



**Woody Valley**

**Voyager**



Please read this manual before flying with the **VOYAGER** for the first time.



## THANK YOU!

We would like to thank you for having chosen one of our products, and we invite you to read this important document, the User Manual for the harness. Please pay special attention to the two most important paragraphs, regarding:

### **Insertion of the reserve parachute.**

The reserve parachute is a piece of equipment that may save your life. It must be treated so that it works correctly when it is required, whether this happens in two days' time, or two years from now.

### **Adjusting the harness.**

The harness forms the connection between the pilot and the paraglider, and it is an essential component in optimizing performance and the pleasure of flying. A bad harness that is well adjusted may enable you to fly well, but a good harness that is badly adjusted may put you off flying altogether.

We are confident that this harness will give you greater comfort, control, performance and enjoyment in flight. We are conscious of the fact that reading an instruction manual is not an exciting experience. However, please remember that the respective product is not a citrus juicer or a mobile phone, and that correct use of the harness helps reduce the risk of flying accidents. This manual contains all the information necessary to assemble, adjust, fly and store your harness. Thorough knowledge of your equipment will improve your personal safety and your level of flying.

*The Woody Valley team*

### **SAFETY NOTE**

*You have purchased a piece of equipment manufactured by us, and so you are aware of your identity as a paraglider pilot holding the respective pilot's licence, and you accept all the risks connected to paragliding including the possibility of injury and death. The incorrect or inappropriate use of Woody Valley equipment greatly increases this risk. In no case can Woody Valley and the Woody Valley retailer be held responsible for personal injury caused to yourself or to third parties, or for whatever type of damage. If you have any doubts on the use of our equipment, please contact your retailer or the importer for your country.*

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## 1- GENERAL INFORMATION



The equipment supplied should comprise:

- Harness
- Polycarbonate seat plate
- Hook-in karabiners

The optional extras comprise:

- Ventral container for reserve parachute, with deployment handle and elastic loops for fastening it
- Speed-bar
- Relax-bar
- Front ballast pocket
- Leg Cover (wind-proof protection)

### 1.1- Concept

VOYAGER is a product that was developed wholly by Woody Valley to meet the demands specifically expressed by our pilots. This very light harness was designed to be an ideal product for a large proportion of pilots, and above all for pilots who like hiking up to launch sites and then flying back down to the valley floor. VOYAGER is a harness that is easy to use. It was designed to ensure maximum comfort, simplicity and low weight, facilitating transport on the ground.

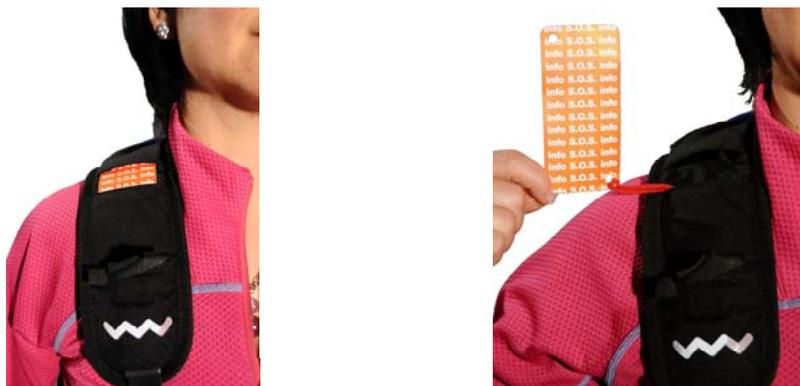
### 1.2- The VOYAGER harness and its protective system

The airbag provides excellent protection against the shock caused by impact. Its special structure based on semi-rigid compartments ensures that about 60/70% of total protection is provided even without complete inflation, which occurs during the launch phase.

Chest-straps and leg-straps are fitted with the “T-LOCK safety system” to prevent the pilot from sliding out of the harness in the case that he or she has forgotten to fasten the leg-straps.

### 1.3- S.O.S. label

This label, coloured red with white lettering, is readily visible in a pocket on the right shoulder-strap padding. It is easy to pull out, and it is fastened to the harness to prevent it from being lost. On the back of this label, you can write the information that you think should be given to rescue personnel in case of accident.



## 2- BEFORE USING THE HARNESS

VOYAGER must be assembled by a qualified paragliding professional, such as your instructor. More specifically, great care has to be dedicated to inserting the reserve parachute into the harness in the correct way. Only after this has been performed should the pilot adjust the harness for maximum comfort.

### 2.1- Reserve parachute

The container for the reserve parachute is not included in the standard harness. It is an optional extra, and it should be positioned on the ventral part of the harness. The container is large enough for most of the reserve parachutes available on the market today. It is connected to the harness at two points at shoulder height, in order to distribute load and to ensure a correct landing position in the case that the reserve parachute is deployed, therefore reducing the possibility of injury to a minimum. The reserve parachute bridle has a large central loop, red in colour, reinforced with a cover in *Cordura 500*. At the end of the loop there is a Velcro strip that can be used to keep the union with the reserve parachute tight.

### 2.1.1- Connecting the deployment handle to the deployment bag

VOYAGER is supplied with a handle for reserve parachute extraction. It is identified with the number **7**; this handle alone should be used for this purpose. The black loop attached to the handle itself should be passed into the loop on the deployment bag, and then the entire handle should be passed through its own loop and pulled tight. For easier extraction, the loop attached to the deployment bag should be positioned laterally with respect to the centre of the reserve parachute. If your deployment bag does not have this loop, please contact the retailer from whom you purchased the reserve parachute.



### 2.1.2- Connecting the reserve parachute to the harness

There are two different methods of attaching the reserve parachute bridle to the harness bridle.

#### *First system:*

Use a screw-lock karabiner with a breaking strength of at least 2,000 kg. In this case, the bridles should be held in position within the karabiner using elastic bands, to prevent the karabiner from rotating and taking the strain laterally instead of vertically. The karabiner's screw-lock should be tightly screwed shut to avoid any possibility of it opening accidentally. This type of connection can absorb a higher opening shock than the second system, and for this reason this is without doubt the recommended system.



*Second system:*

The reserve parachute bridle is passed through the loop at the end of the harness reserve parachute bridle. The reserve parachute itself is then passed through the large loop in the reserve parachute bridle. This connects the two bridles. The loops should be pulled as tight as possible to avoid any chance of dangerous friction developing between the two bridles during the shock caused when the reserve parachute opens. To ensure that the link between the two bridles remains tight, remember to fasten the knot using the Velcro strip on the harness reserve parachute bridle.



### 2.1.3- Inserting the reserve parachute into the VOYAGER harness

Insert the reserve parachute into the pocket of the harness, so that the handle is visible and facing outwards, and the loop connecting the handle to the deployment bag is facing upwards.



Thread a thin cord (such as paraglider riser cords) through each elastic loop. This will help close the pocket.  
Thread the elastic loops into the smallest of the eyelets on the pocket flaps. Close the flaps following the order shown in the photographs below.



Push the metal pins on the handle into the elastic loops and under the transparent cover. It is essential to remove the cords after this operation. The cords should be pulled out slowly in order not to damage the elastic loops by excessive friction. Lastly, the handle should be positioned under the elastic cover.  
The VOYAGER harness is ready for the reserve parachute container to be attached, by means of plastic buckles.



When connecting the reserve parachute to the harness, ensure that the parachute bridle passes outside the harness' main attachment strap and then to the karabiner.



**IMPORTANT:**

*Every new combination of reserve parachute and harness or the external container assembled for the first time should be tested by an official harness or reserve parachute dealer, or by a flying instructor. Deployment of the reserve parachute should be perfectly feasible from the normal flying position.*

### **2.1.4- Reserve parachute deployment**

It is vital to feel periodically for the position of the reserve parachute deployment handle during normal flight, so that the action of reaching for the reserve parachute handle becomes instinctive in an emergency.

In emergency situations, the deployment procedure is as follows:

Look for the reserve parachute handle and grasp it firmly with one hand.

Pull the handle outwards in order to extract the reserve parachute from the harness container. Look for a clear area, and, in a continuous motion, throw the reserve parachute away from yourself and the paraglider. After the reserve parachute has opened, avoid entanglement by pulling in the paraglider, gripping at least one D line, or the brake lines, in order to collapse the glider. On landing, adopt an upright body position, and ensure that you perform a PLF (Parachute Landing Fall) to minimize the risk of injury.

### **2.2- Harness adjustments**

The VOYAGER harness provides a number of methods of adjustment so that the pilot can fly in the ideal position. A little time has to be invested in finding the optimum position, but this effort will be rewarded by exceptional comfort in flight.

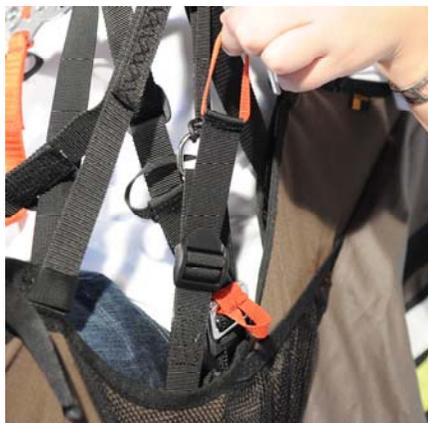
Before making any adjustments, the reserve parachute must be in position.

To find the best position, we suggest hanging in your harness from a suitable point of support, simulating flying position and conditions. For this reason, it is best to place all the things that you would normally carry with you when flying into the back pocket (rucksack, accessories, extra clothing and other sundry items).

### 2.2.1- Adjusting the sitting position

The first adjustment procedure regulates the angle between the thighs and the back (depth of seat). This angle can be varied from about 90° to 130°, by adjusting the straps running through the lateral trimmers.

The lateral straps help you adjust the sitting angle, and they provide leg support on long flights.



### 2.2.2- Back position adjustment

By adjusting the back (using the trimmers higher up on the side), the pilot adjusts the inclination of the torso with respect to the vertical axis in flight. A good flying position, improving control of the glider, is obtained by positioning the face at about 15 cm from an imaginary line between the two karabiners.



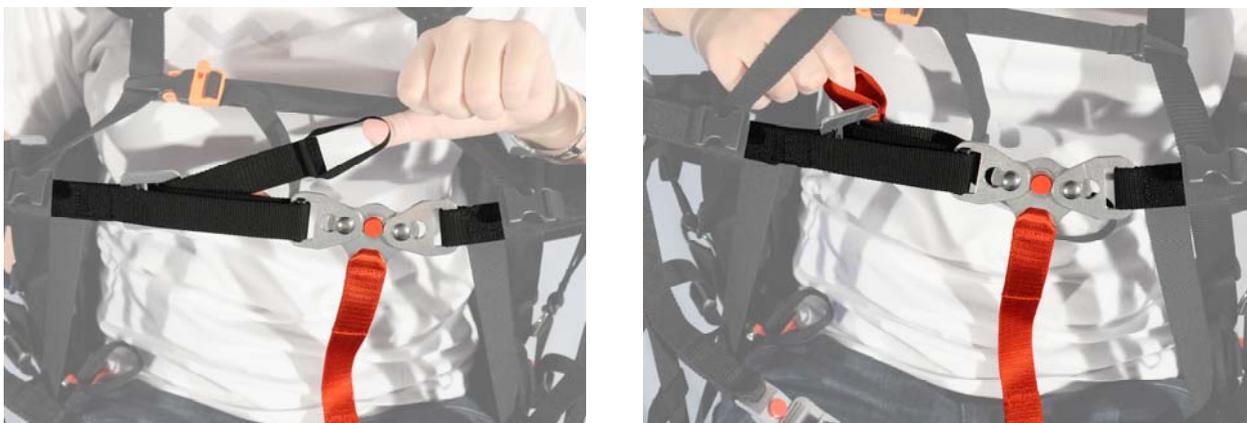
### 2.2.3- Shoulder-strap adjustment

Shoulder-strap adjustment enables the harness to be adjusted to the pilot's height. The adjustment buckle is situated low down, near the rear edge of the seat. The shoulder-straps also support part of the torso weight to improve comfort.



### 2.2.4- Chest strap adjustment

The chest strap adjusts the distance between the two karabiners, and it can be set between 37 and 48 centimetres. When the chest strap is tighter, stability is greater. We recommend a length of about 40-42 cm. A wider distance does not improve glider performance, and a smaller distance can accentuate the effects of a "twist" following an asymmetric collapse.



There is also a small elastic clip at the extremity of the padded shoulder-straps. This prevents the shoulders from slipping out of the straps during the launch run. The plastic clip also includes a useful whistle that can be used in emergency situations.



### 2.2.5- Leg strap adjustment

Because the leg straps are attached relatively high up, the pilot has considerable freedom in thigh movement. Normally, the manufacturer's original setting should be satisfactory. However it is important to try reaching the correct seated position in the launch phase without using your hands, by testing the movements in a flight simulator. If you cannot achieve the seated position without using your hands, the sitting angle has to be checked, and then the leg straps should be readjusted.

#### **IMPORTANT**

*All adjustments have to be performed symmetrically on both sides.*

## 3- FLYING WITH THE VOYAGER HARNESS

### 3.1- Pre-flight checks

For maximum safety, use a complete and consistent system of pre-flight checks and repeat the same mental sequence every flight.

*Check that:*

- **all buckles are fastened. Take particular care in the case of ice or snow. Always clean off snow or ice before fastening buckles;**
- **the reserve parachute handle is fastened in its correct position, and the pins are firmly inserted;**
- **pockets and zips are closed;**
- **the paraglider is connected correctly to the harness, and that both karabiners are locked closed by means of their locking system;**
- **the speed bar is attached correctly to the glider.**

### **3.2- Pockets**

On the right-hand side of the rucksack there is a large mesh pocket. There are two narrow pockets on each side of the central zip, and these were designed to hold trekking poles. The poles should be inserted with the tips upwards in order not to damage the rucksack. These pockets can be used for the same purpose in flight configuration, even though the rucksack is the other way around. On the ventral surface, there are two pockets for small objects, in elastic mesh on the left, and with zip closure on the right. Lastly, there is a pocket above the handle for lifting the rucksack. Inside this pocket there is the label containing the product identification data. As well as the rear rucksack, which provides storage space and acts as an airbag protecting the back, the harness has two lateral pockets, one in mesh and another in fabric with zip closure, which are accessible during flight. These pockets are designed in such a way as to prevent their contents from falling out accidentally.



### **3.3- Dual flying**

The VOYAGER harness is best not used for flying dual, because a passenger in front of the pilot would obstruct the inflation valve, preventing the airbag from reaching its optimum protective capacity.

### **3.4- Flying above water**

It is inadvisable to use the VOYAGER harness on flights over water. In the event of the pilot being forced to land on the water, the airbag, which is filled with air, may force the harness into a position that holds the pilot underwater.

Woody Valley recommends the use of a suitable lifejacket when flying over water.

### **3.5- Tow bridle connection**

The VOYAGER harness can be used for towed launches. The tow bridle release should be hooked directly to the main karabiners, ensuring that the karabiners are positioned with the opening bar facing the rear. For further details, refer to the documentation provided with your tow release, or ask a qualified towing instructor at your flying site.

### **3.6- Landing with the VOYAGER**

Before landing, slide your legs out and off the seat surface, so that you take up a standing position. Never land in the seated position; it is very dangerous for your back even if you have an airbag, which provide exclusively passive protection. Standing up before landing is an active safety precaution, and it is much more effective than passive forms of protection.

## **4- FOLDING THE HARNESS, INSERTING THE PARAGLIDER AND USING THE RUCKSACK**

In order to switch from the harness mode to the rucksack mode, open the long zip on the back of the harness completely, fold the seat against the back of the harness, leaving the straps and buckles outside the sandwich created by back and seat. Turn the rucksack fabric inside out so that the entire harness is contained

inside the rucksack. Ensure that there are no tight folds in the padded part around the airbag inflation valve, because over an extended period of time, these folds could mar the valve's functioning. After having folded the paraglider carefully, place it into the rucksack.



The remaining space above should be sufficient to store the helmet, instruments, and extra garments. Once all equipment has been placed inside, if necessary the four side straps can be tightened in order to hold the contents firmly in position. This stabilizes the load and makes carrying the rucksack more comfortable. The adjustment straps on the rucksack shoulder straps can be used in the same way.



When preparing for flight, perform the operations detailed above in reverse order. Before putting on the harness, ensure that the zip on the back is completely closed. . In any case, the performance of the airbag underneath remains unchanged, because the opening between the airbag and the rucksack is of dimensions to ensure consistent results whether the zip is open or closed. When the zip is closed, the part of the airbag behind the back, corresponding to the volume of the rucksack, functions more effectively. In order to achieve uniform inflation of the rucksack/airbag behind the back, remember to loosen the rucksack packing straps completely, if they were tightened previously.

## 5- FEATURES AND ASSEMBLY OF OPTIONAL ACCESSORIES

### 5.1- Assembly and adjustment of the speed-system.

After having adjusted the sitting position to the optimum configuration, the accelerator must be adjusted. This harness is compatible with all normal types of speed-system accelerators.

The elastic in front of the board holding the speed-bar prevents the reserve parachute handle from becoming entangled in the speed system during deployment of the reserve parachute. The speed-bar cords are threaded firstly through the eyes fixed to the elastic in front of the board, and then into the harness through the eyes near the front corners of the seat, after which they are led through the pulleys near the rear corners of the seat and brought directly up to connect to the paraglider risers. To adjust the system correctly, the pilot has to adopt a flying position in the harness, suspended from a flight simulator, and hook into the risers of the paraglider. Another person then helps by supporting the risers, so the pilot can adjust the length of the speed-system cords. When no pressure is exerted on the speed bar, the bar must be at a distance no greater than 10 cm below the front of the harness. If the speed-bar cord is too short, it could cause a constant force on the bar during flight, so that the accelerator is unintentionally engaged at all times in flight. It is safest to take off with the speed-bar a little too long, progressively shortening it during the next flights. Remember that all adjustments have to be performed symmetrically, on both sides.



### 5.2- Relax-bar

A relax-bar can be fitted to all our harnesses, except for those already incorporating this accessory. The relax-bar is used to keep the legs stretched out and the feet resting on a support. Some pilots consider this flying position as more comfortable than the classic seated position with legs hanging. To attach the relax bar to the harness, follow the instructions provided in the relax-bar instruction manual.

### 5.3- Leg Cover

Leg Cover is a product that has been developed uniquely by Woody Valley in order to ensure unequalled comfort. The special cover in waterproof, vapour-permeable fabric ensures protection from the cold and provides an improved aerodynamic profile. To fit the leg cover to the harness, follow the instructions provided in the Leg Cover instruction manual.

## 6- MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR

Check the harness after every impact, bad landing or launch, or in the case that there are signs of damage or excessive wear.

Periodically ensure that the airbag valve and cover are in perfect condition, above all after any impacts.

We recommend having your harness checked by your retailer every two years, and replacing the main karabiners every two years.

To prevent unnecessary wear and deterioration of the harness, it is important to avoid its scraping against the ground, rocks or abrasive surfaces. Do not expose the harness unnecessarily to UV radiation (sunlight) outside normal flying activities. Wherever possible, protect the harness from humidity and heat.

Store all your paragliding equipment in a cool, dry place, and never put it away while damp or wet.

Keep your harness as clean as possible by regularly cleaning off dirt with a plastic bristle brush and/or a damp cloth. If the harness gets exceptionally dirty, wash it with water and a mild soap. Allow the harness to dry naturally in a well-ventilated area away from direct sunlight.

If your reserve parachute ever gets wet (e.g. in a water landing) you must remove it from the harness, dry it and repack it before putting it back in the container.

Repairs and replacement of harness components cannot be performed by the user, but exclusively by the manufacturer or staff authorized by the manufacturer. The manufacturer and authorized service staff alone can use materials and techniques ensuring correct product functionality and its complete conformity to product certification.

The harness can be washed using a tepid solution of water and mild soap.

Zip fasteners should be kept clean and lubricated with silicone spray.

**In the case of making any request to an official retailer or Woody Valley for maintenance operations, please quote the complete identification number shown on the silver label in the rear pocket.**

We hope that you enjoy great flights and happy landings with **VOYAGER** !

## 7- TECHNICAL DATA

DHV tested for a maximum load of	120 kg
Distance between karabiner and seat	Size M cm 38; L cm 40; XL cm 42,5
Distance between karabiners (min. max.)	Size M cm 36/50; L cm 38/54; XL cm 38/54
Size of polycarbonate seat, size M	Width 32 cm; depth 35 cm
Size of polycarbonate seat, size L	Width 35 cm; depth 37,5 cm
Size of polycarbonate seat, size XL	Width 37 cm; depth 40,5 cm
Total weight of VOYAGER, size L, complete with reserve parachute handle and karabiners	3,20 kg
Type of protection	AIRBAG protection
Type of straps	T-LOCK safety system
Certification	DHV GS-03-0372-08
Reserve parachute housing	Optional – 200 gr

**8- CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL**

Deutscher Hängegleiterverband e. V. im DAeC  
 DHV-Technikreferat  
 LBA-anerkannte Prüfstelle für Hängegleiter und Gleitsegel



**MUSTERPRÜFBESCHEINIGUNG**  
**Gurtzeug für Gleitschirm**  
 Musterprüfnummer **DHV GS-03-0372-08**  
 Bezeichnung des Gerätemusters  
**VOYAGER**

Das nachstehend bezeichnete Luftsportgerät ist als Muster geprüft im Auftrag von:  
**Woody Valley Model snc (OHG), Loc. Spini di Gardolo 96, 38014 Gardolo / Trento, Italien**

Diese Musterprüfbescheinigung ist erteilt auf Grund der die Musterprüfung betreffenden Bestimmungen des Luftverkehrsgesetzes, der Luftverkehrs-Zulassungs-Ordnung, der Verordnung zur Prüfung von Luftfahrtgerät und der Lufttüchtigkeitsforderungen in der heute geltenden Fassung sowie zu den Bedingungen der Vereinbarung über Musterprüfung und des Schreibens vom 07.07.2008.

Die Musterprüfung gilt gemäß zugehörigem Geräte-Kennblatt Nr.: **DHV GS-03-0372-08**

07.07.2008  
 Datum der Ausstellung                      Unterschrift 

Deutscher Hängegleiterverband e.V. im DAeC  
 DHV-Technikreferat  
 LBA-anerkannte Prüfstelle für Hängegleiter und Gleitsegel



**Luftsportgeräte-Kennblatt  
 Gleitsegel-Gurtzeug**

Geräte-Kennblatt Nr.: **DHV GS-03-0372-08** Ausgabe: 0 Datum: **07.07.2008**

**I. Musterprüfung**

1. Gerätemuster: **VOYAGER**  
 2. Hersteller: **Woody Valley Model snc (OHG)**  
 3. Datum der Musterprüfbescheinigung: **07.07.2008**

**II. Merkmale und Betriebsgrenzen:**

1. Gurtzeuggruppe: **GH**  
 2. Gerätegewicht (ohne Packsack kg): **3**  
 3. Maximal zulässige Anhängelast (kg): **120**  
 4. Integrierter Rettungsgeräte-Außencontainer: **Nein**  
 5. Gurtzeugprotector-Muster: **Woody Valley Model snc (OHG) - Voyager**  
 6. Sonstige Besonderheiten:  
**Optionaler Frontcontainer**

**III. Betriebsanweisungen**  
 Betriebsanweisung in der genehmigten Fassung vom 12.06.2008



*Every effort has been made to ensure that the information contained in this manual is correct, but please remember that it has been produced for guidance only. This owner's manual is subject to change without prior notice. Please check at [www.woodyvalley.com](http://www.woodyvalley.com) for the latest information regarding the VOYAGER harness. Latest update: APRIL 2010*