# hans

### HANS Frequently Asked Questions

## <u>Overview</u>

- The HANS Device is worn <u>under</u> your safety harness belts.
- Belt adjusters should rest on or below the lower portion of the HANS Device.
- Change or remove padding for best fit - pads are for comfort only.
- Never modify the body of the HANS Device.
- The location of the shoulder belt adjusters on a HANS Device has two options
  - Option 1-Adjust the length of the upper portion on the shoulder belt to a length that places the adjuster fully on the bottom portion of the HANS Yoke arms, when the shoulder belts are tight
  - Option 2-The Adjuster can be placed bellow the end of the HANS Yoke arm. There must be at least a 1" a gap under the end of the arm of the yoke arm of the HANS Device and the upper most part of the adjuster. If this spacing cannot be achieved, adjust the belts using the method listed above in option 1
- Paragraph 4.2.2 in the FIA Guide for Installation of a harness with the use of a HANS Device states the following:
  - Position of adjusters for harnesses with 5, 6 or 7 attachment points to the vehicle If the length adjustment device of the shoulder belt is positioned on the HANS yoke then the upper edge must be not more than 70mm from the lower edge of the HANS yoke (this does not apply in the case of the double shoulder belt system). If the length adjustment device of the shoulder belt is positioned between the HANS yoke and buckle, it must be lower than the HANS yoke at least by 25mm
- When the HANS Device is on I can touch my chin to my chest. Are my tethers too long?
  - Not necessarily. The HANS Device comes with an 18" standard tether. If you would like to get a shorter tether for your application, one can be ordered from Simpson / HANS or one of our many retailers
  - The amount of slack normally seen in the tethers is enough for approx. 1'' 1.5'' of straight forward head movement, with the shoulder belts tight in the car

HANS Device

Padding

Safety Harness Belt

Harness/Belt Adjuster



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### • When installed the HANS Device rubs against my neck. Is this normal?

• Yes. For ease of arm movement, the front of the HANS Device is narrower. The padding can be modified or removed without affecting the performance of the device. If the rubbing is intrusive, a larger model device may be available to better fit the occupant

#### • What type of shoulder belts work best with a HANS Device?

- Any SFI or FIA approved harness system will work with the HANS Device. A two or three inch wide shoulder belt will work fine with a HANS Device. Belt systems that come with four, five, six, or more points of attachment and are acceptable
- Dual shoulder belts, pictured below, were developed for use with the HANS Device. They can be used with HANS devices also. Specific mounting requirements for the shoulder belts are required in the car for use of these. Please refer to the manufacturer's recommendations or the FIA Guide for Installation of HANS device



- I race on a short track at relatively low speeds. Do I need a HANS Device?
  - Yes. Serious head and neck injuries happen at impact speeds as low as 35mph
  - On short tracks with tight turns it is common to make contact into the wall at high impact angles, which increases the impact loads
- Can I share a HANS Device with another driver?
  - Provided that you are of similar physical size and shape to your partner, there is a high probability that you can share a HANS Device
- Do I need a special helmet to use a HANS Device?
  - o No. HANS Device helmet anchors fit any competition approved racing helmet
- Can I wear a helmet support collar with a HANS Device?
  - Yes, a variety of Neck collars can be worn with your HANS Device. Choose a collar that has been fitted for the use of a head and neck restraint. The correct collar will help to ensure that the padding does not put the wearer into an uncomfortable position



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- I have an unusual racecar. Do you make a HANS Device that will fit?
  - Most likely. The HANS Device can be worn in almost any vehicle (not just cars) that uses two shoulder belts as part of the driver restraint harness. Different collar angles and widths are available to fit occupants into almost any configuration
- Do shoulder belts slip off the HANS Device?
  - Properly mounted shoulder belts do not slip off the HANS Device. If your shoulder belts do not stay securely on your HANS Device, it is possible that you do not have the belt mounts properly positioned in your chassis and that the torso is not well restrained against side to side movement. Use of a stiff shouldered seat and head surround or net system, has shown the best results in racing cockpits.

### **Belt Mounting**





The shoulder belts should come off the back of the HANS Device at an angle of 10 to 20 degrees inboard and 0 to 10 degrees down for the most comfort and device performance.

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## <u>Head Rest Clearance</u>

- The HANS Device may lightly contact helmet or head rest.
- If your HANS pushes your head forward uncomfortably, a more upright device may be required.
- The HANS Device may move back and forth a little during racing.



#### • How do I care for my HANS Device?

- HANS Devices need almost no maintenance but should be kept clean and dry. Store HANS Devices away from direct sunlight to protect them. It is recommended that you clean them with soapy warm water, avoiding solvent-based cleaners. Ensure rubber top surfaces stay clean and free of wear. Tethers should be replaced after any major impact or every 5 years. Tethers carry dated labels. You should periodically check the tightness of your helmet anchors
- What is the weight of a HANS Device?
  - The weights listed below are for a raw device. Tethers and padding will add weight to the device
    - HANS III-594g
    - PRO-488g
    - Ultra-505g
    - Ultra-Lite-391g
    - Stilo Zero-370g
- In the event of an Impact while wearing my HANS Device, what should I do?
  - HANS Devices should be inspected after an impact. Tethers should be replaced after any major impact. Examine your HANS Device in bright sunlight and run your finger along the edges. The HANS Device should be replaced if it shows signs of delamination, cracking, or exposed composite material. Check your helmet anchors for tightness
- How long are the SFI and FIA certifications acceptable?
  - Different race series may have different rules regarding age of certifications. As of June 2012, SFI 38.1 requires recertifying your HANS Device every 5 years, and FIA 8858 certifications do not expire. Check hansdevice.com or your race sanctioning body for more information



HANS Frequently Asked Questions

- Can I buy replacement parts and receive support for my older HANS Device?
  - Replacement parts are available.
  - Additional tether design and lengths are available as well as different pad styles and new shoulder belt friction area rubber
  - $\circ$   $\;$  The sliding tether upgrade which allows unrestricted vision fits all HANS Devices.
  - $\circ$   $\;$  HANS no longer offer parts or services for the original (pre-1998) Model 1 HANS Device
  - Tether and anchor option instructions are available from the HANS Device instruction manual

Tether slides

### **Tethers**

- Standard 18" (450mm) length fits most applications.
- Do not over tighten tether carrier screws!
- Tethers are dated. Replace every 5 years, after major impacts or sooner if wear is observed.

## **Helmet Anchors**

### Post Anchor

- To Attach Align slots in catch with flats on anchor, push in and slide catch rearward.
- To Release Align slots in catch with flats on anchor, push in and slide catch forward.

### QuickClick Anchor

- To Attach Open anchor by pulling orange release strap, slip tether loop over hasp, close.
- To Release Pull orange release strap and remove tether loop from hasp.



Tether

carrier

