OPERATING NOTES FOR “SKYTOST” WINCH

Note:

Winch drivers should be <u>trained</u> how to operate an unfamiliar winch by a Winch Master. These notes are intended as a reminder of information that should be given during such training.

The terms “left” and “right” are used in relation to the driver when seated at the controls.

DAILY INSPECTION

Winch

(i) The gas tank has a contents gauge. Before flying the tank should be filled to maximum. When full resistance will be felt on the pump handle

(ii) The engine oil dipstick is on the left hand side of the engine towards the top. The oil filler is on the top of the engine at the front towards the right under a hinged cover. The dipstick at the rear of the engine is for the gearbox.

(iii) The rotating beacon operates whenever the ignition is switched on

(iv) The guillotine moving blade can be checked visually through the hole in the paying on gear guide tube. Check for debris which might impede the blade or prevent the pin being pulled out. *Keep fingers well clear of the blade!!!*

WINCH CONTROLS

Engine

The engine is started and stopped by the key switch on the panel. The throttle is in the centre of the Skylaunch panel, push to open.

Transmission.

The left hand lever is for the main (automatic) gearbox. Push gear lever forward to engage drive, pull back for neutral.
The drum clutches are operated by the levers on either side of the seat. Press the latch button down to move lever; pull the lever towards the driver’s seat to engage drive, push away to disengage. **Take care not to select both drums to drive at once!**

Drum Brakes and Guillotines

The drum brakes are operated by the levers to the side and ahead of the seat. Pull back to apply brakes, push forward and down to lock disengaged. The spring loaded cords will hold the brakes on for cable tow-out. Chains are fitted that will allow just enough tension to be released to disengage the brake.
The red handled levers mounted on the rising section of floor operate the guillotines. Pull to operate.

Electrics
The key switch activates the beacon and alternator warning light. . The key also operates the starter.
The signal light is controlled by the switch on the control panel.
The radio is mounted on the RH cab side behind the driver.
The four circuit breakers push in to switch on. The beacon, signal, and start breakers are usually left on. The radiator fans are controlled by a thermostatic switch, usually this only operates during busy periods in summer.

Cable Pull-Out
Ensure that both drum clutches are disengaged before the pull-out starts. ***It is essential that both of the clutches are disengaged. Failure to follow this instruction can rapidly lead to expensive gearbox damage.***
When the pull-out brakes on this winch are correctly applied it is safe to for the retrieve vehicle to pull the cables at 20 mph.

Cable Repairs
It is possible to push the wire through the guillotine and rollers. ***Keep fingers well clear of the guillotine blade***