



GLIDECAM®
HD - PRO™



MANUAL

Set-up and Operations Guide

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>SECTION #</u>	<u>PAGE #</u>
1. Introduction	3
2. Glidecam HD-PRO Parts and Components	4
3. Assembling your Glidecam HD-PRO	8
4. Attaching your camera to your Glidecam HD-PRO	15
5. Balancing your Glidecam HD-PRO	18
6. Handling your Glidecam HD-PRO	23
7. Operating your Glidecam HD-PRO	24
8. Improper Techniques	26
9. Shooting Tips	27
10. Other Camera Attachment Methods	28
11. Professional Usage	28
12. Maintenance	28
13. Warning	29
14. Warranty	29
15. Online Information	30

#1 INTRODUCTION

Glidecam Industries introduces the Glidecam HD-PRO.

With twenty five years in the making, the Glidecam HD-PRO represents the most affordable, full featured, hand-held camera stabilizer Glidecam has ever offered. Machined out of experience, and forged with the operator in mind, the Glidecam HD-PRO once again delivers the state-of-the-art sophistication and design that Glidecam is famous for.

The Glidecam HD-PRO's all-new, and meticulously designed, features combine the best components of our popular Glidecam HD-Series with some of the high-end professional features normally found exclusively on the camera sleds of our more elaborate body-mounted systems.

Designed for film and video cameras weighing up to 10 lbs. (4.53 kg.), the lightweight and rugged Glidecam HD-PRO will transform your hard to watch, shaky camera footage into hypnotically smooth, professional footage.

With the Glidecam HD-PRO hand-held Stabilizer your camera seems to float, always balanced, isolated from your hands undesirable motions. Now you are free to move with your camera - panning, tilting, booming or running without any camera instability or shake.

The Glidecam HD-PRO works so well that it allows you to shoot incredibly smooth and graceful shots even while going to extremes like running up and down stairs or traveling over rugged terrain. And, when it comes to normal shooting, like walking or moving the camera slowly around someone, the results are equally magical.

#2 GLIDECAM HD-PRO PARTS AND COMPONENTS



Figure 1

When you unpack your **Glidecam HD-PRO** you will see that some Assembly is required. The contents of the **Glidecam HD-PRO** box includes the following:
(See Figure 1)

MANUAL
CENTER POST
QUICK RELEASE PLATE
CAMERA MOUNTING PLATFORM
EXPANDABLE BASE PLATFORM
TELESCOPING POST
HARDWARE BAG
COUNTER WEIGHTS

TOOLS NEEDED: You will need a Standard and Phillips Head Screwdrivers. (Not included.) You will also need a 3/16th allen wrench (Not included.)



Figure 2

This is the **Glidecam HD-PRO CENTRAL POST** with attached Gimbal assembly.
(See Figure 2)

WARNING: Do not adjust or tighten the factory settings on the Gimbal, Handle, and Yoke. These parts should remain loose and move freely, for proper operation.

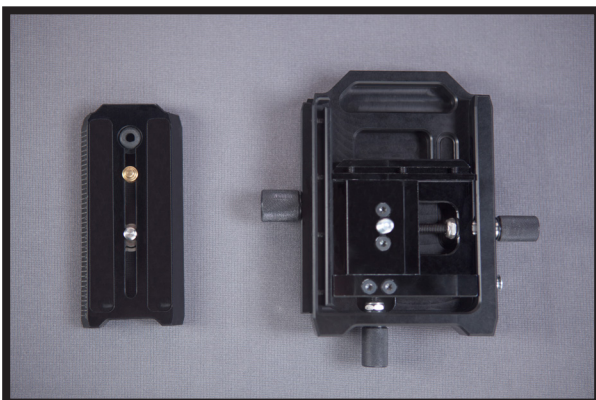


Figure 3

These are the pieces that makeup the **HEAD ASSEMBLY** of the **Glidecam HD-PRO**

1) QUICK RELEASE PLATE

2) CAMERA-MOUNTING PLATFORM
(See Figure 3)



Figure 4

This is the **QUICK RELEASE PLATE** for the **Glidecam HD-PRO** that you will attach to your camera.

(See Figure 4)

(See SECTION 4 Attaching your Camera on PAGE 16 for Camera and QUICK RELEASE PLATE Mounting)

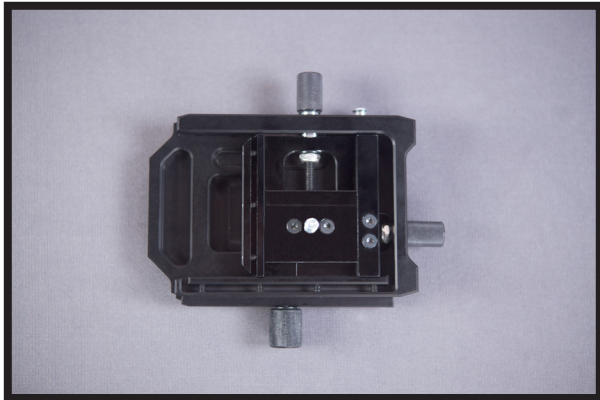


Figure 5

This is the **CAMERA-MOUNTING PLATFORM** with front-to-back and side-to-side movement adjustment knobs.

(See Figure 5)

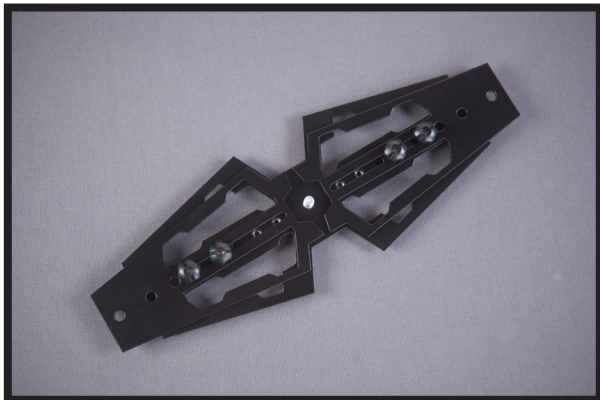


Figure 6

This is the **EXPANDABLE BASE PLATFORM**.
(See Figure 6)



Figure 7

This is the **TELESCOPING POST**.
(See Figure 7)

NOTE: The **TELESCOPING POST** comes inserted into the **CENTRAL POST**.



Figure 8

Shown in bag are the **COUNTER WEIGHT PLATES** to be attached to the **EXPANDABLE BASE PLATFORM**.
(See Figure 8)

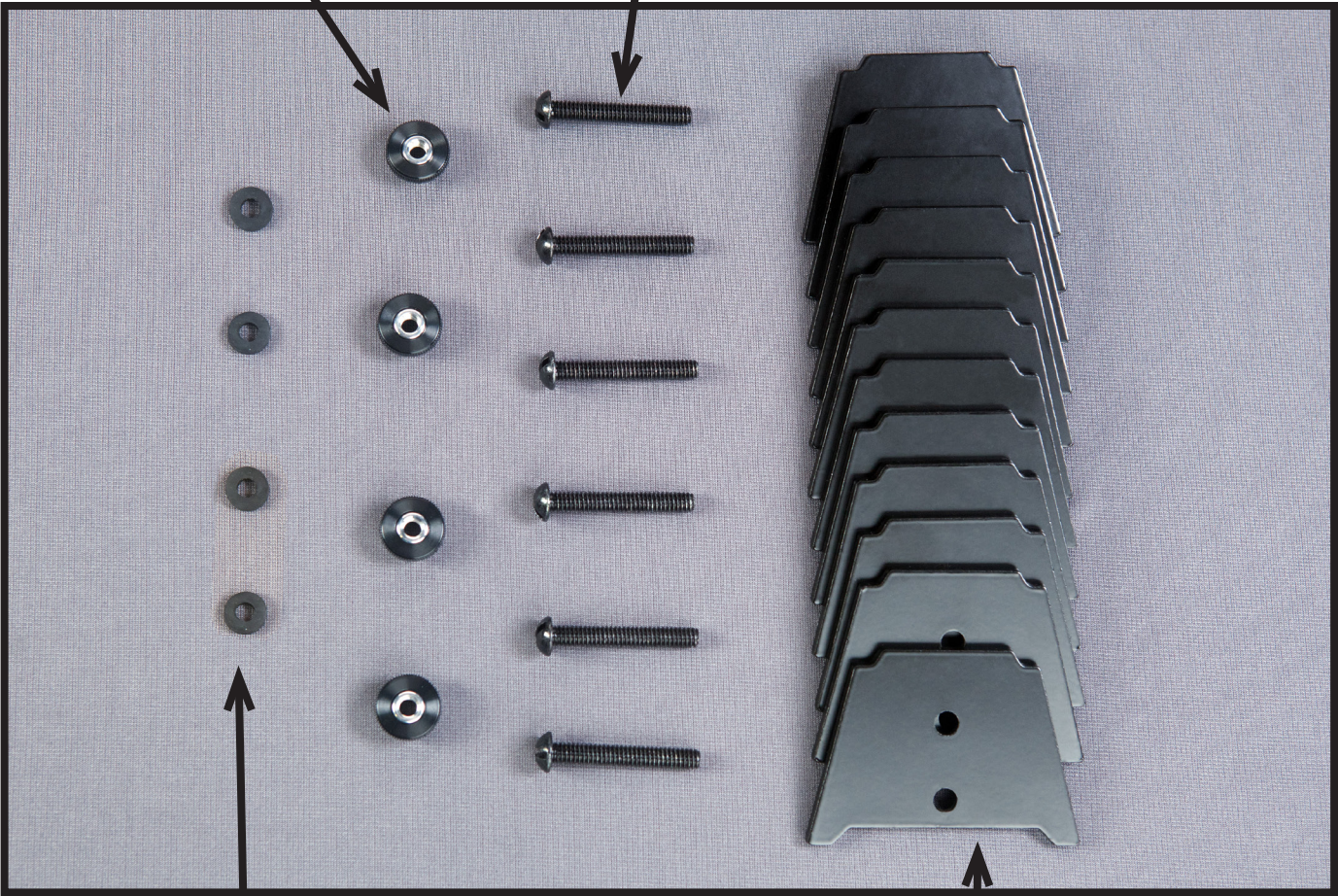


Figure 9

Shown in the bag is the **HARDWARE** set for the **Glidecam HD-PRO**.
(See Figure 9)

Camera Mounting Screws

Black Bolts for Counter Plates



Rubber Washers

16 Counter Weight Plates

#3 ASSEMBLING YOUR GLIDECAM HD-PRO

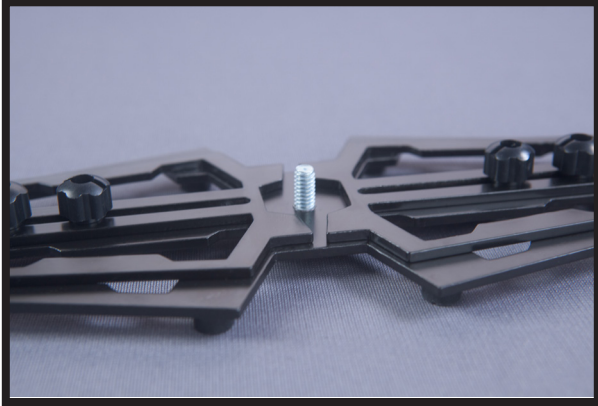


Figure 11

First place the **EXPANDABLE BASE PLATFORM** firmly on a leveled surface.
(See Figure 11)

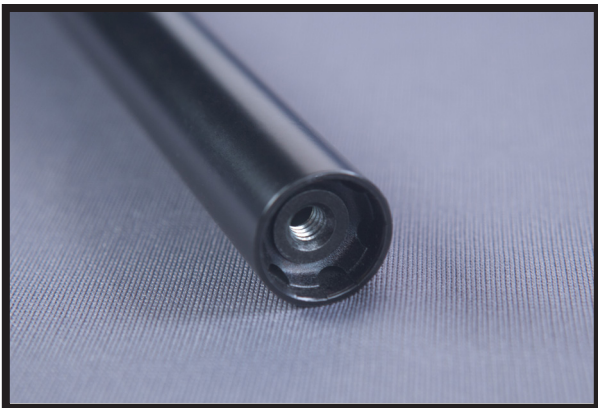


Figure 12

Next remove the **TELESCOPING POST** from the **CENTRAL POST** and locate the **THREADED INSERT** which can be found in the bottom of the **TELESCOPING POST**.
(See Figure 12)



Figure 13

Connect the **TELESCOPING POST** to the **EXPANDABLE BASE PLATFORM** by tightly screwing the **TELESCOPING POST** firmly on to the **EXPANDABLE BASE PLATFORM**.
(See Figure 13)



Figure 14

At this point the first step of your **Glidecam HD-PRO** assembly should be complete with the **TELESCOPING POST** securely fastened to the **EXPANDABLE BASE PLATFORM**.
(See Figure 14)

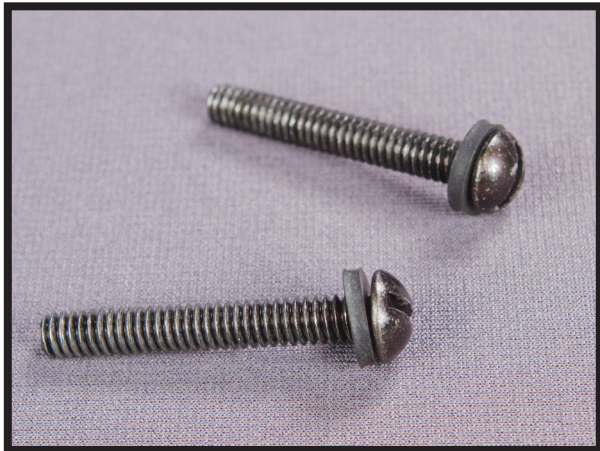


Figure 15

Now find the four **BLACK BOLTS** needed and gently slip the **RUBBER WASHERS** on to the bolts.
(See Figure 15)

NOTE: Repeat this step for all four **BLACK BOLTS**.



Figure 16

Now insert all four of the **BLACK BOLTS** with **RUBBER WASHERS** into the four slots located on either end of the **EXPANDABLE BASE PLATFORM**.
(See Figure 16)



Figure 17

At this point the second step of your **Glidecam HD-PRO** assembly should be complete, with all four **BLACK BOLT** and **RUBBER WASHER** combination protruding through the **EXPANDABLE BASE PLATFORM**.
(See Figure 17)

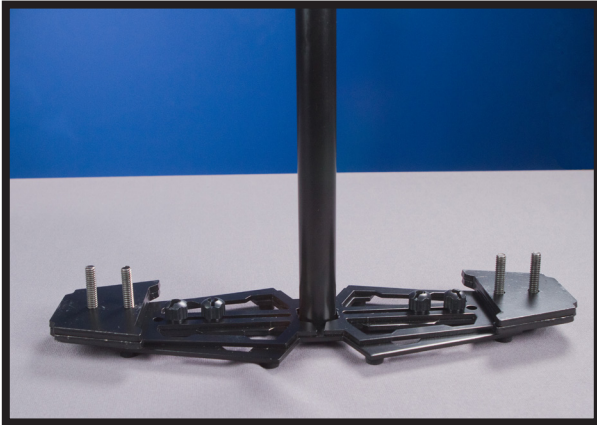


Figure 18

Next, take the **COUNTER WEIGHT PLATES** and slide them down on to the **BLACK BOLTS** until they are resting on **EXPANDABLE BASE PLATFORM**.
(See Figure 18)

NOTE: The holes in the weights match the placement of the bolts.

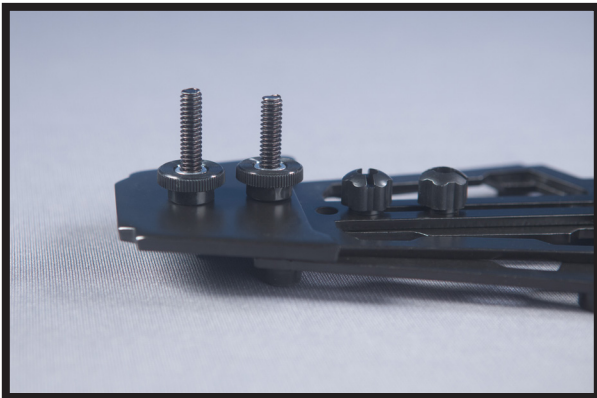


Figure 19

Secure the **COUNTER WEIGHT PLATES** by using the **BLACK THUMB NUTS** to prevent weight movement.
(See Figure 19)



Figure 20

Now, both **COUNTER WEIGHT PLATE** stacks should now be secured to the **EXPANDABLE BASE PLATFORM** with the **BLACK THUMB NUTS**.
(See Figure 20)

NOTE: Expanding the **EXPANDABLE BASE PLATFORM** length and moving the **COUNTER WEIGHT PLATES** apart will create a pan inertia and this will slow down the rotation of the sled and reduce the side-to-side movement while moving.

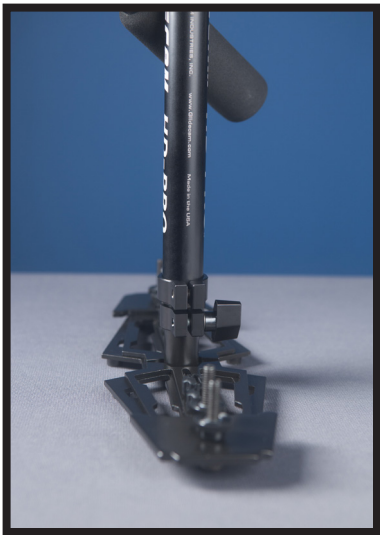


Figure 21

Now, insert the **TELESCOPING POST** with the **EXPANDABLE BASE PLATFORM** up in to the **CENTRAL POST**.
(See Figure 21)



Figure 22

The **TELESCOPING CLAMP ADJUSTMENT KNOB** should be aligned with the center of the **EXPANDABLE BASE PLATFORM**. To align the **TELESCOPING CLAMP ADJUSTMENT KNOB** simply rotate the entire **CENTRAL POST** into the correct position, and tighten the **ADJUSTMENT KNOB**. Also leave about one inch of the **TELESCOPING POST** showing below the **TELESCOPING CLAMP**. Having the **TELESCOPING CLAMP ADJUSTMENT KNOB** aligned correctly, although not technically needed to make your **Glidecam HD-PRO** function correctly, does make it easier to reach the knob later when you use it.

(See Figure 22)



Figure 23

Securely tighten the **ADJUSTMENT KNOB** on the **TELESCOPING CLAMP** by rotating the knob clockwise.

(See Figure 23)

NOTE: The **ADJUSTMENT KNOB** should only be tightened by hand.

WARNING: Do not over tighten the **ADJUSTMENT KNOB** as it could cause thread stripping.



Figure 24

At this point your **Glidecam HD-PRO** should have the **CENTRAL POST** and **TELESCOPING POST** aligned correctly on the **EXPANDABLE BASE PLATFORM** assembly.

(See Figure 24)

NOTE: The amount of **COUNTER WEIGHTS** will vary depending on your Camera weight. Don't worry about this too much, for later you will set the number of **COUNTER WEIGHTS** to the correct amount required for you specific Camera.



Figure 25

Next, locate the **THREADED INSERT** which can be found in the top of the **CENTRAL POST**.

(See Figure 25)



Figure 26

Rotate and screw the **CAMERA MOUNTING PLATFORM** into the **THREADED INSERT** in the top of the **CENTRAL POST**.

(See Figure 26)

WARNING: Do not over tighten the **CAMERA MOUNTING PLATFORM** as it could cause damage to the internal threaded insert in the top of the **CENTRAL POST**.

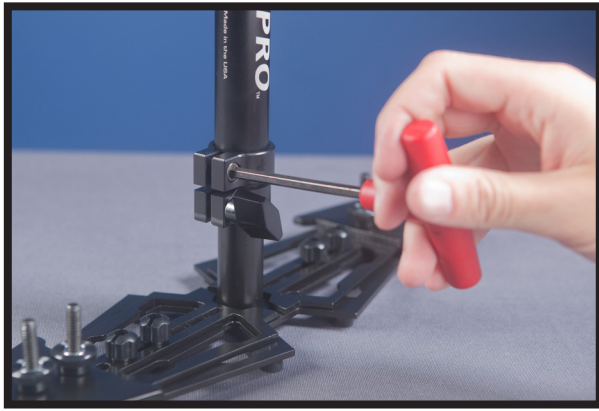


Figure 27

There are two ways to create this correct alignment. The first and easiest is to loosen the **ADJUSTMENT KNOB** on the **TELESOPING CLAMP** and rotate the parts until correctly aligned. Then simply tighten the **ADJUSTMENT KNOB**.

(See Figure 27)

NOTE: Remember to leave at least one inch of the **TELESOPING POST** showing below the **TELESOPING CLAMP**.



Figure 28

The second method to correctly align the parts is to use an Allen Wrench to loosen the “Screw” on the top part (See Figure 27) of the **TELESOPING CLAMP** until you can rotate the parts so they are correctly aligned. Then simply tighten the screw. (See Figure 28)

NOTE: The second method of alignment is better because it keeps the **TELESOPING CLAMP ADJUSTMENT KNOB** aligned correctly (See Figure 22). Having the **TELESOPING CLAMP ADJUSTMENT KNOB** aligned correctly, although not technically needed to make your Glidecam HD-PRO function correctly does make it easier to reach the **TELESOPING CLAMP ADJUSTMENT KNOB** later when in use.

#4 ATTACH YOUR CAMERA TO THE GLIDECAM HD-PRO



Figure 29

Now it is time to attach your Camera to the **Glidecam HD-PRO's QUICK RELEASE PLATE**.
(See Figure 29)

To remove the quick release plate from the head assembly turn the knob on the right to loosen the plate and then press the silver button on the opposite side to release the plate.



Figure 30

First find the **THREADED INSERT** on the bottom of your camera.
(See Figure 30)

THREADED INSERT



Figure 31

Now preferably sit down in a chair and place your Camera (base side up) in your lap. Then place and center the **QUICK RELEASE PLATE** on the back side of your Camera.
(See Figure 31)



Figure 32

Make sure the **QUICK RELEASE PLATE** is in alignment square with the bottom of your Camera and make sure the **THREADED INSERT** on the base of your Camera is aligned with one of the **MOUNTING HOLES** in the **QUICK RELEASE PLATES**.
(See Figure 32)



Figure 33

With your Camera base side up in your lap and with the **QUICK RELEASE PLATE** in place, use a flat head screwdriver to secure the **QUICK RELEASE PLATE** to your Camera using the **CAMERA MOUNTING SCREW**.
(See Figure 33)

WARNING: Do not over tighten this screw. Over tightening could break the **THREADED INSERT** on your Camera.



Figure 34

If all is correct, the **QUICK RELEASE PLATE** should now be securely fastened to your Camera.
(See Figure 34)

NOTE: If you can easily rotate the **QUICK RELEASE PLATE** on the base of your Camera, even though you have adequately tightened the **CAMERA MOUNTING SCREW**, and you do not feel comfortable tightening the **CAMERA MOUNTING SCREW** any more, then you should think about using some sort of a flexible **GASKET** between your Camera base and **QUICK RELEASE PLATE**. You could use rubber tape, or a square flat piece of rubber (for example, creating one by cutting up an old rubber dish washing glove)



Figure 35

If you have a video camcorder or film camera that is larger than the one used in this manual, then you might wish to first find the true front to back center of gravity of your camera by rolling the base of your camera on a pen until it is balanced upon the pen. There are guide scale markings on the **DOVETAIL QUICK RELEASE PLATE** so you can remember for later. (See Figure 35)



Figure 36

Now securely place and center your Camera and the attached **QUICK RELEASE PLATE** on top of the **CAMERA MOUNTING PLATFORM**. Hold the silver button to allow the plate to drop into the **CAMERA MOUNTING PLATFORM**. Secure the knob on the right of the **CAMERA MOUNTING PLATFORM** to lock your **QUICK RELEASE PLATE** in place. (See Figure 36)

NOTE: Make sure the knob on the right of the platform which keeps the **QUICK RELEASE PLATE** locked in place is loosened so you can drop in your **CAMERA** with **QUICK RELEASE PLATE**. Be careful not to loosen it too much as it will release from the **CAMERA MOUNTING PLATFORM**.

#5 BALANCING YOUR GLIDECAM HD-PRO

** Figures 38-44 show a fully balanced Glidecam HD-PRO for illustrative purposes only. This may not be reflective of your individual Glidecam setup.



Figure 37

Before you begin the balancing process check the following and make sure they have been done:

1. Camera is securely attached to the **QUICK RELEASE PLATE**.
2. The Lens Cap has been removed.
3. Camera Battery and Recording Media are installed.
4. Flip out LCD into it's operating position. **(See Figure 37)**
5. Telescoping clamp has been tightened and weights have been added.

BALANCING THE HORIZONTAL AXIS

Now that your **Glidecam HD-PRO** is setup and assembled properly, you can test and setup the horizontal balance of the system. The objective in achieving correct horizontal balance for the **HD-PRO** is to allow the Camera to remain level during operation, given that you are not applying either a pan, tilt, or roll type hand pressure to the **HD-PRO**. In other words if the **HD-PRO** is horizontally balanced correctly, then the Camera will remain level, and the **CENTRAL POST** will remain vertical unless you intentionally position the **HD-PRO** otherwise. Also, if the **HD-PRO** is horizontally balanced correctly it will always return to a level and vertical position after you release any pan, tilt, or roll pressure on the **CENTRAL POST**.

(See Figure 38)



Figure 38



Figure 39

When testing for correct horizontal balance you need to make sure that you pick up your **HD-PRO** from a flat surface (a table for example) and that you let the **HD-PRO** hang freely as you hold it. (See Figure 38) If the **HD-PRO** is balanced correctly on it's horizontal axis, then it will be level with the **CENTRAL POST** in a virtually perfect vertical position. (See Figure 38)

Most likely your **HD-PRO** will not be balanced (Figure 39) and so you will have to adjust it until it does.

WARNING: If you do not have enough **COUNTER WEIGHT** on the **BASE PLATFORM** at this time, the entire Glidecam will flip completely upside down. If this happens add more **COUNTER WEIGHT** below until during this test the Glidecam remains right side up.

The best way of adjusting the horizontal balance is to move the center of gravity of the Camera. This can be accomplished by either #1) re-positioning the Camera to a different area of the **QUICK RELEASE PLATE**, or by #2) adjusting

the position of the **QUICK RELEASE PLATE** and **CAMERA MOUNTING PLATE** either front-to-back or side-to-side with the Camera on it. Method #2 is the preferred method.

If the **Glidecam HD-PRO** tilts to the front (See Figure 39), then you will have to turn the **ADJUSTMENT KNOB** at the back of the plate counter clockwise. If the **Glidecam HD-PRO** still tilts to the front, then move the **QUICK RELEASE PLATE** more to the back by turning the adjustment knob.

If the **Glidecam HD-PRO** is tilting to the back, then move the **QUICK RELEASE PLATE** to the front by turning the **ADJUSTMENT KNOB** clockwise. If you cannot get the front to back axis balanced with this method then try remounting your Camera to a different position on the **QUICK RELEASE PLATE**.



Figure 40

If the **Glidecam HD-PRO** leans to the left from the operator's point of view (**See Figure 40**) then move it to the right by turning the side to side **ADJUSTMENT KNOB** clockwise. The side to side horizontal axis is shown correctly adjusted. (**See Figure 41**)

After adjusting the side to side balance as mentioned above you might have to go back and readjust the front to back balance to obtain a truly fine balance of the whole system. You can use your eyes to judge for correct horizontal balance, or you can use a small and lightweight bubble level (**not included**) to ensure the **Glidecam HD-PRO** has correct horizontal balance.



Figure 41

NOTE: The Horizontal Balance of the Glidecam HD-PRO becomes less sensitive as the Glidecam HD-PRO becomes increasingly bottom heavy, and conversely, the horizontal balance becomes very sensitive, as the HD-PRO progresses towards correct vertical balance.



Figure 42

NOTE: Later after you adjust the vertical balance of the Glidecam HD-PRO you will have to go back and readjust the horizontal balance again in order to obtain a true fine balance of the whole system.

BALANCING THE VERTICAL AXIS

Now that your **Glidecam HD-PRO** is horizontally balanced, it's vertical axis can now be tested and properly balanced. The objective in obtaining correct vertical balance of the **HD-PRO** is to allow the Camera and **HD-PRO** to remain level during operation, given you are not applying either a pan, tilt, or roll type of hand pressure to the **HD-PRO**, and most importantly that the **HD-PRO's CENTRAL POST** remains vertical even if you are walking, running, or turning while the **Glidecam HD-PRO** is in operation. In other words, if the **HD-PRO** is vertically balanced correctly then the Camera will remain level, and the **CENTRAL POST** will remain vertical unless you intentionally position the **HD-PRO** otherwise. If the **HD-PRO** is not vertically balanced properly, then it will swing about and pendulum when you walk, run, or turn.



Figure 43

Again, if the vertical balance is set correctly you will be able to move about quickly, as well as start or stop moving suddenly, and still have the **CENTRAL POST** remain vertical. To adjust the **Glidecam HD-PRO's** vertical balance you can either add, or subtract **COUNTER WEIGHTS** from the **BASE PLATFORM**, or telescope the **BASE PLATFORM** in or out. After you have approximately the right amount of weight on the base, you can then fine tune the **VERTICAL BALANCE** by using the **TELESCOPING POST**.



Figure 44

This photo shows the **Glidecam HD-PRO** swinging past the illustrated vertical line. The **HD-PRO** will pendulum or swing past this line during the “**SLED ARC TEST**”, and the **HD-PRO** will swing back and forth over a dozen times if left to swing, but it is only the time the **HD-PRO**’s first swing in an arc from horizontal to vertical that you need to analyze. After you have counted the times it takes for it to go from Horizontal until it passes vertical once, then simply stop the **HD-PRO** from swinging, then either put the **HD-PRO** down or make adjustments to perform the test again.

*****NOTE:** Adding more weight or telescoping out the base will speed up the **DROP TIME**. Removing weight or telescoping the base in will slow the **DROP TIME**.

NOTE: The amount of **DROP TIME** finally set is ultimately up to you to decide. Different **DROP TIMES** change the vertical balance, and therefore change the results obtainable when shooting.

Another way to check for correct vertical balance, known as the “**MOVEMENT TEST**”, is to walk forward with the **Glidecam HD-PRO** and then stop suddenly. If the **HD-PRO BASE PLATFORM** swings or pendulums away from you, or upright vertical position it was just in that moment you stopped, then you know the **HD-PRO** is not balanced correctly. Adjust the amount of **COUNTER WEIGHTS** used on the **BASE PLATFORM** or adjust the length of the **TELESCOPING POST** up or down until the **HD-PRO** remains vertical during the “**MOVEMENT TEST**”.

This “**MOVEMENT TEST**” also applies to running or turning around quickly with the **HD-PRO**. Again if the **HD-PRO** is balanced properly, then any body movement like running or turning quickly will not effect the basic upright, vertical position of the **HD-PRO**. Some practice may be required to complete the “**MOVEMENT TEST**” correctly.

To test the balance of the vertical axis, perform what is called the **SLED ARC TEST**. To perform the **SLED ARC TEST**, simply hold the **Glidecam HD-PRO** by it’s handle and then grab a hold of the back end of the **HD-PRO**’s **BASE PLATFORM**, then pull the **BASE** up and back until the **HD-PRO**’s **CENTRAL POST** is horizontal and motionless (See figure 42) then gently let go of the **BASE PLATFORM** and count how many seconds it takes for the **HD-PRO** to go from the horizontal position it was just in (See Figure 43) to the moment it first passes the vertical.

If the **Glidecam HD-PRO** is vertically balanced properly, then it should take about **TWO** to **THREE** seconds for this to happen. (This is called **DROP TIME**) Count your seconds with the words “one thousand one, one thousand two etc for accuracy. Adjust the amount of **COUNTER WEIGHTS** used on the **BASE PLATFORM** or adjust the length of the **TELESCOPING POST** up or down, until it only takes **TWO** to **THREE** seconds for the **HD-PRO CENTRAL POST** to first swing in an arc from horizontal to vertical.

#6 HANDLING YOUR GLIDECAM HD-PRO



Figure 45

Figure 45 shows you the correct way to hold the handle; however, remember that you should always use both hands when using the HD-PRO.



Figure 46

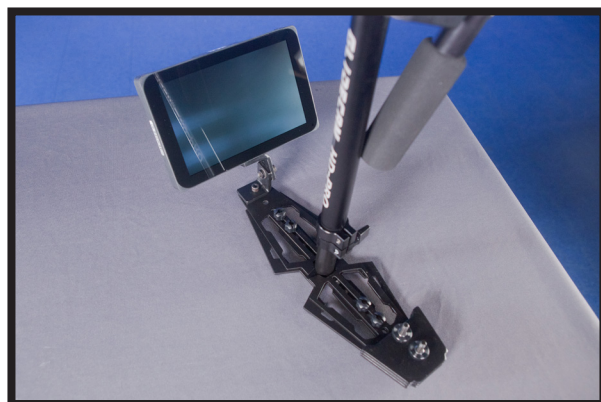


Figure 47

Before you operate and shoot with your **Glidecam HD-PRO**, you will need to know how to handle the equipment. When handling your **HD-PRO** you will use one hand to hold on to the handle and the other hand to gently guide the camera in the direction you wish to shoot. We call the hand that holds the handle, the “**HOLDING HAND**” and the hand that aims the Camera for tilting and panning. The “**GUIDING HAND**”.

When holding the handle of your **Glidecam HD-PRO** you will need to: **1)** hold it firmly, and **2)** hold it either in the middle or the bottom of the handle. Which position you choose will depend on the kind of shot you are shooting. For normal shooting hold the handle near the middle. **(See Figure 45)** For shots that require aiming the Camera either up or down or sideways, hold the handle firmly at the bottom. This will allow the “**YOKE**” part of the **GIMBAL** to twist around without hitting your hands or your knuckles.

When you handle your **Glidecam HD-PRO** you will want to use your “**GUIDING HAND**” to gently hold onto either, the point just below the “**YOKE**” and bearing assembly, **(See Figure 46)** or and area down by the **BASE PLATFORM**. **(See Figure 53)** These two areas allow for easy control of the **HD-PRO** when in use. Which position you choose will depend on the kind of shot you are shooting.

For normal shooting hold the **Glidecam HD-PRO** at the point just below the “**YOKE**” and bearing assembly. **(See Figure 46)** This will allow you to subtly aim the Camera without disturbing the Camera’s upright position. It is this position that will allow you the smoothest shots when walking or running with the **HD-PRO** during normal shooting.

NOTE: Make sure that your “**GUIDING HAND**” and “**HOLDING HAND**” do not touch either the bearing assembly or the “**YOKE**” during shooting, for unconventional shots, like ones that require aiming the Camera either straight up or down, or sideways, hold onto the HD-PRO on the lower part of the post or down near the weight. **(See Figure 53)** This will allow your “**GUIDING HAND**” to have a greater degree of control over the HD-PRO while shooting erratic shots

#7 OPERATING YOUR GLIDECAM HD-PRO



Figure 48

The **Glidecam HD-PRO** is designed to work correctly only when operated with two hands. (See figure 46 and 48) If you try to operate the unit with just your “**HOLDING HAND**”, the Camera will most likely drift away from it’s original position. Without your “**GUIDING HAND**” in place, you will be unable to control the direction of the Camera



Figure 49

When Operating the **Glidecam HD-PRO** you will not be able to put your eye right up to the eye-cup on the viewfinder, for doing so will cause the unit to be restricted in it’s ability to stabilize and eliminate Camera shake. Even though you cannot place your eye directly up to the Camera viewfinder, you can either use the Camera’s built-in **LCD MONITOR** or attach an external **LCD MONITOR** (not included) directly to the **BASE PLATFORM** of the **HD-PRO**. A 1/4” Monitor “**MOUNTING HOLE**” is located at the front of the **BASE PLATFORM**. (See Figure 47)



Figure 50

You can also attach an external **LCD MONITOR** to the accessory shoe on the top of your Camcorder. We believe that better results are obtained when you attach the Monitor to the **HD-PRO**’s base, (See Figure 47) because this way you generally have to look slightly down to see the Monitor. In doing so, your feet are more visible to your peripheral vision. This makes negotiating obstacles with the **HD-PRO** safer.



Figure 51

NOTE: Figures 51 through 53 show the Glidecam HD-PRO being used in different ways.

Operating your **Glidecam HD-PRO** for extended periods of time can easily tire your “**HOLDING HAND**”. If fatigue sets in while shooting you can try operating the **Glidecam HD-PRO** with you other hand. You can also rest for a while by placing the unit upright on a level surface, docking the sled if using the optional bracket or by laying it down on the ground.



Figure 52

NOTE: Glidecam Industries also sells accessories for the Glidecam HD-PRO that can help you use the HD-PRO for extended periods of time. Call us, or one of our authorized dealers, or visit our website at www.Glidecam.com to find out more. The Glidecam Smooth Shooter, Glidecam X-10, and the Glidecam Forearm Brace make excellent support accessories for the HD-PRO.



Figure 53

When handling and operating your **Glidecam HD-PRO**, always avoid violent, jerking arm and/or body movements. Doing so could cause damage to the unit or cause your Camera to pull loose from the **QUICK RELEASE PLATE**.

The **Glidecam HD-PRO** does not work underwater, nor is it waterproof (**meaning the bearings and of course your Camera**), so avoid direct exposure to rain or water spray. Also, the bearings are not sand proof, so avoid getting dirt or sand into them (**see bearing maintenance section**)

#8 IMPROPER TECHNIQUES



Figure 54

When shooting with the **Glidecam HD-PRO**, do not grab the **CENTRAL POST**. (See **Figure 54**) This defeats the purpose and isolation that the **THREE AXIS GIMBAL** provides. Instead, handle your **Glidecam HD-PRO**. (See **Figures 46 and 48**)



Figure 55

Do not allow the Handle of the **Glidecam HD-PRO** to come in contact with the **CAMERA MOUNTING PLATFORM**. (See **Figure 55**) If the Handle comes in to contact with the **CAMERA MOUNTING PLATFORM** it will limit your range of motion, and will result in “jerky” and unpleasant footage. Instead, position the Handle straight up and down. (See **Figure 45**)

#9 SHOOTING TIPS



Figure 56

Use of a Wide Angle Lens Converter

If you have a common consumer Camcorder you will probably discover that the widest focal length setting on it's lens is not very wide. You might find that this wide setting is not adequate enough to give you the look produced by professional Hollywood dollies, cranes, and stabilizers. To achieve this kind of look you might have to place a **WIDE ANGLE LENS CONVERTER** (not included) on the front of your existing camcorder lens. We highly recommend that you use one on your camcorder when shooting.

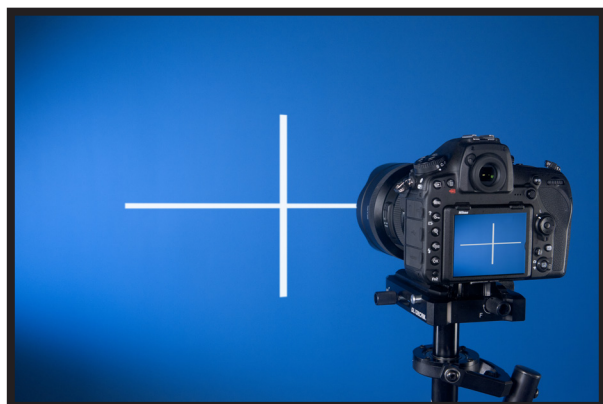


Figure 57

Walking the Line

This is a training exercise that is designed to help operate your **Glidecam HD-PRO** more accurately. Using masking tape, camera or gaffer's tape, create a cross mark on a flat or even wall (**See Figure 57**). This cross mark will be used for framing purposes. Now, on the floor leading up to the cross mark, tape a straight line, about 10 to 20 feet long. The idea behind this exercise is to walk the line that you have taped on the floor, while keeping the cross mark centered in the **LCD Monitor**. (**See Figure 56**) Practicing this exercise will teach you how to frame a shoot with precision.

#10 OTHER CAMERA ATTACHMENT METHODS

Creating a Gasket: If when attaching your camera to the **QUICK RELEASE PLATE** you find that the bottom of your camera isn't flat enough to allow a good solid attachment, try making and adding a paper/cloth or rubber gasket to the **QUICK RELEASE PLATE**. (Try using a piece of a rubber dish washing glove.) Simply cut the material to the size of the top of the **QUICK RELEASE PLATE** and then create a hole in it to allow the **CAMERA MOUNTING BOLT** to fit through it and into the base of your Camcorder.

#11 PROFESSIONAL USAGE

If you are using the **Glidecam HD-PRO** to shoot professional looking shots, and you plan on incorporating them into a short movie or some sort of commercial project, we suggest that you plan the shot out in advanced, perhaps rehearse the move a few times before shooting, and that you have an assistant to help you during complex shots. This will give you optimum results and will make your movies look more professional.

Good luck with your shooting

#12 MAINTENANCE

Bearing Maintenance: The main bearing on your **Glidecam HD-PRO** is attached to the Central Support Post about two inches down from the top. It is metal and is partially enclosed by the Bearing Assembly. If after some period of time your bearing doesn't turn smoothly, you can oil it lightly with light lubricating oil. We recommend that you use very little oil. Very little, because this all that is needed, plus anything more than a little will end up coming out of the bearing and on to the rest of your **Glidecam HD-PRO**. Light lubricating oil may also be used if needed on the **YOKE** and **HANDLE BEARINGS**. Be sure to keep the oil away from your Camera and clean up any over spill when done.

Cleaning: Do not use solvents or harsh cleaners of any kind on your **Glidecam HD-PRO**. If the unit becomes dirty, use only a cloth or sponge with water to gently rub the unit clean.

Storage: If going to store your **Glidecam HD-PRO** for a long period of time then please store the unit upright in a dry or low to normal humidity area whenever possible. If you are unable to find an environment like this, then we suggest you store the unit in an air tight plastic container or bag.

#13 WARNING

You should make sure that you're very careful when using your **Glidecam HD-PRO** at night or in low light conditions. Do not make the mistake of focusing so much on what you are shooting that you trip and fall over something, or wander into something dangerous like a swimming pool or automobile traffic. Be extra careful when shooting on stairs, uneven terrain, etc. These cautions pertain to daytime shooting as well. Make sure that all children using this product have adult supervision. If you plan on shooting while moving fast, or while moving on uneven terrain, then be sure to wear knee and elbow pads, eye protection and a helmet.

#14 WARRANTY

For 1 year from the date of shipment, we will repair or replace your **Glidecam HD-PRO**, free of charge, in the event of a defect in materials or workmanship (the shipment date appears on your purchase receipt) which occurs during normal use in accordance with the **Glidecam HD-PRO** instruction manual. Shipping, packing, and insurance costs to and from the factory are your responsibility. This limited warranty extends only to the original purchaser, and you will need your purchase receipt. This warranty does not cover, by way of example, damage caused by products not supplied by us or damage resulting from mishandling in transit, accident, misuse, vandalism, neglect, modification, lack of reasonable care (or commercial use, including rentals to others) of the **Glidecam HD-PRO** or service by anyone other than us. There are no express warranties except as listed above. This warranty gives you specific legal rights and you may also have other rights which vary from state to state.

WE ARE NOT LIABLE FOR INCIDENTAL OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES RESULTING FROM THE USE OF THE UNIT OR ARISING OUT OF ANY BREACH OF THIS WARRANTY. ALL EXPRESS AND IMPLIED WARRANTIES, INCLUDING THE WARRANTIES OF MERCHANT ABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, ARE LIMITED TO THE 1 YEAR WARRANTY PERIOD.

To obtain service during (or after) the warranty period: Contact **Glidecam Industries Customer Service Department** by calling **1-781-585-7900** or write to us at: **23 Joseph St. Kingston, MA 02364**, or email us at **Tech@glidecam.com** and explain the problem.

DO NOT SEND THE UNIT TO US WITHOUT FIRST OBTAINING A RETURN AUTHORIZATION NUMBER

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