
MERU

Owner's Manual and Service Booklet

Serial Number: _____

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Important

The following symbols are used to draw attention to particular sections:

**WARNING!**

Failing to comply with instructions given here may lead to injury or death!

**BEWARE!**

Failing to comply with instructions given here may cause undue wear to, or even damage your new wing.

**NOTICE**

This pictogram indicates a tip or some helpful extra knowledge.

Welcome in our team

Congratulations on the purchase of your new UP Meru. UP International is renowned across the globe for designing and building the finest paragliders available – paragliders characterised by maximum safety, performance and quality in every aspect.

Please take a little time to complete and send the reply card found in the back of this manual. This way we can keep you informed of all new products and developments at UP, as well as any technical information about the UP Meru.

We would also be delighted to hear any feedback you have concerning the glider. This is only possible once we have received your product registration online via

www.up-paragliders.com>service>product registration

Your completed product registration is also needed should any warranty issues arise.

If you have any questions regarding your paraglider or auxiliary equipment please ask your local dealer or feel free to contact us here at UP directly.

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Have fun with your new UP Meru!
UP International Team

Safety instructions

Paragliding is an extremely demanding sport requiring the highest levels of attention, judgement, maturity, and self-discipline. Due to the inherent risks in flying this or any paraglider, no warranty of any kind can be made against accidents, injury, equipment failure, and/or death. This glider is not covered by product liability insurance. Do not fly it unless you are personally willing to assume all risks inherent in the sport of paragliding and all responsibility for any property damage, injury, or death, which may result from use of this paraglider.

Please read this owner's manual thoroughly before your first flight with the UP Meru so that you are fully acquainted with your new glider. This manual gives you information on the entire specific and general flying characteristics of the UP Meru, but it does not replace attending a paragliding school. It is important to note the following points:

- at the time of delivery the UP Meru conforms to LTF NFL II-91/09 and EN 926-2:2014 requirements (see certification information later in this manual),
- any changes being made outside the permitted range of adjustment invalidate any and all claims under the warranty,
- using this paraglider is exclusively at the risk of the user; the manufacturer or distributor assumes no responsibility for accidents occurring while using it,
- it is assumed that the pilot is in possession of the necessary qualifications and provisions of any relevant laws are observed,
- when reselling the wing please make sure you also give this manual to the new owner. The manual is an integrated part of the paraglider and is required for the wing to keep its certification.

Correct behaviour in relation to the environment

Paragliding is a particularly nature-friendly sport. This makes it all the more important that we as paraglider pilots behave in a responsible way towards both the environment and the people sharing it with us. We encourage you to treat nature with respect, to stay on marked hiking trails when walking to takeoff or hiking out from an XC landing, to avoid unnecessary noise, to never litter and to observe all local regulations.

Please also make sure to comply with legislation regarding protected areas, privately owned property or hunting arenas – this ensures the least possible friction in relation to other users of the great outdoors, to the benefit of both yourself and the sport as a whole.

Technical description

The UP Meru was built to fulfil the expectations to a modern, safe and fast competition wing. The launching is excellent and the performance figures impressive.

As with all UP products, the materials used have been carefully chosen for their outstanding quality and strength, to guarantee a long and trouble-free service life.

Further construction details, including line lengths, are included in the certification specification sheets, which form part of this manual. Any technical changes will appear in the appendix.

Purpose

According to LTF 91/09 the Meru is an air sport vehicle (class paraglider) with an empty weight of less than 120 kg.

LTF and EN classification

The UP Meru is certified to the following classification(s): LTF09/EN D (sizes L, M, SM)

Target group and recommended flying experience

Competition pilots with extensive experience flying no less than 100h/year in a variety of conditions. Perfect for the high performance oriented XC pilot.

Necessary skills for normal flights

Wings in this class are characterised by their demanding behaviour in case of inflight disturbances. Short brake travel, dynamic reactions and little dampening along all 3 axis' require a great deal of feeling and experience from the pilot. Intensive training of the control techniques as well as profound knowledge of the appreciation and prevention of unintended wing configurations are a must for pilots flying this class of wing.

Necessary skills for dealing with disturbances

Paragliders in this class require correct, timely and adequate pilot reactions to canopy disturbances. Pilots flying these wings should be current and should fly often enough that their reactions do not grow rusty. If the necessary skills are not there we recommend a good SIV course with the UP Meru to get familiar with the wing.

Skills for dealing with rapid descent methods

The behaviour during manoeuvres for rapid descents in this class can be demanding. The pilot should possess adequate skills for the safe execution of these rapid descent manoeuvres. In case of insufficient skills or experience in this department we strongly recommend partaking in an SIV course with the new wing.

Suitability for training

We do **NOT** consider the UP Meru suited for initial training.

Biplace and PPG

The UP Meru is for solo pilot use only. There is no connection possibility for more than one harness. The UP Meru is not build for powered paragliding (PPG). There are no trimmers on the risers.

Recommended Takeoff weight

The UP Meru is manufactured in three sizes. Each size is optimised for the middle to upper of the weight range, but can be flown anywhere within the weight range. In order to help you find the ideal size for your weight we have compiled the following practical tips:

If your total takeoff weight is within the middle 1/3 of a size's weight range then this is the size for you. In this range you will have the ideal compromise between dynamic handling and docile behaviour. We recommend this wing loading especially for pilots mainly flying in flatland regions.

Pilots finding themselves in the middle, between two sizes need to approach the process somewhat differently. Experienced pilots will generally know how they prefer to fly, i.e. if they like to be heavy on their wing or rather would have a little buffer upwards, and will choose their size accordingly.

Pilots with less experience are likely to prefer the somewhat damped reactions obtained from flying at lower wing loadings – this speaks for choosing the larger of the relevant sizes.

And finally, pilots preferring more dynamic rides will want to load their wings up well, and will be choosing a smaller size.

Technical Data UP Meru

Size		M	L
Surface area flat [m ²]	23,4	25,1	26,5
Surface area projected [m ²]	20,0	21,5	22,8
Flat span [m]	12,7	13,2	13,5
Projected span [m]	10,3	10,7	11,0
Flat aspect ratio	6,9	6,9	6,9
Projected aspect ratio	5,3	5,3	5,3
Number of Chambers	84	84	84
Total line length incl. Brake [m]	212	220	227
Total # of lines incl.Brake	226	226	226
Glider weight [kg]	5,2	5,5	5,9
Takeoff weight [kg]	90-105	100-115	110-130
maximum symmetrical steering travel at maximum weight [cm]	65	65	65
Accelerator travel [cm]	15	16	16
Number of risers (split A-risers)	2+1	2+1	2+1
Trimmer	-	-	-
LTF/EN Category	D	D	D
Description	Competition		

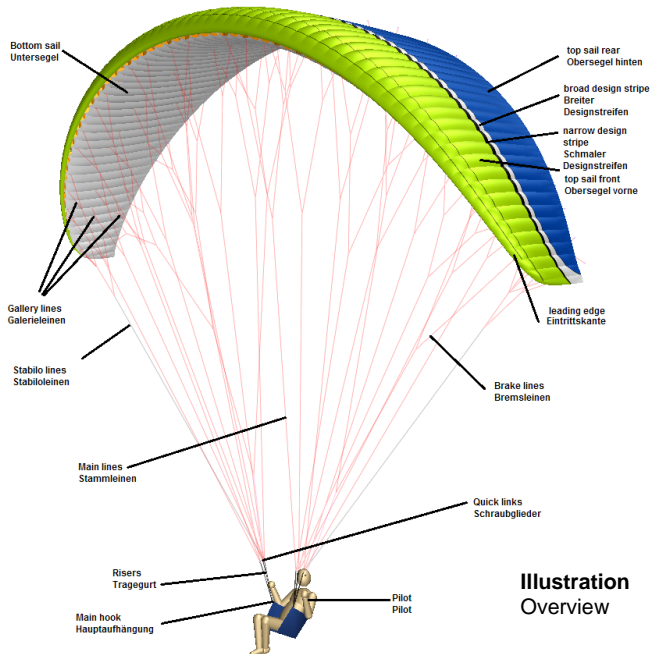


Illustration 1:
Overview

Construction

The UP Meru is the ideal wing for pilots that desire the ability of a high-end competition wing combined with the safety of an intermediate wing. We achieve the optimal combination of performance and safety by implementing our completely overworked profile (NGA – new generation airfoil) with several innovative detailed solutions

Passive safety by

- Different Angle of Attack over the wing span
- NGA provides perfect internal pressure at all angles of attack
- High arc design - very manageable handling and safety

High performance by

- High A/R
- Unsheathed lines
- Long battens

Front Stabilizing System

UP was first with the Aerofoil Stabilising System, an idea that has since been widely accepted in the industry. The Meru uses a modified version of the same, and we have chosen to call this the FSS. Instead of Mylar® the FSS comprises a Nylon® batten that defines the leading edge curvature and helps keeping the cell opening open at all times. This Nylon® batten is insusceptible to bending damage and has no ageing properties – it will normally outlast the rest of the canopy by a good margin. This means that the UP Meru will retain its perfect launching characteristics all through its service life.

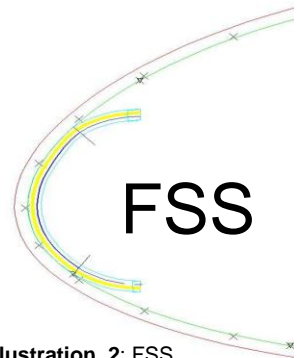


Illustration 2: FSS

Canopy material

The UP Meru is sewn from polyamide cloth, which is particularly stretch-resistant and durable, and is specially treated for maximum UV-resistance.

At UP we are always testing new materials to see if our wings can benefit from new developments in the textile industry. After comprehensive tests we have settled on the following Porcher Marine material mix for the Meru

- Leading Edge: „Skytex 42 Everlast“ (42 g/m²)
- Top sail front: "Skytex 32 Universal" (32 g/m²),
- Design stripes: "Skytex 38 Universal" (38 g/m²), Skytex 27 classic (27 g/m²)
- Top sail rear/bottom sail: „Skytex 27 Classic“ (27 g/m²)
- Rips, V-tapes: Skytex 40 and 27 Hard (40/27 g/m²)

This mix comprises the best compromise between weight/bulk and longevity.

Line material

The lines used on the UP Meru are unsheathed Dyneema® and Aramid lines made by Edelrid, Cousin and Liros. Diameters from 0,5 mm to 1,5 mm are employed (brake lines sheeted).

A new manufacturing process in which the lines are pre-stretched makes these lines particularly stretch-resistant, and they have little or no tendency to shrink. Their break-load is noticeably

higher than that of comparable Aramid lines, and they are completely unsusceptible to bending-cycle damage, unlike Aramid lines.

Line system

The entire line system is formed from individual lines, which are sewn and looped at both ends. The single line levels are connected over a special hoop technology (the "handshake" loop) to prevent a weakening of the core and a loss of strength. The lines and stitching are subject to rigorous production controls, to ensure high and consistent manufacturing quality.

The lines of each wing section consist of four groups and the brake lines:

A-Level: AI, AII, AIII

C-Level: CI, CII, CIII

Brake lines : BRKI

The brake lines are collected at one main control line per side. This control line runs through a pulley attached to the C-Riser and is marked with a black dot at the point where it should be tied to the brake handle swivel. The brake is pre-set so that the glider is at 0 degree brake when the toggle is free. Please don't change the main brake lines without checking the new length carefully at a suitable training hill before flying!

The line bundles of each level are looped together and attached to delta quick links, which are connected to the risers. The quick links have special line collectors to prevent lines slipping.

Risers

In order to accommodate different pilot sizes the Meru risers are length-adapted to the canopy size –SM has shorter risers than M. This little detail improves the ergonomics of the wing and makes all the different manoeuvres (Launch, BigEars, etc.) more accessible to every size of pilots, from the smallest to the tallest. The speed system is optimised along the same lines. They allow for very high top speeds with low sink values and give impressive stability at high speeds. Once activated the speed system pulls simultaneously on the AI, AII and AIII. This maintains the angle of incidence around the leading edge and causes only minimal influence to the collapse resistance properties of the wing. Top speed is reached when the top pulley touches the bottom pulley of the speed system, down near the karabiner.

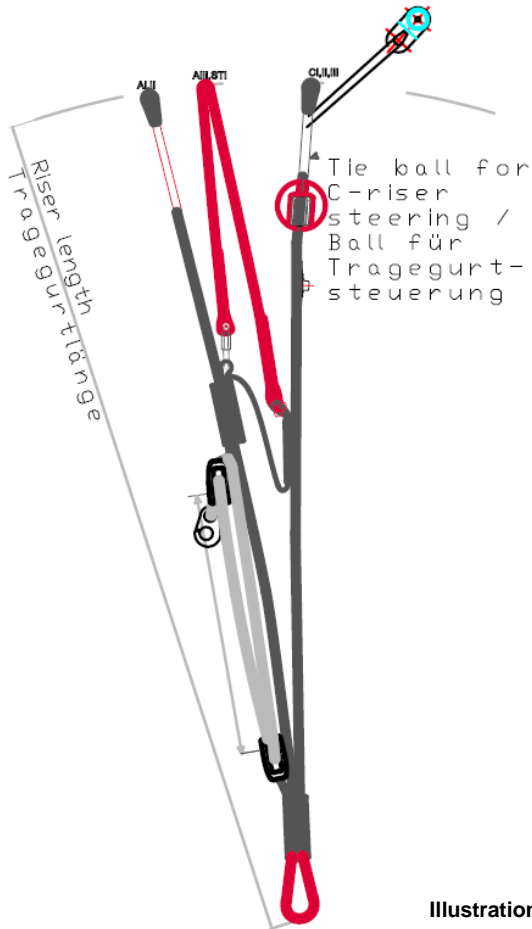


Illustration 3: Risers

Riser length [mm]	SM	SM accelerated	M, L	M,L accelerated
A I, II	520	370	540	380
A III	520	445	540	460
C I, II, III	520	520	540	540
Accelerator travel (pulley on pulley)		150		160

UP Backpack



Illustration 4:
UP back pack

The UP Meru is delivered with a special paraglider backpack, which fulfils the demands of very high luggage volume and ergonomically optimised comfort. We have built in an anatomical carrying system that allows an optimised load distribution for maximum comfort. The S- shaped shoulder straps allow full adjustment and the detachable chest strap prevents the shoulder straps from slipping off the shoulders. The load control straps attached to the shoulder straps can be set either loose, to aid ventilation, or tight, for extra stability. They should rise from your collarbone at about a 45° angle. A hip belt is also incorporated to assist overall comfort. If the hip belt is tightened then the shoulder straps can be released slightly to transfer the load away from the shoulders. The hip belt is

fitted with stabilisation straps, which can be tightened to help stability, or loosened for extra freedom of movement. The hip belt is removable for when packing size is critical, or the pack is being transported by air. It is important, especially when there is a long trek involved, that the backpack is adjusted for maximum comfort. The following advice should be considered when packing.

Adjustment of the back pack

When fully loaded, all compression straps should be tightened to secure the load in the pack. All carrying straps should be set fully loose and the pack then put on your back. The hip belt should be fastened and tightened to rest approximately in the middle of the hip. Any slack should be taken out of the shoulder straps, and the chest strap should be done up. The load control straps at the shoulders and hips can now be tightened to achieve the desired stability.

Before the first flight

The UP Meru is delivered with a rucksack, parasleeve, repair materials and this manual. The manual may also be downloaded from the UP website. Every Meru delivered has been minutely checked at the factory, and corresponds exactly to the wing certified by the testing authority.



ATTENTION! The Meru must be test-inflated on flat ground, and the first flight must be carried out by a professional, before the wing is delivered to its new owner.

Adjustments

The UP Meru has undergone an extensive development program and series of flight tests to ensure that the production model exhibits the optimum characteristics with regard to safety, handling and flight performance.

As with all products from UP International, the UP Meru is manufactured to the highest quality and precision. The line lengths of each glider are individually checked and recorded before dispatch.

Under no circumstances should the lengths of the lines or risers of the UP Meru be altered in any way.



WARNING! Any change to the configuration of the wing will invalidate certification!

The only change allowed is to the length of the lower brake line. This should only be done by an experienced person.

Position of the brakes

The UP Meru is delivered from the factory with what we feel is the best brake position for most pilots. But tall or short pilots, or those with a harness with non-standard attachment points might consider it necessary to change the position of the brake handles.

If the brakes are to be shortened, it is extremely important to avoid the adjustment affecting the glider's trim speed. There must always be some slack in the brakes when they are fully released. This can be checked with the glider inflated above the pilot's head. There should be a noticeable bow in the brake lines, and the brakes should be having no effect on the shape of the trailing edge.

If the brake lines are to be lengthened, it is important to ensure that the pilot can still stall the canopy (i.e. during extreme manoeuvres or landing) without the need to take wraps.

If you do feel the need to change the brake line lengths, do so a little (3-4 cm) at a time, and preferably whilst at an easy training slope. Check especially that both lines are the same length, as any asymmetry will lead to tiring and possible dangerous flying characteristics.

If you have any questions or concerns with reference to the brake line lengths then seek advice from either your UP dealer or directly from UP International.



BEWARE! Loose or incorrect brake knots can cause serious accidents through loss of the steering of the glider!

Speed system

It is important that the speed system is connected correctly, and the length checked, to ensure smooth operation in flight.

The link between the foot stirrup and the risers consists of two cords and two Brummel® hooks. The speed stirrup itself is composed of a foot bar and webbing with loops sewn on either end to attach the cords. These cords should be run up through the eyelets and pulleys on the harness to connect with the pulley system on the front of the risers. If in any doubt, please ask your school or the harness dealer/manufacturer.

Suitable harnesses

The Meru can be flown with any harness with the main suspension point at around chest height. The lower the suspension points the more the harness will respond to weight shift.

The recommended distance between the karabiners depends on the pilot weight:

<50kg: 38cm

50-80kg: 42cm

>80kg: 46cm

These distances have been used also during all certification flights. The harness design should also guarantee that it is possible to accelerate the UP Meru up to the maximum speed.

Please note that different harnesses can cause very different wing characteristics in extreme situations (like increased risk of twists with cocoon harnesses).

Note that the height of the hang point also affects the brake line length. If you have a question about your UP harness, contact your dealer or UP International.

Rescue system

It is strongly recommended that you have a rescue system (reserve parachute) fitted at all times. In some countries it is mandatory, so check if you plan to travel. Make sure that the reserve system you have is the correct size, and that you are fully conversant with its use.

For fitting the reserve system, follow the instructions of the harness manufacturer.

Use of the UP Meru

The UP Meru has been developed and tested solely for foot launched and winch launched paragliding flights. It is not allowed and potentially dangerous to use the glider for any other purpose.

Aerobatics

The UP Meru has not been developed, constructed and/or tested for aerobatics use.



WARNING! The glider has not been certified for aerobatics. Performing aerobatics with the UP Meru or any other paraglider can be very dangerous. Doing aerobatics can induce flying configurations well beyond the tested flight envelope, and can lead to total loss of control. Aerobatics can also overload your glider and break it in flight.

Motorised Paragliding

The UP Meru has not been tested for use with any kind of engine.

If you wish to fly your UP Meru with a motor please get in touch with the manufacturer of the engine unit, with UP International GmbH and with the governing body for ultralight flying in your area, to check on certification of this configuration.

Flight practice and safety

Both of the following chapters (Flight practise and Flight safety) describe fundamental aspects of flying paragliders. In no way do they substitute proper training, nor should any of the content therein be unknown to any pilot who has chosen to fly a paraglider like the UP Meru.

Flight practice

Pre-flight check

Make sure whenever you get your UP Meru back from somebody else to check the glider very carefully if you are not the only pilot flying it. Ask if there was anything that could have damaged any part of the glider, if the pilot has found any part that needs to be replaced or if they noticed any strange flight behaviour. Make sure you do the same when you lend your glider to somebody else.

A thorough pre-flight inspection should be performed prior to each flight. A careful pre-flight check is a must for any and all airplanes – also the UP Meru. Please apply the same care and attention before EVERY flight!

Before every launch you should carry out the standard 5-point checking procedure. It is a good idea to do the checks following the same sequence every time to minimize the risk of omitting something.

1. Unpack and arrange your glider in a semi-circular manner. This shape ensures that the centre cells inflate before the tips. When unfolding your glider, observe the wind direction and arrange your glider so that it is pointed directly into the wind.
2. The lines must be arranged so that there are no tangles and the A-lines are uppermost. Once the lines are free and untangled, check to make sure that they all go directly from the riser to the glider without going over the top of the wing. Launching with a line over the wing is extremely dangerous! It is also important that the brake lines are free and not tangled.
3. Next check that you have put the harness on correctly, and ensure that both leg straps and the chest strap are closed and adjusted. Also check the rescue system pins and deployment handle.
4. Right before the launch you should check the air space (also behind you).
5. Once again check the wind direction before take-off.

The start phases

The take-off characteristics of the UP Meru are extremely straightforward. Only a gentle forward pressure on the A risers is necessary and the glider will inflate evenly and climb above your head. The glider has no tendency to hang back behind you or to overshoot over your head.

With the A1,II risers and the brakes in your hands, have another look at your unfolded glider. Make sure that you are centrally positioned in the middle of the wing, and that the wing is facing into wind. The middle of the canopy is marked by the UP logo at the leading edge.

Inflate the glider with a steady run and remember to position your arms so that they are a continuation of the A risers. As the glider comes above your head, you should glance up to see

that the entire canopy is inflated and flying. The UP Meru has a low surge tendency, so there is usually no necessity to brake to stop the glider from over-flying you.

Directional control should only be attempted when the glider is above your head. Excessive braking will cause the wing to drop back.

Only after checking that the wing is properly inflated do you apply slight brake pressure and accelerate rapidly down the hill. After a few steps you will reach flying speed and become airborne.



NOTE: The decision to actually take off or not is only really taken towards the end of the control phase. The pilot accelerates the start run and is airborne. Depending on the inclination of the launch paddock it may make sense to brake a bit in this phase. Once airborne and at a safe altitude the pilot slips into the seated position in the harness – **WITHOUT RELEASING THE BRAKE HANDLES.** If this is not possible then the pilot may hold both handles in one hand whilst assisting the seating with the other.

Speed control

Using the brakes

The UP Meru has a wide useable speed range, coupled with excellent stability at all speeds. The speed can be set with the brakes to optimise performance in any situation.

Maximum glide speed is achieved with the brakes released completely, whereas minimum sink speed is with approximately 10-15 cm of brake applied. Further braking will not improve the sink rate, but the brake pressure increases noticeably as the glider reaches minimum speed.



BEWARE! Flying close to the stall point is very dangerous and should be avoided. At speeds below minimum sink the danger of entering an unintentional stall or spin is increased dramatically.

Using the Speed System

The UP Meru is equipped with a very efficient speed system, working over a foot stirrup as usual. By engaging the speed system the true air speed may be increased by around 11 to 13 km/h. Being familiar with the use of the speed system is an important skill to have in paragliding.

The speed system should be used when you are flying through sinking air, when trying to achieve best glide in a headwind, or trying to cover the ground as quickly as possible. But it is important to remember that the glider will be more susceptible to collapses at high speeds, so the speed system should not be used in extreme turbulence. If a collapse occurs with the speed system applied then it should be released immediately. Some warning of an imminent collapse is afforded by the tension felt in the speed system; should the tension suddenly reduce then the stirrup should be released and the glider returned to normal trim speed.



BEWARE! All extreme flight situations, such as collapses, happen more dramatically at increased speed. Therefore the speed system should not be operated near the ground or in noticeable turbulence.

Turning

Brake input and amount of weight shift induced will define the radius and bank angle on the UP Meru, and will allow it to be controlled with ease. Using weight shift in combination with brake

input will result in flat turns with minimum height loss and is in fact always the most efficient control method. The radius of the turn is then controlled with the brake line whereas the bank is controlled through weight shift.

If needed the UP Meru will turn very tight. To do this, apply some brake input on both sides, then release the outside brake whilst applying further brake on the inside – this will reduce turning radius to a minimum.

When brake input is increased beyond approximately 50% on one side, the UP Meru begins a fast and steep turn, which can be made into a steep spiral (refer to chapter heading "steep spiral").

Landing

The UP Meru is easy to land. While pointing into the wind, the pilot should fly the wing fast until approximately one meter above the ground, and then apply both brakes completely. When landing in stronger wind, less brake is required. Landing from steep turns should be avoided due to the risk of an uncontrolled pendulum reaction.

Winch towing

The UP Meru tows easily. There are no special techniques that need to be employed, but consideration should be given to the following points:

- Especially when you are towing at an unknown field, make sure that you are fully aware of any local conditions and peculiarities. Ask the local pilots if you are at all unsure.
- During the launch, ensure that the glider is completely inflated and over your head before giving the 'start towing' signal. If the glider is not central over your head do not continue with the tow. Any corrections attempted through the brakes during this critical phase may result in the canopy deflating again, or in the tow progressing with a non-flying wing; if tow tension is applied when the glider is not correctly positioned then a 'lock out' or a stall could occur.
- Try to avoid large brake inputs until you are reasonably high. Emphasize weight shift if course correction is necessary close to the ground.
- Do not try to climb steeply during the first part of the tow. Good airspeed is essential.
- Do not use a towline tension greater than 90 daN at any time during the tow.
- All persons involved with the towing operation should be suitably qualified and experienced. All equipment used should, where necessary, be certified, and a tow permit should be valid for the field being used.

Attaching the towline release system

The optimal attachment point for the towing line release is always in the system's centre of gravity. On a paraglider that means the connection point between the risers and the harness, preferably right onto the lower end of the risers. UP International has developed special tow-release connectors for the UP Meru to ensure the optimal connection between the pilot and the towing line. For safety reasons we suggest that you always use these connectors when towing the UPMeru.

When using towing line release systems incorporating distance-tubes between the risers it is important to ensure that the risers are not pulled together by the system (use webbing loops designed for climbing to increase the length of your release system). It is also very important to fit a bungee to the system that will keep it from hitting you in the face in the event of a towing line failure



BEWARE! If you are using a front-mounted reserve system it is very important to verify the unhindered deployment before every flight. In case of doubt please only tow using a textile release system.

Flight safety

The development of high performance paragliders from square parachutes has meant vast improvements in speed, sink rate and handling. But, at the same time, it has also led to a requirement on behalf of the pilot for accurate, sensitive control and an acute anticipation of possible flying conditions. Any glider, whether beginner or competition class, may collapse in turbulent conditions and you must be able to react accordingly.

Today you have a wide choice between different gliders in the UP range. The main difference between the gliders is in the stability that each class offers. Beginner wings react to turbulence less dramatically and are more forgiving when compared to top performance gliders, which have more sensitive, but less forgiving handling. Making the correct decision when choosing a new glider is most important; you should critically examine your flying and your level of knowledge.

A safe and efficient way to get used to your new paraglider is by practising your ground handling skills. We suggest finding a suitable area, like a playing field, and with light to medium wind it is quite easy to practice inflating the glider and feel the reaction to brake input, b-line stall, collapses etc.

Before takeoff and whilst flying it is very important to anticipate any likely turbulence and fly accordingly. Look well ahead, and as well as looking for areas of likely lift, try and predict, and avoid, areas of sink and rough air. If you do find yourself in turbulence then look for the cause, and adjust your flight plan to avoid other similar places.

Thermals and Turbulence

In turbulent air, the UP Meru should be flown with a little brake to increase the angle of attack and provide greater stability. While flying in strong or broken thermals, it is important that you concentrate on keeping the wing centrally above your head. Do this by allowing the glider to fly faster while entering a thermal, and by dampening the surge of the canopy while exiting the thermal by braking gently.

Flying fast is useful for getting through sink or when flying into a headwind. The UP Meru possesses a high inherent stability due to its construction and design, however an active flying style in turbulence will help increase safety by preventing unnecessary collapses and deformation of the canopy.

Getting down fast

All rapid descent manoeuvres should be practised initially in smooth conditions with plenty of altitude before you need to use them 'for real'. It is important to distinguish between the three techniques, and to know the merits of each.



WARNING! All other manoeuvres, such as full stalls and spins, should be avoided as fast descent techniques. They are not very efficient, and incorrect recovery can have dangerous consequences (as with any paraglider)!

Steep Spiral Dive

A maximum sink rate of over 15 meters per second can be achieved in a steep spiral dive, but it is advisable to build up gradually to these sink rates when you first practise spiralling.

Getting the UP Meru into a spiral dive is very simple and has already been described in the chapter regarding turning. When entering the spiral it is essential to induce the turn gradually; if you apply the brake too quickly you may enter a spin. If this happens, release the brake immediately and let the glider recover before trying again. Keep a steady tension on the inside brake and observe the increased angle of bank and sink rate. A little brake on the outer wing will help stabilize the glider at a high sink rate.

To recover from a spiral, simply release the inside brake. Do this gradually to prevent an uncontrolled steep climb caused by the excess energy built up during the dive. Be prepared for the glider to climb a little and to damp out the subsequent dive. Be warned that steep spiral dives are equal to high G loading on both you and your glider!



WARNING! Spiral dives with high sink rates expose the pilot and material to very high centrifugal forces – incidents caused by pilots falling unconscious during spiral dives have been recorded. Approach this manoeuvre with caution. NEVER fly a spiral dive with Big Ears engaged – this could lead to a catastrophic material failure! Gliders in this EN/LTF- category may be subject to stable spiral, thus requiring active control from the pilot. We highly recommend to practice this manoeuvre in a SIV.

B-Line Stalls

Due to missing B-level this manoeuvre cannot be performed.

Big Ears

To pull the ears in, reach up and get hold of the outermost A-line on both front risers and pull them down, simultaneously, by about 20 to 30 cm until the tips collapse. Keep these two lines in your hands, to prevent the wing re-inflating. Once the wing is flying in the Big Ears configuration we recommend engaging the speed system to about 50% of the maximum travel (more if higher sink rates are desired). This reduces the angle of incidence and improves the safety of the manoeuvres. We suggest keeping the brake toggles in your hands while inducing Big Ears. The glider will remain fully steer-able through weight shifting during the manoeuvre. The sink rates will be around 3 to 5 meters per second (depending on the number of centre cells still open and on the amount of speed bar employed) straight ahead. To end the Big Ears configuration, simply release the A risers and disengage the speed system, and the wing will return to level flight. Small collapses may be cleared with directional changes and/or little pumps through the brake lines. Note that we advice against performing extreme manoeuvres while flying in the Big Ears configuration

Using Big Ears with AIII-line, “flapping” of the wing tips can occur. Alternatively, ears can also be placed over the CIII line. To do this, activate 50% of the accelerator after putting on the ears.



WARNING! We highly recommend to train this manoeuvre in a SIV.

Flying outside the normal flight envelope

Behaviour in extreme situations

The UP Meru is designed to be very aerodynamically stable. However as with all paragliders extreme turbulence or piloting error may induce unwanted behaviour from the canopy. To ensure that you are able to handle these situations correctly we strongly recommend that you attend a

safety-training (SIV) clinic, where you may learn to master your wing outside the normal flying envelope under professional guidance.

Safety training manoeuvres should only be practised in calm air with sufficient altitude, and under the instruction of qualified instructors. We would like to use this occasion to once again remind you to never fly without a reserve parachute!

The manoeuvres and possible flight configurations described in the following may occur following a conscious effort on the part of the pilot, through turbulence or through pilot input error. Any pilot flying in turbulent air or making piloting mistakes may end up experiencing these flight configurations and therefore find themselves in danger, particularly if they are not adequately trained to master them.



WARNING! Mistakes during the execution of the following manoeuvres may seriously compromise the safety of pilot.

Collapsing the paraglider

Asymmetric collapse

The UP Meru belongs to the new generation of paragliders that, as well as having very good performance, also exhibit a high degree of stability. Wing tip collapses can almost always be prevented through active flying. Once an asymmetric collapse has occurred, the pilot aims to maintain flying direction through weight shift and careful application of brake input on the open side. If the open side is braked too much it may stall, and the wing will enter a spin – this is the classical recipe for cascading events (see the spin chapter). In rare instances a wingtip may catch in the lines during asymmetric collapses (see cravats here below).



WARNING! All collapses that shall be practiced during a SIV must be performed with folding lines. The Meru has additional attachment points for folding lines.

Cravatte

Our test pilots have found absolutely NO tendency towards cravatting in all the test flights the Meru has been subjected to. But under extraordinary circumstances any paraglider may cravatte, and if this happens the pilot should know how to deal with the situation.

The first step is to STOP any rotation, or, if this is not possible, to slow down the rotation as much as possible – a cravatted wing that is left to its own devices may very quickly enter into a spiral dive of such vehemence that the pilot cannot stop the rotation any more. Once the rotation is under control the pilot attempts to free the cravatte by pulling on the stabilo line, perhaps in combination with pumping action through the brake lines.

If neither of these approaches work then the experts may decide to try either a full stall or a brief spin on the cravatted side – please note that these measures should ONLY be practised during an SIV training over water.



WARNING! Should the pilot be unable to control the rotation it is normally best to deploy the reserve parachute immediately. Uncontrolled and cravatted spiral dives are among the most dangerous canopy configurations in paragliding

Full frontal collapse

A negative angle of attack occurring through turbulence or from simultaneously pulling down both A-risers results in a full frontal collapse of the leading edge of the canopy. The UP Meru will

normally reinflate quickly on its own, but can be assisted through the application of a light double-sided symmetrical brake input.

The stalls

When a paraglider flies through the air a laminar and a turbulent airflow forms around the surface of the wing. When the laminar airflow along the top surface is interrupted, dangerous flight configurations follow – we say that the wing stalls. This is most often the consequence of attempting to fly with too high angle of attack.

In more detail we differ between three different forms of stall.



BEWARE! Spin and full stall are both dangerous and somewhat unpredictable manoeuvres. Do not stall or spin your paraglider on purpose. However it is very important to learn how to recognize the symptoms of a glider about to stall or spin so that you can take correct action to avoid it happening.

Deep Stall

On lower TOW range, deep stall may occur under certain circumstances (e.g. after Frontstall, Full Stall, etc.). Should you find yourself in a deep stall the situation can be rectified by simultaneously pushing both A-risers forward until the glider resumes normal flight or by activating full bar.



WARNING! Avoid applying brake if you think that you are in a deep stall! Always remember that practising manoeuvres where you fly close to minimum airspeed must only be carried out under professional supervision and with plenty of altitude.

Full stall

Wilfully induced full stalls remains the realm of the true experts of our sport.

The full stall is when there is no more laminar airflow along the surface of the canopy, and the wing has gone from being a wing to being just a bunch of material at the end of some lines.

Once the airspeed has been reduced to below the minimum speed for the canopy the wing will stall. To the pilot it feels like dropping backwards, not unlike the sensation felt when a jester removes your chair from under you when you sit down. In this phase it is important to avoid releasing the brakes again, as this may lead to uncontrollable shooting forward of the canopy. In extreme cases pilots have fallen into the canopy through poorly timed full stall releases.

In the next phase the canopy stabilises somewhat above the pilot again. The wing tips will often tend to try to re-inflate quite violently, and it requires considerable force to maintain the wing in the stalled configuration.

It is important to stabilise the wing above the pilots' head before releasing the brake lines. The pilot accomplishes this by slowly releasing the brakes until the wing is all but re-inflated across the entire span. In this phase the wing will be moving somewhat along the cross axis. The pilot attempts to release the last bit of brake input as the wing is surged forward – this will cause the wing to resume flight with the least possible diving tendency. Pilots should note that timing the release wrongly may cause the wing to dive quite aggressively and be prepared to catch the dive. Test pilots have also tested the asymmetric release of full stalls on the Meru. This manoeuvre is ONLY for reference and should not be emulated by owners.



CAREFUL! The approach of the minimum speed is recognised through the notable lack of forward speed and thereby wind noise and the extreme increase in brake line tension. Up until the wing starts to fall back the pilot may resume normal flight by simply releasing the brakes.

Spin

The negative spin occurs when one side of the wing is stalled while the other is still flying. This can happen when, if flying very slowly, one brake is pulled quickly to below the seat. When the glider starts to spin, it will turn quickly around the vertical axis, with the stalled side flying backwards. To recover from a spin, simply release the brake on the stalled side. The glider will immediately speed up and, most likely, suffer an asymmetric collapse. Recover as described above. If you suspect that a spin is imminent then immediately release the inside brake. The glider will accelerate smoothly and resume normal flight with little altitude loss.

Wingovers

Wingovers are induced by flying alternating turns; each time letting the pendulum effect increase the bank angle.



BEWARE! The UP Meru is a agile glider, and it is quite easy to get to an excessively high angle of bank in just a few turns. Practice wingovers gently at first, as there is a chance of quite large collapses at high bank angles.

Also notice that a wingover flown with more than 135 degrees bank angle is classified as illegal aerobatics in some countries!

C-riser Steering

On full bar, the Meru can be controlled also with the red ball on the rear riser. Be aware to pull the ball only until there is a remarkable increase of the brake pressure.

If for some reason the UP Meru cannot be controlled with the brakes, for example if the brake handle has come off the main brake line, it can be steered and landed with the rear risers. Be aware that, when rear riser steering, the glider is a great deal more responsive to pilot input, and the stall happens very suddenly.

Further references

Rain-induced deep stall

There are two reasons why flying with a wet wing increases the risk of deep stalling:

First reason: A paraglider flying in heavy rain will soon grow significantly heavier and thereby undergo changes in the centre of gravity and the angle of incidence. This may lead to deep stalls. Note that older wings will absorb more water than newer ones due to the coating on older wings being more permeable – this means that the critical mass may be reached sooner on older wings.

Second reason has to do with the actual rain drops on the top surface – if enough large rain drops form that the entire top surface is covered, but they don't join together to either flow off or become a homogeneous mass, the surface may become so rugged that the airflow separates and the wing stalls.

This phenomenon has been observed on hang-giders and gliders for years but only recently have we discovered that paragliders may also be affected. It is more likely to happen with new wings where the cloth is still highly hydrophobic and the drops thus do not penetrate but remain on the surface.

We know from computer simulations and practical tests that this is physically possible but we also suspect that it occurs very seldom in real life flying.

In both cases the brake line travel becomes very short and even small input may suddenly induce an airflow separation; in some cases even a gust or a sudden thermal may change the angle of incidence enough to cause the deep stall.

If you find yourself flying in unavoidable rain we strongly recommend that you avoid any sudden movements or radical brakeline input, that you do not pull Big Ears or B-stall, and that you steer clear of turbulence and avoid a deep flare on landing.



WARNING! Avoid flying in very humid air or in rain. A wet canopy may have very unpredictable flying characteristics, one of which is a radically increased risk of deep stall!

Adhesive logos

Always make sure that your intended logo will not in any way influence the glider behaviour. In doubt we suggest avoiding the attachment of advertising logos on the wing. UP cannot be held responsible for any mishaps caused by intentional after-sales changes done to the wing.

NOTE! The use of heavy and/or unsuitable sticky material for logo work on the canopy may compromise the certification and lead to the aircraft becoming unsafe to fly.

Overloading

The UP Meru is a very strong paraglider, and flying all the usual SIV and acro manoeuvres will not normally pose a structural problem. However, frequent acro training does accelerate the ageing process dramatically, and UP recommends having wings that are often used for acro or SIV-type manoeuvres subjected to checkups at shorter intervals than normally stipulated.

Salt water

If you do most of your flying near the sea, where the air is humid and salty, the wing may age faster. In this case we suggest you have it checked more often than prescribed in this manual.

Maintenance and cleaning

Taking care of your paraglider

The wear and tear that your paraglider suffers depends on a number of factors; how frequently it's flown, whereabouts in the world you fly it, how much UV it gets and how well you look after it. Bear in mind the following maintenance points:

Packing your wing

The Meru should be merged cell by cell. When using the included Parasleeve, be careful not to bend the rods into a too small radius. For this purpose, the delivered paper roll can be used or a piece of equipment is interposed in order to avoid permanent deformation of the rods. You will find a video guide to the Parasleeve on our homepage. Fold the Meru only once due to the long battens (see pics below)



Illustration 6: Parasleeve



Paraglider fabric

We use a top grade polyamide cloth to build our paragliders, with a special protective coating against UV radiation and air permeability. The cloth will suffer if it is exposed to large amounts of UV (i.e. bright sunlight). Do not leave your glider lying in the sun for any longer than is absolutely necessary, only unpack and rig right before launching and do yourself the favour of repacking right after landing. Modern paraglider textiles have improved much in terms of UV durability but UV exposure remains the deciding factor of a paraglider's life expectancy. First the colours start to fade, then the coating and the structural integrity of the synthetic fibres begin to deteriorate.

On UP gliders the coated side of the cloth is facing inwards. This means that the coating is subjected to less mechanical abrasion while the porosity-limiting capabilities remain the same.

When choosing an area to lay out the glider before launching, try to find somewhere that is relatively free of stones and sharp rocks. Pay particular attention to the top surface, where the canopy touches the ground.

Never step on your glider – stepping on it will weaken the cloth, especially if the surface beneath it is hard or contains sharp objects. We recommend keeping an eye on spectators on launch. Many, especially children, do not fully appreciate the fragility of the lines and cloth. It is usually easy to explain this to spectators and parents.

When folding your wing please make sure that there are no insects caught inside. Many insect species contain acids that could damage the cloth. Grasshoppers may use their sharp mandibles to attempt to gnaw their way out of a folded canopy, making it full of holes in the process. Besides they exude a dark and strong colourant that will stain the cloth if packed inside. Shoo them off before packing. Note that, contrary to popular belief, these particular insects are not attracted to any particular colours.

If the glider gets wet, then dry it as soon as possible, but not in direct sunlight! If you pack you wing away wet it may grow mildew and, if also subjected to heat, the fabric fibres may begin to decompose.

A new wing straight off the shelves is often compressed hard. The compression serves to reduce shipping costs but should not be repeated once the wing has been unpacked and flown for the first time. Also note that, in spite of it being a comfortable seat, the glider bag should not be used as such.

Should you accidentally put your UP Meru into seawater rinse it out thoroughly with fresh water and dry it slowly in the shade (see Chapter Cleaning).

Paraglider lines

The lines used on the UP Meru are high grade Dyneema and Aramid lines. Keep the following points in mind:

- The lines should be checked regularly for damage,
- Please take care to avoid abrasion and damage to the lines,
- The lines should not be knotted or bent unnecessarily,
- The main brake line at the handle should not have too many knots. Each knot weakens the line,
- After any line over-stressing (tree landings, water landings and other extreme situations) all lines must be checked for condition and length and should be replaced where necessary,
- If any change in flying characteristics is noticed then the lines should be checked and possibly exchanged. Immediately send your wing to UP International or to a UP certified checking facility if you feel that something is wrong!

Storage and transport

A paraglider should always be dry when packed, but this is particularly important after the last flight of the season. But even a completely dry wing should still be stored open in a dry, clean and dark place. If you do not have room for such winter storage we recommend you open all compression straps on the bag as much as possible and leave the bag lid off so that air can circulate around the packed canopy. Make sure no mice or cats make their sleeping quarters in your wing, and keep it well distant from solvents and acids. Petrol and other petrochemicals are especially abrasive for nylon and will dissolve the cloth if allowed near.

The storage temperature should be between 10 and 25 degrees Celsius, and the relative humidity between 50 and 75%.

Do not expose your UP Meru to extreme heat (storing it the boot of a car parked in the sun). The heat may cause moisture to be pressed through the fabric, thereby damaging the coating. High temperatures in combination with moisture are a particularly volatile mix that will accelerate the hydrolysis process where the fibres and the coating are decomposed.

Cleaning

If you feel it necessary to clean your UP Meru at any time then use lots of lukewarm water and a soft sponge. More stubborn stains can be cleaned with a weak soap solution, and rinsed thoroughly. Then leave it to dry in a shady but well-ventilated area.



BEWARE! Never use chemical cleaning agents, brushes or hard sponges on the material, as these destroy the coating and affect the strength of the cloth. The canopy will become porous and will lose structural strength. Never attempt to clean your paraglider in a washing machine. Even without using detergents the simple mechanical abrasion will quickly finish the canopy and render it useless. Also avoid dipping it in a swimming pool; the chlorine will damage the cloth. If you HAVE TO rinse the canopy, for example following a sea water landing, do so with a gentle spray of fresh water. Frequent spraying will accelerate the ageing process.

Checks and repairs



Repairs and periodic checks should ONLY be carried out by UP, or by UP approved checking centres. Failure to comply with this will forfeit the certification. Consult: www.up-paragliders.com under Service to find a check centre near you.

At UP we invest our entire knowhow in paragliding into making the sport safer for you. We offer a variety of services all centred around safety to our customers.

Maintenance

All care and maintenance must be carried out in accordance with UP recommendations. To ensure that this happens we strongly advise you to only let UP recognised service centres touch your wing – this is also a prerequisite for the UP warranty to be valid. So there's a lot speaking for letting UP, or a UP affiliate, look after your Meru!

Symmetry Check / Performance Check

Due to their design, two-liners react more sensitively to changes in length of the lines. You can easily determine whether line lengths have changed on your Meru due to unavoidable external influences: the A- and C-level main lines have the same length in pairs. Fix the riser and compare the Amain1 / Cmain1, Amain2 / Cmain2 and Amain3 / Cmain3 lengths on both sides with about 5 kg of strain on the lines. The respective line pairings should not deviate more than 10mm from each other. If the respective C-line has shortened by more than 10mm compared to the

corresponding A-line, the trim loop can be opened on the C-line. This short check should be done after the first 12 hours of flight.

After about 25 flight hours after purchase it is mandatory to perform a trim check for your UP MERU. We highly recommend having this trim check performed at UP International (Performance Check). If you choose another Service Centre for the trim check it must be done by a professional test centre fully equipped with the necessary equipment. Line length including tolerance table are published on the UP website. After this trimcheck, the above described short check should be carried out at the latest after every 25 flight hours or as soon as changes in the flight behaviour are noticeable.

Airworthiness Check

In Germany and Austria all paragliders must be checked according to the following time schedule:

- 1 year after the first flight
- Every year after that, or sooner if prescribed by the UP checking facility during the last check
- After 100 hours of flying
- After 50 flights

These limits make no less sense for wings flown outside of Germany/Austria. Contact your local dealer for information about the nearest UP approved checking facility.

We will happily service the glider more often, if you feel that it is necessary.



CAREFUL! If you notice new or unusual behaviour from your wing please hand it in for immediate inspection at a UP Service centre.

Please find the check procedure as separate document/file attached. Please have the service documented in the attachment of this manual (Service booklet).

UP Craftsmanship

In order to ensure that your UP Meru maintains its very high inherent performance and safety we highly recommend that you employ UP, or a UP affiliate, with any repairs or maintenance. Our service staff is trained and skilled, and knows the UP wings better than anyone.

UP Warranty

Conditions and extent of the UP International Warranty can be found in the following pages. For further information please ask UP International directly, or you local representative. The UP importer in your country is always delighted to clear any questions with you.

National warranty conditions

In some countries the local laws stipulate different warranty rules than those outlined here. Please note that these local rules only apply in the country where you have purchased your wing. Information about local rules and conditions are available from your local dealer.

International UP warranty

Warranty conditions:

The international UP warranty covers material- and workmanship faults and is valid for 24 months from the delivery date.

The UP warranty covers the cost of materials and workmanship on gliders accepted by UP to fall under the warranty. The UP warranty does not cover damage caused by accidents, or by changes made to the glider. Likewise, parts that are damaged due to normal wear and tear are exempt from warranty coverage. Fabric colour changes that do not influence the behaviour or safety of the wing are not covered by the warranty, and neither are faults caused by the exposure to solvents or salt water, or plain incorrect handling of the wing.

For any warranty claim to be accepted the following conditions must be adhered to:

- The paraglider was used under normal circumstances and was maintained according to the instructions given by UP International. Note that these include instruction for the correct packing, storing and cleaning.
- The paraglider was only used in accordance with its DHV certification.
- A complete logbook showing all flights, with duration and location, must be presented upon request.
- Only original UP spares have been used, and only UP, or a UP affiliate service centre, has performed repairs or service jobs on the paraglider.
- A complete, correct registration card has been filled in and sent to UP within 14 days of the purchase. Note that you may also register your paraglider with UP via the UP homepage: www.up-paragliders.com>service>UP Product registration

UP reserves the right to refuse any claims not honouring one or several of these conditions. However, in some cases an "ex gratia" settlement may be offered.

Checking the UP Meru

According to German and Austrian aeronautical legislation (§ 14 Abs. 5 LuftGerP) the owner of a glider can check the airworthiness by his own, or authorise a third person (for example manufacturer/importer) to do this.

To perform your own airworthiness check, UP International must give you a briefing. This briefing could be done after an agreement with UP International and is only valid for the UP Meru. The owner gets the so-called "Nachprüfanweisung" after completing a successful checking at UP International.

Should the owner decide to check the wing by himself, or employ a 3rd party to do so, they must make sure that UP's guidelines are adhered to. Failing to do so will void the certification.

DHV and UP International highly recommend that you let the manufacturer/importer or a DHV accepted service company do the check of airworthiness.

Packing and checking of the rescue system

Only by regularly having your rescue parachute repacked can you guarantee its flawless operation! As with the glider, the rescue parachute should be examined every 2 years by either the manufacturer or an authorised Service Centre. We offer a certified service for re-packing, checking and installing the parachute into your harness. We will also carry out any repairs necessary, all fully guaranteed.

Sending the UP glider and other UP products

The best way to send your paraglider, rescue parachute, harness etc. to our service team is in a stable box via post or UPS. Enclose a note of what requires doing (2 Year Check, repair, repack etc.) and also your daytime contact details. We will return your equipment either by post or UPS. Please indicate preferred method of payment (either bank cheque or Cod).

Should you require any further information about the services we offer, please contact us at the address and phone number below. We are also able to give you information about your nearest Authorised Service Centre, as well as other manufacturers who are authorised to check and repair UP gliders and equipment.

UP International GmbH
-Abteilung Service-
Kreuzeckbahnstraße 7
D-82467 Garmisch-Partenkirchen
GERMANY

Email: service@up-europe.com
Telefon: +49 (0) 88 21-7 30 99-0
Fax: +49 (0) 88 51-92 92 60-16

Disposal

Even the best products have a limited service life, and once the end is at hand they must be disposed of properly.

Please make sure you follow your finished paraglider all the way to a correct disposal, or send it back to UP International for correct disposal.

UP Homepage

The UP Homepage gives you information about the latest news and products from UP. You will find any technical information and accessories for your UP Meru, as well as many useful things that are necessary for flying.

Beside paragliders, harnesses and flying equipment you will also find the new "Skywear" collection with the latest flying garments and the "News" section, which will keep you updated with all activities around UP.

www.up-paragliders.com

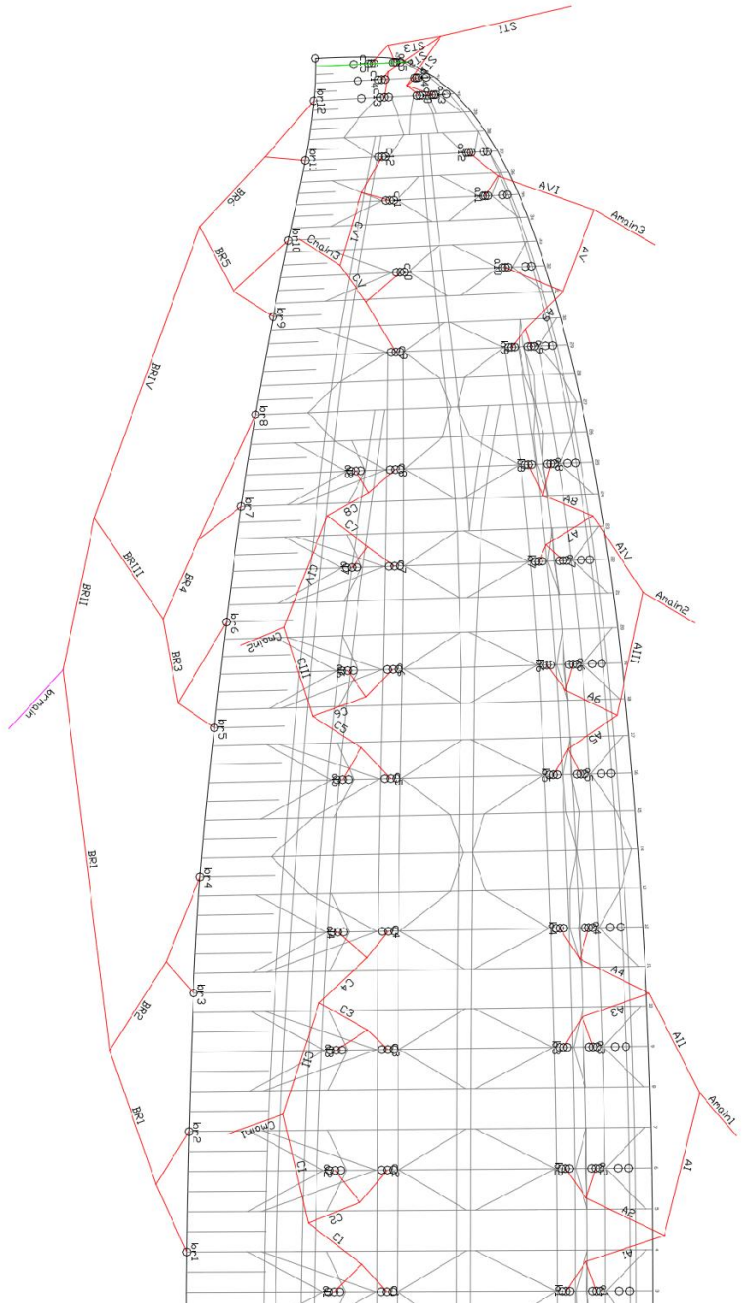
Some final words

We at UP wish you delightful, beautiful and accident free flying with your UP Meru!

SEE YOU UP IN THE SKY –
UPInternational

Attachments

Line plan



Current line lengths on our website:
<http://www.up-paragliders.com/de/products/paragliders/meru>

Service booklet

Glider- and pilot data

Model:	Meru
Size:	<input type="checkbox"/> SM <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> L
Serial number:	_____
Colour:	_____
Date of purchase:	_____
First flight date:	_____
Dealer stamp and signature	

Pilot (1. owner)
Name: _____
Family name: _____
Street: _____
Town: _____
Postal code: _____
Country: _____
Telephone: _____
Fax: _____
Email: _____

Pilot (2. owner)

Name: _____

Family name: _____

Street: _____

Town: _____

Postal code: _____

Country: _____

Telephone: _____

Fax: _____

Email: _____

Pilot (3. owner)

Name: _____

Family name: _____

Street: _____

Town: _____

Postal code: _____

Country: _____

Telephone: _____

Fax: _____

Email: _____

Please verify that your UP Service Centre has correctly filled in the form!

1st Service

Performed date: _____

Assignment Nr.
Stamp

Service jobs undertaken:

2nd Service

Performed date: _____

Assignment Nr.
Stamp

Service jobs undertaken:

3rd Service

Performed date: _____

Assignment Nr.
Stamp

Service jobs undertaken:

Please verify that your UP Service Centre has correctly filled in the form!

4th Service

Performed date: _____

Assignment Nr.
Stamp

Service jobs undertaken:

5th Service

Performed date: _____

Assignment Nr.
Stamp

Service jobs undertaken:

6th Service

Performed date: _____

Assignment Nr.
Stamp

Service jobs undertaken: