

Operating Instructions – 8m Hinged Column

Instructions for raising and lowering the Pudsey Diamond 8m Hinged Column

To lower the column, remove the column door using the appropriate key.

Take the pull down rope assembly, with shackles and pulley, and unravel ready for use.

Attach the fixed end of the rope to the eye on the outside of the base of the column, just above ground level, with the shackle provided. Attach the pulley block to the eye on the outside of the counterbalance arm with the other shackle, before unlocking the counterbalance arm.

Hold the outside face of the lower part of the counterbalance arm with one hand whilst removing the carabine hook that secures the internal latch mechanism to column shaft. Push the latch mechanism up with one hand, releasing the counterbalance arm into your other hand.

Take tension on the rope beyond the pulley block and feed out steadily, allowing the top section to invert gently. Do not allow the rope to slide through the hands. The load can be reduced on the rope by moving away from the column to improve the mechanical advantage.

It is now possible to fit or service the lantern at ground level. Note that the column is supplied with a flexible conduit to aid installation of the cable and to rout it safely around the hinge area.

The top section can be returned to its operational position by pulling on the pull down rope. When almost vertical, the counterbalance arm can then be pushed hard against the column shaft to engage the locking mechanism. A positive engagement on the latch can be confirmed by an audible clunk from the mechanism and a visual check of the latch dropping down into the locked position. Refit the carabine hook through the hole in the latch mechanism. Remove the block and tackle assembly. Refit the door.

For added security the column can be locked in the up position by use of a padlock, fitted through the hole in the latch mechanism, inside of the column base, instead of the carabine hook.

The electrical supply and isolation in the base of the column is not covered in this method statement due to local variation. However it is important that the operator is able to have hand access to the upper part of the column base aperture to allow for operation of the latching mechanism.

This method statement relates only to the detail of the operation of this column and does not absolve the contractor from his or her legal duties. Normal risk assessments and method statements must be carried out for the full operating process. IG 27/07/17