



Dillon Quick-Check Provides Accuracy and Speed when Installing Cable Barrier Systems

As a leading provider of high-tension cable barrier systems, Gibraltar Cable Barrier Systems, L.P requires a quick, reliable and above all accurate method of checking the tension on the cables they install. The aptly named Quick-Check tension meter from Dillon does just that, providing assurance that the systems designed to contain and re-direct vehicles from road hazards are properly tensioned at all times.

Since 2005 Gibraltar have installed over 13 million linear feet of cable in North America alone, using 3.5 cables per length this equates to 45 million feet of cable that is currently being monitored and tensioned using Dillon Quick-Check tension meters each year. Jay Winn, Engineer at Gibraltar said "We have always used a Dillon Quick-Check because the product is so good and simple to use".

Cable Barriers are erected to prevent a vehicle from leaving the road, heading into oncoming traffic or hitting other fixed objects or terrains along the roadside. The barriers reflect the impact via the cable system either stopping the vehicle or lessening the distance it can travel post-impact. It is crucial that the cables are at the correct tension in order to take the force of the impact and maintain road safety.

Seasonal fluctuations in temperature can affect the cable tension so an annual check of tension cables is recommended by Gibraltar as per the manufacturer's guidelines. In high temperatures the cables can sag if the right tension is not applied. The cables must also be checked each time a collision with the barrier occurs. The cable tension is measured to be within a tolerance of + or - 10% of design tension specifications.

The ease of use and the speed of the Dillon Quick-Check system saves time and money as little training is required and the time spent on site is also reduced. Jay Winn, Gibraltar Engineer says "The Dillon Quick-Check

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Measuring the cable tension

DILLON QUICK-CHECK

The Dillon Quick-Check Tension Meter quickly measures tension in cable guardrails, guy lines and overhead wires. It installs, measures and removes in seconds. The digital loadcell is highly accurate and requires no lookup or correction tables.

- Time saving check-tensioning mode
- Portable and rugged – designed for outdoor use
- Built-in averaging saves time and eliminates errors
- Factory calibrated for up to 15 unique wire sizes and types



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makes checking the cable tension simple. Once we have set up the tension meter, all the contractor needs to do is turn the system on, place it on the cable and take the tension reading. It's very important that the job can be conducted quickly so that the engineer spends less time in an area of danger at the side of the road."

Each contractor and the Department of Transportation for the State will look after the upkeep of the barrier system, including ensuring the tension meter is calibrated on an annual basis in line with Dillon manufacturer guidelines. Brian Hoefling, Gibraltar Engineer, said "Our sales team and the Department of Transport are very pleased at how quickly the Quick Check tension meters are re-calibrated by Dillon and at how streamlined the process is".



You can watch the Dillon Quick-Check being used by Gibraltar Cable Barrier Systems L.P in our application video along with more information about Dillon's wider product range at www.dillon-force.com.

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