

# SKF TKBA 21 & 31



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## Safety recommendations

- Always turn off the power of the driven machine before you start working on.
- Always read and follow the operating instructions.
- Never stare directly into the laser beams.
- Never aim the laser beams into another person's eyes.
- Opening the housing of the laser unit may result in hazardous light exposure and void the warranty.
- Take care not to pinch your fingers when mounting the units on pulleys or sprockets.
- The equipment should not be used in areas where there is a risk of explosion.
- Never expose the equipment to high humidity or direct contact with water.
- Have all repair work performed by an SKF repair shop.

## EU Declaration of Conformity TKBA 21 & 31

We, SKF Maintenance Products, Meidoornkade 14,  
3992 AE Houten,

The Netherlands herewith declare under our sole  
responsibility that the products described in these  
instructions for use, are in accordance with the  
conditions of the following Directive(s):

EMC DIRECTIVE 2014/30/EU

RoHS DIRECTIVE (EU) 2015/863

and are in conformity with the following standards:

Immunity:

EN 61000-6-2:2005 - Immunity for Industrial  
Environments,

IEC 61000-4-2:2001, IEC 61000-4-3:2008

Emission:

EN 61000-6-3:2007 - Emission Standard for  
Residential, Commercial and light Industrial  
Environments,

EN 55011:2016

The laser is classified in accordance with the  
USA FDA Standard 21 CFR, Ch 1, Part 1040.10 and  
1040.11

Houten, The Netherlands, May 2023



Guillaume Dubois  
Manager Quality and Compliance



## UK Declaration of Conformity TKBA 21 & 31

We, SKF Maintenance Products, Meidoornkade 14,  
3992 AE Houten,

The Netherlands herewith declare under our sole  
responsibility that the products described in these  
instructions for use, are in accordance with the  
conditions of the following Directive(s):

Electromagnetic Compatibility Regulations 2016  
(2016 No. 1091)

The Restriction of the Use of Certain Hazardous  
Substances in Electrical and Electronic Equipment  
Regulations 2012 (2012 No. 3032)

and are in conformity with the following standards:

Immunity:

EN 61000-6-2:2005 - Immunity for Industrial  
Environments,

IEC 61000-4-2:2001, IEC 61000-4-3:2008

Emission:

EN 61000-6-3:2007 - Emission Standard for  
Residential, Commercial and light Industrial  
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EN 55011:2016

The laser is classified in accordance with the  
USA FDA Standard 21 CFR, Ch 1, Part 1040.10 and  
1040.11

The person authorised to compile the technical  
documentation on behalf of the manufacturer  
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Houten, The Netherlands, May 2023



Guillaume Dubois  
Manager Quality and Compliance



# 1. Introduction

Precise alignment of belt / pulley driven machinery, chain / sprocket, or any other power transmission like timing belts for example, is essential to reduce both pulley or chain and belt or sprocket wear. It can help reduce machinery vibration, which in turn leads to improved machine performance.

Good pulley or chain alignment can help reduce unscheduled downtime, and can improve the reliability of your equipment.

The SKF Belt Alignment Tools TKBA 21 and 31 offer an easy and accurate method to adjust the machinery so that pulleys or sprockets are accurately aligned.



## 2. Principle of operation

The TKBA 21 and 31 consist of two laser emitting units that attach magnetically to the side of the driving and driven pulley or sprocket. The transmitter units emit both a laser line, red for TKBA 21 and green for TKBA 31, that is projected onto the opposite unit. On the front of each unit is a target area with reference lines.

Depending on the laser pattern projected on the target area, it is possible to determine the type of misalignment and how to correct it. Belt or sprocket alignment is easily performed by adjusting the moveable machine(s) until the laser lines coincide with the reference lines on both units.

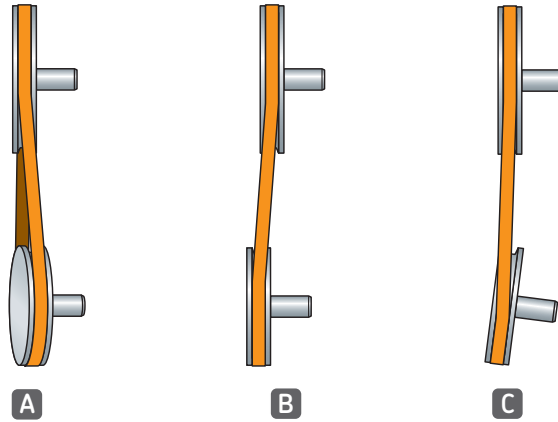
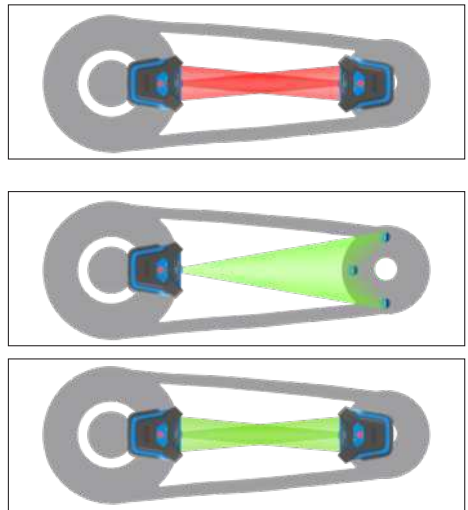


Fig. 1 – Different types of pulley misalignment

<b>A</b>	Vertical angle misalignment
<b>B</b>	Parallel misalignment
<b>C</b>	Horizontal angle misalignment



### 3. Battery installation

The TKBA 21 & 31 are powered with 3 × AAA alkaline batteries.

To insert the new batteries:

- Locate the back of the unit on the round end of the emitting unit.
- Remove the slotted head screw (→ **fig. 2**).
- Carefully insert three new batteries in the holder taking care to observe polarity. Replace the cover back onto the unit and refit the screw



**Fig.2** – Battery door



#### **NOTE:**

Remove the batteries if the transmitter unit is to remain unused for an extended period.

#### 4. Mounting the units

The TKBA 21 and 31 are equipped with powerful magnets, allowing the operator to mount the system on almost any pulley or sprocket face.

Mount the units on the pulley or bracket faces to be aligned.

- One unit should be mounted onto the pulley or sprocket to be moved or adjusted, facing the other unit, so that the lasers can be projected on each other reference lines.
- The other laser emitting unit should be mounted on the stationary pulley or sprocket, also facing the reference lines of the first unit.

The user must determine which pulley is movable and which is stationary.

The movable pulley or sprocket is often the smallest one, and is often mounted on the motor shaft. In some cases both pulleys or sprockets and shafts may need to be adjusted to achieve the desired alignment.

For non-ferrous pulleys or sprocket, it is possible to use a small bar clamp (G clamp).

#### 5. Power on

To turn the laser lines on, use the main red switches located on the front of the transmitter units.

#### 6. Alignment condition check

The laser lines on the both units' reference lines show the vertical angle misalignment, parallel misalignment or offset. Horizontal angle misalignment is indicated by the offset position of the laser line on one side only with a constant distance.

Before aligning the pulleys or sprockets, it is important that the pulleys or sprockets are mounted correctly on the shafts and that the shafts are straight. Buckled pulleys will have a detrimental effect on the alignment quality. Adjust one (or both) pulley machine(s) step by step until both laser lines hit the reference line of the opposite laser unit.

The laser line emitted from each laser unit will now appear on the opposite unit. The pattern will vary depending on the type of misalignment.

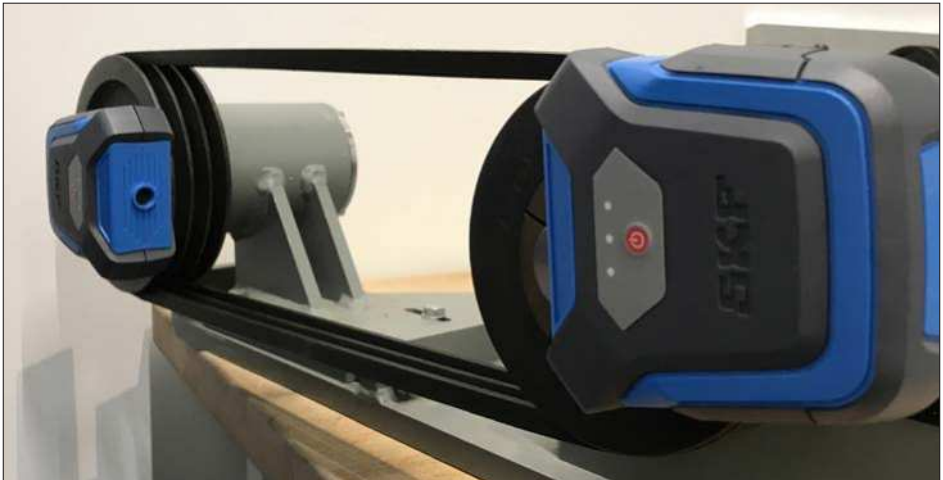
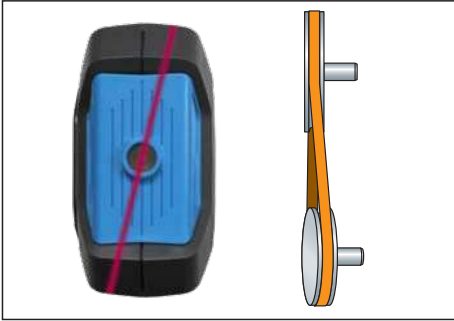


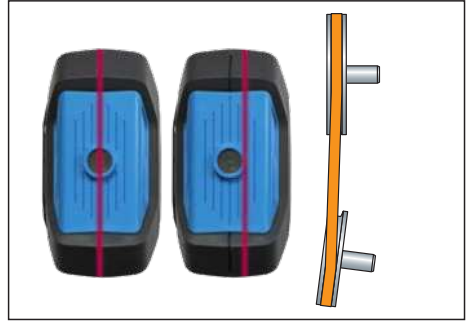
Fig.3 – Units mounted on pulleys



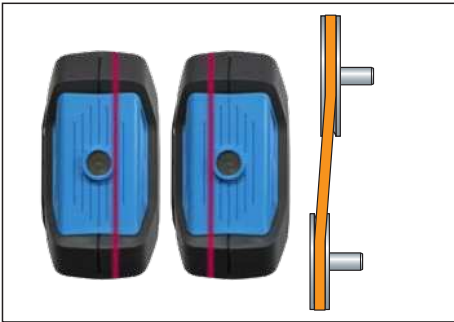
## 7. Correcting misalignment



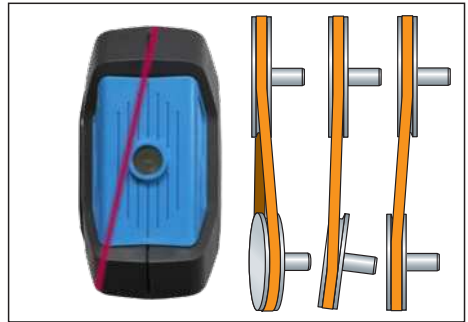
Display of vertical angle misalignment



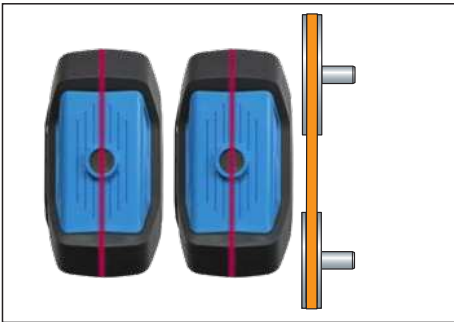
Display of horizontal angle misalignment



Display of parallel misalignment



Display of all three misalignments combined



Display of correct alignment

**Fig.4** – Correction misalignment using TKBA 21 as an example (laser lines in green are for TKBA 31)

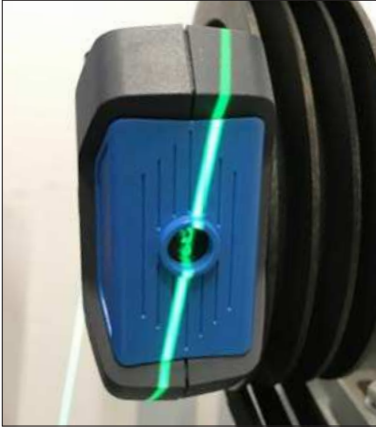


Fig.5 – Display of vertical angle misalignment

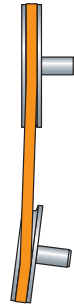


Fig.6 – Display of horizontal angle misalignment

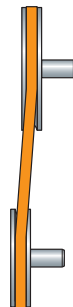


Fig.7 – Display of parallel misalignment (offset)

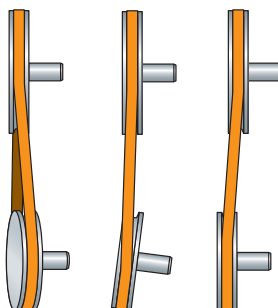
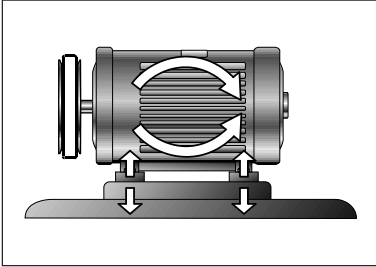


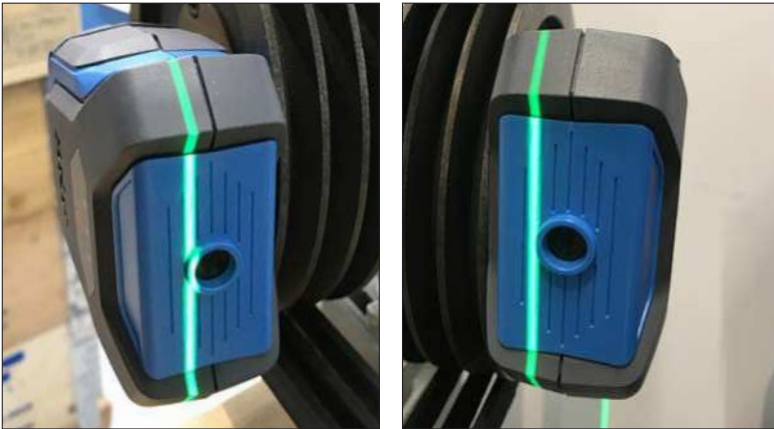
Fig.8 – Misalignment patterns: all of them combined

**Step 1:**

From a typical pattern as per → **fig. 8**: correct vertical angle misalignment by shimming the moveable machine using stainless steel shims such as SKF TMAS shims. Place shims beneath the front or rear feet of the moveable machine (as per → **fig. 9**) until both laser lines are parallel to their respective reference lines (as per → **fig. 10**).



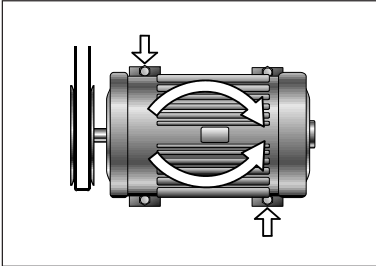
**Fig.9** – Vertical angle alignment



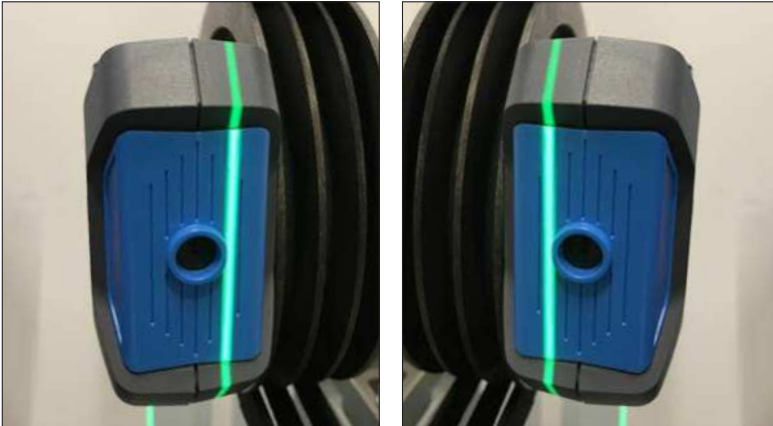
**Fig.10** – Pulleys with combined horizontal angle and parallel misalignments:

**Step 2:**

From a typical pattern as per → **fig. 10** now, correct horizontal angle misalignment by adjusting the moveable machine laterally. Move the machine (as per → **fig. 11** until the laser lines are symmetrically positioned in relation to the reference lines (as per → **fig. 12**).



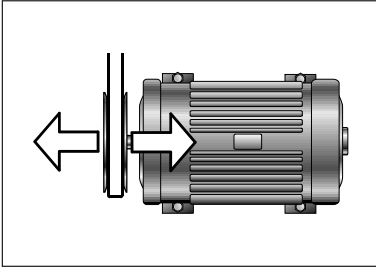
**Fig.11** – Horizontal angle alignment



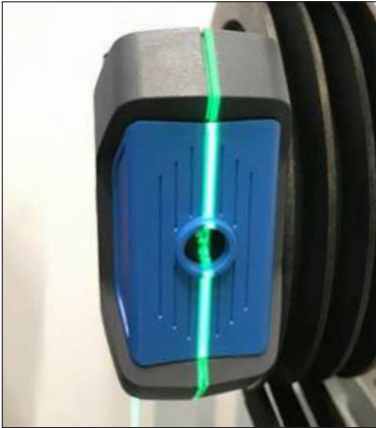
**Fig.12** – Pulley with parallel misalignment

**Step 3:**

From a typical pattern as per → **fig. 12** now: correct parallel misalignment (Offset) by adjusting the moveable pulley or machine axially. Move one of the pulleys on its shaft (as per → **fig. 13**) until the laser lines exactly match the same centered reference lines (as per → **fig. 14**).



**Fig.13** – Parallel alignment



**Fig.14** – Pulley perfectly aligned

If Steps 1, 2 and 3 are followed then the alignment of the belt drives should be completed quickly. However, one alignment correction may affect other alignment conditions. Steps 1, 2 and 3 may need to be repeated until the system is completely aligned.

Good alignment is achieved when the laser lines on both units coincide with the same reference line in the center.

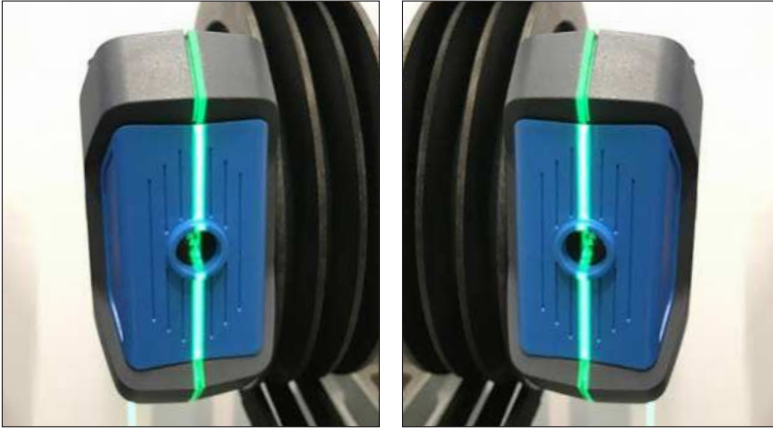


Fig.15 – Pulleys perfectly aligned

**NOTE:**

When tightening the belt, check the horizontal angle alignment and adjust if necessary.

**Acceptable horizontal angle misalignment**

As a general rule, the horizontal angular error should not exceed  $0.25^\circ - 0.5^\circ$ , which corresponds to 4 - 8 mm per meter (4 - 8 mils/1 in).

As a means of measuring this, the target area is provided with a scale of 4 mm between each reference lines.

**⚠ WARNING:**

Switch OFF the transmitter unit and remove all units BEFORE starting machinery.

## 8. Troubleshooting and maintenance

### No laser line

- Check that the batteries are inserted correctly in the transmitter unit.
- Replace the batteries.
- Ensure that the laser window in the transmitter unit is not obstructed by dirt. If necessary, clean with cotton cloth.

### Lost calibration

If the tool loses its calibration, return the complete tool to SKF for repair.

### Heavy impacts

The transmitter unit is equipped with sensitive optical components. Heavy impacts can affect the function and accuracy of the unit. Handle with care and ensure that the laser window is kept clean and free from dirt.

## 9. Technical data

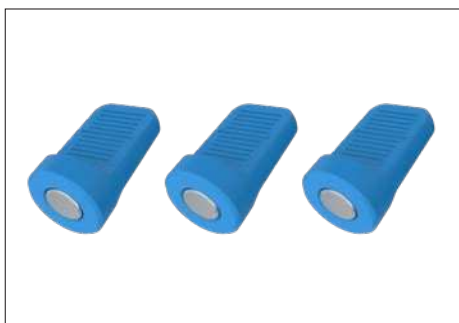
Designation	TKBA 21	TKBA 31
<b>Transmitter unit</b>		
Type of laser	Red laser diode	Green laser diode
Laser	1x Built-in class 2 laser, <1mW, 635nm	1x Built-in class 2 laser, <1mW, 520nm
Laser line length:	2.4 m at 2 m (7.9 ft at 6.6 ft)	2.4 m at 2 m (7.9 ft at 6.6 ft)
Measurement Accuracy Angular	Better than 0.02° at 2 m (6.6 ft)	Better than 0.02° at 2 m (6.6 ft)
Measurement Accuracy Offset	Better than 0.5 mm (1/50" in)	Better than 0.5 mm (1/50" in)
Measurement distance	50 mm to 3 m (2 in to 10 ft)	50 mm to 6 m (2 in to 20 ft)
Control	Laser ON/OFF button	Laser ON/OFF button
Housing Material	ABS polymer and Aluminium base powder coat finish	ABS polymer and Aluminium base powder coat finish
<b>Receiver unit</b>		
Housing material	ABS + 2K and Aluminium base powder coat finish	ABS + 2K and Aluminium base powder coat finish
<b>Fixtures</b>		
Mounting	Magnetic, side mounted	Magnetic, side mounted
<b>Battery and power</b>		
Battery	3 × AAA Alkaline type (Rechargeable too)	3 × AAA Alkaline type (Rechargeable too)
Operation time	Emitting unit: 32h (continuous operation)	Emitting unit: 6h (continuous operation)



<b>Operating Requirements</b>		
Operating temperature	0 to 40 °C (32 to 104 °F)	0 to 40 °C (32 to 104 °F)
Storage temperature	-20 to +60 °C (-4 to +140 °F)	-20 to +60 °C (-4 to +140 °F)
Relative Humidity	10 to 90% RH non-condensing	10 to 90% RH non-condensing
IP rating for indication	IP 40	IP 40
<b>Dimensions</b>		
Transmitter unit	98 × 97 × 52 mm (3.9 × 3.8 × 2 in)	98 × 97 × 52 mm (3.9 × 3.8 × 2 in)
Receiver unit	N/A	Passive targets: 40 × 25 mm (1.6 × 0.99 in)
Carrying case size B	360 × 110 × 260 mm (14.2 × 4.3 × 10.2 in)	360 × 110 × 260 mm (14.2 × 4.3 × 10.2 in)
<b>Weight</b>		
Transmitter unit	250 g (0.55 lb) with batteries	250 g (0.55 lb) with batteries
Receiver unit	250 g (0.55 lb) with batteries	250 g (0.55 lb) with batteries
Total weight (incl. case)	1.62 kg (3.57 lb)	1.88 kg (4.14 lb)
<b>Case contents</b>		
	<b>TKBA 21</b>	<b>TKBA 31</b>
	2 × TKBA 21 transmitter unit	2 × TKBA 31 transmitter unit
	6 × AAA batteries	6 × AAA batteries
	1 × Printed instructions for use	1 × Printed instructions for use
		3 × TKBA passive targets
		3 × Belt tension checkers of different loads
		1 × Pulley groove gauges

## 10. Spare parts

<b>Designation</b>	<b>TKBA 21 &amp; 31</b>
TKBA TARGETS	3 × passive targets
PHP PT/C1 006	Groove profile check
PHG PT/C1 008	Tension tester I 15 kg – 70 kg (30 lb – 150 lb)
PHG PT/C1 009	Tension tester II 50 kg – 150 kg (100 lb – 300 lb)
PHG PT/C1 010	Tension tester III 150 kg – 300 kg (300 lb – 700 lb)
TKBA 31-CB	Toolcase with inlay for TKBA 21 & 31

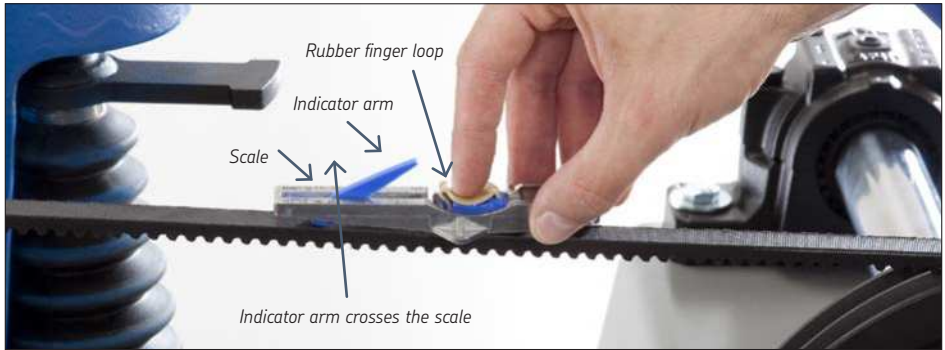


# 11. Belt tension tester

Designation	Description
PHG PT/C1 008	Tension tester I 15 kg – 70 kg (30 lb – 150 lb)
PHG PT/C1 009	Tension tester II 50 kg – 150 kg (100 lb – 300 lb)
PHG PT/C1 010	Tension tester III 150 kg – 300 kg (300 lb – 700 lb)
TKBA 31-CB	Toolcase with inlay for TKBA 21 & 31

## 11.1 Instructions

1. Select the appropriate tester from the tables.
2. With the indicator arm down, place the tester parallel to the side of one belt along the midsection of the span length.
3. Holding the rubber finger loop, apply pressure directly downwards.
4. Stop when you feel and hear the “click”.
5. Remove the tester and read the belt tension by observing the point where the top surface of the indicator arm crosses the numbered scale on the tester body. (See picture)



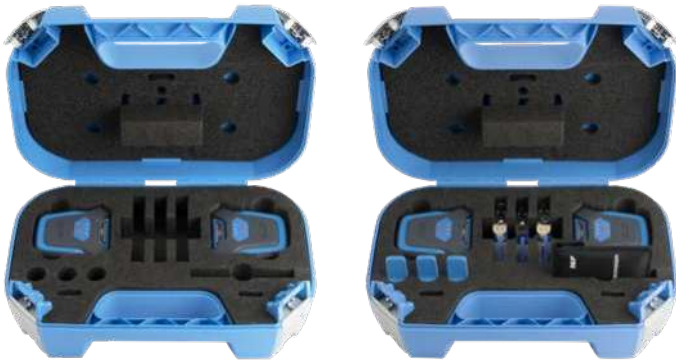
Belt type	WRAPPED belt tension					
	Initial new belt		Run in used belt		Smallest pulley diameter	
	kg	lb	kg	lb	mm	in
A	15	34	11	25	≤ 80	≤ 3.2
	20	45	15	34	80 – 100	3.25 - 4.0
	31	67	25	56	101 – 132	4.1 - 5.25
B	31	67	25	56	≤ 125	≤ 5.0
	41	90	31	67	126 – 160	5.1 - 6.4
	51	112	41	90	161 – 200	6.5 - 8.0
C	71	157	51	112	≤ 200	≤ 4.0
	82	180	61	135	201 – 250	4.1 - 10.0
	92	202	71	157	251 – 355	10.1 - 14.0
SPZ, 3V	20	45	15	34	≤ 71	≤ 2.8
	25	56	20	45	72 – 90	2.9 - 3.5
	36	79	25	56	91 – 125	3.6 - 5.0
SPA	36	79	25	56	≤ 100	≤ 4.0
	41	90	31	67	101 - 140	4.1 - 5.5
	51	112	41	90	141 - 200	5.6 - 4.0
SPB, 5V	66	146	51	112	≤ 160	≤ 6.4
	71	157	56	124	161 – 224	6.5 - 8.9
	92	202	71	157	225 – 355	9.0 - 14.0
SPC	102	225	82	180	≤ 250	≤ 10.0
	143	315	112	247	251 - 355	10.1 - 14.0
	183	405	143	315	356 - 560	14.1 - 22.0
SPZ-XP, 3V-XP	22	50	17	37	≤ 71	≤ 2.8
	28	62	22	50	72 – 90	2.9 - 3.5
	40	87	28	62	91 – 125	3.6 - 5.0
SPA-XP	40	87	28	62	≤ 100	≤ 4.0
	45	99	34	74	101 - 140	4.1 - 5.5
	56	123	45	99	141 - 200	5.6 - 4.0
SPB-XP, 5V-XP	73	161	56	123	≤ 160	≤ 6.4
	78	173	62	136	161 – 224	6.5 - 8.9
	101	222	78	173	225 – 355	9.0 - 14.0
SPB-XP	112	248	90	198	≤ 250	≤ 10.0
	157	347	123	272	251 - 355	10.1 - 14.0
	201	446	157	347	356 - 560	14.1 - 22.0

Belt type	COGGED belt tension			
	Initial new belt		Run in used belt	
	kg	lb	kg	lb
AX	20	45	15	34
	25	56	20	45
	41	90	31	67
BX	46	101	36	79
	51	112	41	90
	61	135	46	101
CX	82	180	61	135
	92	202	71	157
	102	225	82	180
XPZ, 3VX	25	56	20	45
	31	67	25	56
	41	90	31	67
XPA	41	90	31	67
	51	112	41	90
	61	135	46	101
XPB, 5VX	71	157	56	124
	87	191	66	146
	102	225	82	180
XPC	143	315	112	270
	163	360	122	270
	194	427	153	337









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