

**REEL QUALITY PRODUCTS, INC. DX WELDING CABLE LEAD REELS  
SAFETY INFORMATION AND INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS**

**Thank You for choosing Reel Quality Products, Inc. DX Reels  
Carefully read the following important safety and installation instructions before  
installing and operating your new reels.**

**Important Safety Information**

**WARNING! LIVE WELDING CABLE LEAD REELS CAN BE EXTREMELY DANGEROUS!**

Improper installation and / or use can result in equipment damage, serious injury to yourself and others, or even death. Only properly trained persons with a thorough knowledge of welding and welding safety practices should install, operate and maintain your reels. Prior to using your new reels you must carefully read and understand the following instructions and safety warnings.

Live welding cable lead reels and all welding equipment should be installed and maintained in accordance with the National Electrical Code (NFPA 70) and must always be installed and in accordance with all local laws, codes, ordinances, and workplace safety regulations. This may include, but is not limited to:

- Applying suitable compliant insulation to exposed areas of your reels to prevent accidental shorting, grounding and/or electrical shock.
- Informing passers by to stay clear of your equipment and work space with appropriate highly visible warning signs.
- Maintaining your equipment in good safe working order.
- Covering your reels when not in use and keeping them dry at all times.

Perform periodic visual inspections of your equipment, paying special attention to exposed insulation of the spool and lock pin assemblies for possible chipping or cracking.

Periodically check all fasteners as to being secure and tight.

Never attempt to service or repair your equipment when the power is on.

Avoid contact with electrically charged parts. Always wear dry welding gloves in good condition and all other appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) when operating your equipment. Generally speaking, with power on, the entire spool assembly should be considered electrically live and treated as such.

Follow and keep up to date with safe welding practices by utilizing readily available online equipment manufacturer's resources and from others such as The American Welding Society (AWS), The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA).

## Mounting and connecting you reels

1. Make sure all power is off and locate a suitable area away from other equipment and potential grounding hazards.
1. If fastening your reel to the mounting surface use four bolts of at least 3/8" diameter with lock washers. If welding, mounting base is 1018 steel.
2. After mounting and before attaching input cables, complete a continuity check both reel-to-reel and reel-to-ground to ensure proper reel isolation.
3. Using a suitable cable lug (L-120 for example) fasten your ground cable to the 1/2" hex head input fastener located at the end of the reel spindle near the reel mounting upright.
4. Similarly, using only the 1/2-13 x 1/2 " length hex head fastener supplied, attach your additional welding lead cable to one of the threaded output holes located along the reel hub. *Caution: using a longer fastener may result in contact with the spindle, causing the reel to lock up and possibly resulting in reel damage. Do not over torque aluminum fasteners, as breakage could result.*
5. Connect your other positive reel, input and additional cable as per above.

## Adjusting the reel tension

1. Using a 1/4" hex key wrench, loosen the set screw located at the center of the hand adjusting nut. Loosen or tighten the adjusting nut to desired reel tension.
2. Once the desired tension has been achieved, re-tighten the set screw to lock in place.

**Note:** If you have a power drive attachment mounted to your reel, use a 1/4" T-handled hex wrench and loosen the set screw through the 1/2" square socket drive. Reach through the access holes or slots located around the power drive riser and grasp the adjusting nut. Adjust the tension by turning the adjusting nut together with the entire reel. Once desired tension is reached re-tighten the set screw.

## Operating Tips

It is good practice to always deploy all your welding lead before welding, especially with higher amperage long duration welds. Long lengths of coiled cable results in unwanted induction heating and retains heat. In tests, even though Reel Quality live reels remained much cooler than others tested even when fully loaded, there was still a significantly higher rise in spool temperature with the cable rolled up vs. fully deployed. When in doubt, deploy the cable.

When rolling up tension is the key to a nice and neat finish. Try to roll up the full weight of the cable, when possible, so it will track nicely onto the spool.

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Cover your reels when not in use. Our reels are designed to withstand the elements, however, keeping them dry and covered will keep them operating safely, help prevent corrosion and keep that like new look.