DESCRIPTION:
This tool is used to install, remove, and transport any style of E or F coupler knuckle. It is equipped with a rotating system that provides a dumping mechanism for the old knuckle, and a method of picking up new couplers from storage.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE:

KNUCKLE REMOVAL:

WARNING: Ensure car(s) or locomotive(s) is/are properly secured with hand brakes and/or chocks before attempting to perform coupler repairs.

WARNING: Ensure Blue Flag protection is set in accordance with GSR 1300 before fouling any track or performing any type of repairs.

1. Inspect the tool for defects. Look for broken welds or bent material. The bolt and nut securing the rear plate and handle swivel must be in place and tight. The rotating mechanism must move smoothly. The rotation release mechanism must be in place and working properly (Figure 1).
2. Lift the uncoupling lever with one hand. When the lever has traveled to its full upward rotation, apply the Uncoupling Lever Retaining Strap in accordance with the instructions listed in Tool Guide 27-40503.
3. Attach the tool to the hook of any hoist, crane, or forklift mounting lifting attachment. Make sure the hook safety latch is in place (Figure 1).
4. Make sure the rotation locking mechanism is fully engaged (Figure 1).
5. Using the built-in gripping handle, move the tool into place directly under the knuckle, aligning it with the casting hole (Figure 2).

6. Lift the tool, making sure the retaining pin goes into the casting hole. Stop lifting as soon as the retaining pin is fully engaged. Do not apply additional lifting pressure (Figure 3).

7. Remove the knuckle pin and use the tool to pull the knuckle out of the coupler.

8. Move the knuckle over the scrap dumper or hopper. Use one hand to lift the rotation release mechanism. Rotate the sleeve handle counter-clockwise 180 degrees with the other hand, allowing the knuckle to slide off the retaining pin. The tool is equipped with a free-wheeling mechanism that protects the operator from the rotational forces (Figure 3).

![FIGURE 3](image)

![FIGURE 4](image)

**KNUCKLE INSTALLATION:**

9. With the tool attached to the crane, move it into position over the new knuckle storage area.
10. Rotate the retaining pin 90 degrees, placing it in a position horizontal to the knuckle casting hole (Figure 4).
11. Insert the retaining pin into the knuckle casting hole, making sure it is fully seated on the bottom of the knuckle (Figure 4).
12. Use the crane or other lifting equipment to pick up the tool with the knuckle. The knuckle will automatically rotate to the vertical position during lifting. Make sure the rotation locking mechanism locks into place once the knuckle is in position.
13. Move the knuckle into position for installation in the coupler. Use the lifting equipment to raise or lower the knuckle to the correct installation height (Figure 3).
14. Move the knuckle into the coupler and install the knuckle pin.
15. After installation is complete, remove the uncoupling lever retaining strap, and place the knuckle rotating tool into its proper place of storage.
16. Remove all blue flag protection, chocks, and release the hand brake if the freight car is ready to return to service.

**SAFETY PRECAUTIONS:**

**WARNINGS:** Noncompliance could cause injury to employees

**CAUTIONS:** Noncompliance could cause damage to equipment

**NOTES:** Pertinent information

1. WARNING: Wear personal protective equipment in accordance with Safety and General Conduct Rule 1040 as required.
2. **CAUTION:** Exceeding the rated weight capacity of this tool could cause failure. Never use this device for any purpose other than the handling of coupler knuckles.

3. **WARNING:** Avoid pinch points. Never place your hand or fingers near the rear portion of the knuckle during installation.

4. **WARNING:** Keep all portions of your body out from under the knuckle and the tool during handling.

5. **CAUTION:** Stop lifting as soon as the retaining pin is fully seated in the knuckle. Applying additional lifting pressure will severely damage the tool.