



**THIELE**

# Shortening Claw RAPID TWN 1852 Grade XL

## Operating instructions

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This operating instructions must be read before use of the RAPID-Shortening Claw.  
It contains important information concerning safety and operation.

### WARNING

**The RAPID-Shortening Claw is not for lifting, wearing or transport of personnel: It is absolutely prohibited to use it for this purpose!**

**Due to inappropriate application, loads can fall and cause severe or fatal injuries!**

### Documentation

Each RAPID-Shortening Claw will be supplied with test certificate and declaration of conformity.  
The operating instruction, declaration of conformity and the other user information is to be kept until removal from service.

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### 1. General

The RAPID-Shortening Claw is used for shortening individual chain legs of a THIELE Grade XL Chain Sling.  
It is built symmetrically and can be placed at any position on chain in the chain leg.

The RAPID-Shortening Claw corresponds to the EG-Maschinenrichtlinie 98/37/EG and has been type approved by the North German Steel - and Professional Association.

### 2. Safety advice

Subsequent safety precautions are issued to advise of dangerous methods of operations which are to be avoided.  
The choice to not observe these safety precautions can result death, severe injuries or property damage. This listing provides no claim to completeness.

- Only persons with physical capability, who are trained in security measures and operations of this product can use the RAPID-Shortening Claw
- Users must know the rules of the Professional Association concerning the „BGR 500“, as well as the operation manual. The user must be trained. Only authorized personnel can make the mounting and dismounting according to BGR 500, Chapter 2.8.
- A RAPID-Shortening Claw which is worn, damaged or bent is to be immediately removed from service.
- Loads are not to be lifted unless weight is less than or equal to the nominal capacity of the sling chain.
- Do not load the RAPID-Shortening Claw with higher loads than indicated working load limit (see point 7).
- Never allow direct connections between RAPID-Shortening Claw and the load (e.g. with a wire).
- Do not try to bring the RAPID-Shortening Claw into the correct position by Hammer blows.
- Use only the RAPID-Shortening Claw at the straight leg.
- Do not lead the RAPID-Shortening Claw over edges and do not side load.

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- Do not run over RAPID-Shortening Claws.
- Do not make any type of design modifications of the RAPID-Shortening Claw for example by welding, bending, grinding or similar works.
- Only use RAPID-Shortening Claw with THIELE chains especially THIELE-Slings Chains in Grade XL.
- Always ensure that no person is in the lifting area of the load. It is prohibited for personnel to be under lifted load.
- Never lift a load over a person.
- While lifting loads, hands and other parts of body have to be kept away from the RAPID-Shortening Claw.
- Lift load slightly until it is certain that lifting is correct and no person is in danger zone.
- Do not swing a lifted load.
- Do not induce load impact.
- Do not stand on lifted load.
- Do not leave a lifted load unattended.
- The RAPID-Shortening Claw must be protected against unauthorized and inadmissible use.
- The manufacturer must approve use under chemical influences.
- The RAPID-Shortening Claw must be protected in transport and storage against environmental influences.
- Area of temperature : -30 °C bis +200 °C

**3. Initial start up**

Before initial start up the operator must consider, local or other rules which refer to a special use of the RAPID-Shortening Claw.

In order to avoid an inappropriate application read the operating instruction as well as the marking of the RAPID-Shortening Claw before the first use.

Furthermore:

- Before initial start up the RAPID-Shortening Claw must be thoroughly inspected by an expert for possible damage during transportation.
- Before use, make sure that the declaration of conformity is present.
- Confirm that the marking on the RAPID-Shortening Claw matches the information of the declaration of conformity.
- The data of the RAPID-Shortening Claw is to be assigned into a corresponding card index.
- Before use, make sure the RAPID-Shortening Claw passes the documented inspections in the corresponding documentation.

**4. Operation**

Immediately remove the RAPID-Shortening Claw from operation and maintain when it is necessary in case any of the following occur:

- unreadable marking
- deformations, cuts, notches, grooves, cracks, strong corrosion
- Wear at the claw pockets measuring more than 10% of the associated chain diameter
- Overloads or heating above the admissible temperature zone (see point 2)

First it is recommended to place the RAPID-Shortening Claw in the highest location of the desired shortening and to then carry out the chain shortening. The dismounting will be carried out first on the lower side then at the upper one.

**4.1 Mounting of the RAPID-Shortening Claw to the chain**

- a) Take the RAPID-Shortening Claw in one hand and open the upper locking device with the forefinger.



- b) Take the chain a little under the requested position into the other hand, release it and lead one chain link into the pocket of the upper half of the claw. Lower a little bit the RAPID-Shortening Claw and release the upper chain strand so that the chain can slide slightly at the outer edge of the RAPID-Shortening Claw.



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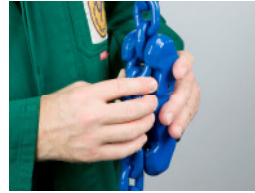
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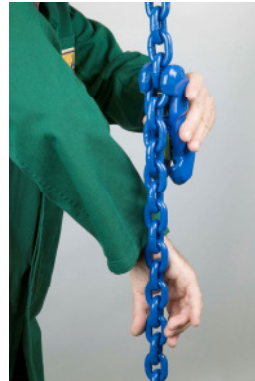
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Extend the chain and the RAPID-Shortening Claw until chain link will be dipped at the end of the pocket. Release the locking device, so that the locking device will return to its initial position. Confirm the correct position of the chain in the claw.

**4.2 Chain Shortening**

a) Take the RAPID-Shortening Claw in one Hand and grab as shown opposite the chain strand to be shortened. Thereby fix the chain link to be positioned into the lower pocket between forefinger and thumb.



b) Now push this chain link into the pocket. In the process press the underlying chain link against the lower locking device. Lower the RAPID-Shortening Claw a little bit, so that the chain can glide slightly along the outer edge of the RAPID-Shortening Claw. Push the chain link to the bottom of the pocket, so that the locking device will return to its initial position.

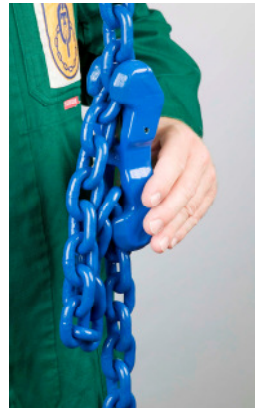


**DO NOT twist the chain strand!**

c) Confirm the correct position.

**WARNING!**

Ensure that each end of the RAPID-Shortening Claw continuously upwards and downwards running chain strands are loaded and that they are not showing inwards.

**4.3 Unlocking of the Shortening**

Release with one hand the lower locking device and grab with the other hand the chain strand under the RAPID-Shortening for Claw and lift up, so that the chain can move out of the pocket. Manoeuvre the claw so that the chain can remove easier from the pocket. However, do not swing so wildly that the flinging chain hurts you or others!

**4.4 Dismounting of the RAPID-Shortening Claw**

Proceed in described manner in the reverse order as mentioned under 4.1.

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**5. Non use/Whereabouts**

In case the RAPID-Shortening Claw will not be used it should be removed from the chain strand.  
An unused RAPID-Shortening Claw can remain mounted at the chain strand like mentioned under point 1, when one is ensured that it will not distort the sling chain for further use.

**6. Inspection and Maintenance**

Regular inspections such as measurement, visual, and functionality must be carried out at least once a year by an expert.  
In case of more frequent use, it should be controlled more often. Every three years a crack inspection should be performed.

At the beginning arrange a card file containing a description of the RAPID-Shortening Claw as well as identifying marks. The inspection dates will be documented there.

At each inspection the state of the RAPID-Shortening Claw and each individual part has to be annotated.  
In case of the repair, the reason as well as the details has to be specified.

Inspect the RAPID-Shortening Claw regularly. In case of wear or damage, the RAPID-Shortening Claw has to be replaced.  
Before each use the RAPID-Shortening Claw has to be inspected for damage or incorrect application by the user or maintenance personnel.

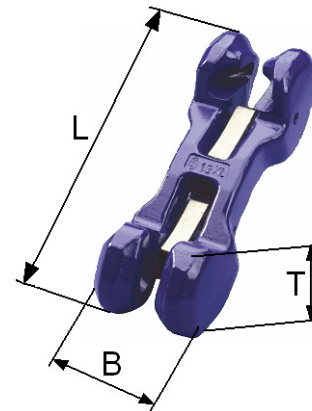
In case of any questions, please send the RAPID-Shortening Claw to the service address mentioned under point 8.  
Do not use the RAPID-Shortening Claw before any defects have been removed.

Necessary repairs can only be performed by authorized companies. In this case please contact the service address mentioned under point 8.

**7. Technical datas**

Trade Size	WLL	Article-No.	Dimension			Weight
			B	L	T	
	[t]		[mm]	[mm]	[mm]	[kg]
6 – XL	1,4	F34765	<sup>1)</sup>	<sup>1)</sup>	<sup>1)</sup>	<sup>1)</sup>
8 – XL	2,5	F34775	48	148	43	1,0
10 – XL	4,0	F34780	60	180	54	2,0
13 – XL	6,7	F34785	78	240	70	4,8
16 – XL	10,0	F34790	96	296	86	9,0

1) still in process

**8. Service-Address**

Germany: THIELE GmbH & Co. KG  
Postfach 8040  
D- 58618 Iserlohn  
Tel. +49 (23 71) 947-0

United States: KWS, Inc.  
9950-C E. 55th Place  
Tulsa, OK 74146  
Tel: 800-872-9313

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