as the release and positive control checks are on an aircraft, with a printed surname and initials.



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Power pack runup-

- Select main power switch to on (up)
- Ensure left wheel chock is lowered
- Start engine and check oil pressure light doesn't come on.
- Leave to idle and check powerpack bay for leaks noises and loose belts etc.
- Check radios, lights and horns on top of the cab
- Clean all windows
- Check the toolbox and the cable repair kits contain sufficient spares

DI Booklet-

- **Sign the DI booklet-** and get a witness signature that the gas taps are open and $\frac{1}{4}$ turn back.
- **Report-** to the Duty instructor and discuss set up on the field.



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End of the day-

- **Winch-** wash off and return to the garage
- **Gas taps-** closed (finger tight only)
- **Main breaker-off**
- **Handheld radio-** return to the clubhouse and charge
- **Damaged wires and strops-** return to the strop store
- **Rubbish-** remove to the correct bins
- **Damage-** update DI book if repairs or damage has occurred
- **Winch training Log-** update your personal winch log with any exceptional events i.e. launch failures etc
- **Cable repair tools-** top up
- Don't forget to check that the fuel bowser is locked and secure....