The Orthofix Hybrid Fixation System
X-WIRE INSERTION

- Choose appropriate ring.
- Full circumference rings may be made by joining 1/3 and 2/3 rings together with locking screws.

- Reference anatomically safe corridors on cross-section of limb.
- Insert wire closest to the joint first.
- Insert a two-hole securing pin into appropriate hole in ring.
- Introduce tip of X-Wire with lateral olive through the two-hole securing pin.
- Push wire through soft tissues and drill through bone, while assistant maintains ring parallel to joint with limb centered within it. Avoid joint capsule.
- When wire has exited far cortex, stop drilling and ensure wire is parallel to ring and joint line.
- Continue to advance wire by tapping it with mallet, until lateral olive is against securing pin.

**NB:** Wire may be drilled above, below or through the ring, for best position relative to fracture and joint capsule.

- Loosen all screws of three-hole wire clamp slider unit.
- Orient clamp in same direction as securing pin.
- Introduce wire into appropriate hole in slider unit.
First wire may be inserted free-hand. Use a X-Wire without olive and attach it to ring using a three-hole wire clamp slider unit at each end.

- Tighten both slider units to ring, then tighten wire clamp screw on one end of wire.

- Insert parallel wire next through second hole in securing pin, using wire guide.
- Disconnect the slider unit temporarily from the ring and then insert it over both wires.
- Tighten slider unit on to ring fully, using 3 mm Allen wrench.
- Position limb in center of ring.

- To tension wires, open handle of wire tensioning device to fullest extent.
- Fully insert wire through the device sliding it up against face of slider unit.
- Tension wire to minimum of 1200 N, in two stages if necessary.
- Tighten wire clamp screws with 5 mm Allen wrench.
- Cut and/or bend wire and apply wire cover.

NB: Where X-Wires without olive have been used in conjunction with three-hole wire clamp slider units at each end, apply tensioning device to end of wire which has not yet been tightened in its slider unit and tension as above.
• Insert crossing wires at widest angle neurovascular structures will permit (usually between 50°-70°).
• For optimal ring stability wires should cross in the center of the tibia.
• Insert the securing pin into the ring, upside-down relative to the first securing pin to prevent wires from intersecting in bone.
Reinforcement bars may be added to increase stability.

Insert post through ring and attach bar using a supplementary screw holder clamp.

Attach opposite end of bar to bone screw using another supplementary screw holder clamp.

As healing progresses, remove reinforcement bars to increase load sharing at the fracture site.

DIAPHYSEAL SCREW INSERTION

- Reduce fracture further by manipulation of ring and limb.
- Attach fixator to ring using the coupling with ball-joint, and lock with 3 mm Allen wrench.
- Position fixator parallel to long axis of bone with cams and all locking nuts accessible for tightening. Make sure fixator body is neither fully closed nor fully open.
- Clamp acts as its own template for screw insertion. Insert bone screws in standard manner (See Manual 1, “Orthofix External Fixation: Basic Considerations”). Where two screws are inserted, use clamp seats 1 and 5; where three are inserted, use seats 1, 3 and 5.

- Confirm fracture reduction.
- Lock micromovement locking nut, central body locking nut and ball-joints of the fixator with the 6 mm Allen wrench.
- Use torque wrench for final locking of ball-joints only.

- Reinforcement bars may be added to increase stability.
DIAPHYSEAL SCREW INSERTION

- Attach diaphyseal ring using three reduction units (antero-laterally, postero-laterally and postero-medially).
- All rings in one frame should be the same size.
- The telescopic and micrometric mechanisms of the reduction units should be partially open and spaced evenly around the circumference of the rings.
- Ensure that reduction units are perpendicular to the rings with the telescopic bodies oriented in the same way.
- Tighten all cams and locking screws.

- A Sheffield Clamp is attached to the diaphyseal ring antero-medially using 10 mm spanner.
- The rings should always be orientated so that the Sheffield Clamp is mounted on the 2/3 component, when a full ring is being used.
- Confirm fracture reduction.

- Clamp can be rotated to establish ideal position for diaphyseal screws.
- Clamp cover locking screws should face anteriorly.
- Clamp acts as its own template for screw insertion.
- Using a trocar, identify desired bone screw orientation and tighten rotational locking screw with 6 mm wrench.
Final fracture reduction can be made using the distraction and ball-joint facilities of the three reduction units, after loosening the cams and locking screws.

After reduction, ensure that all cams and locking screws are fully tightened.

The micrometric mechanism may be used for post-operative length correction of the fracture.

- Screws are inserted in the standard manner.
- Where two screws are inserted, use clamp seats 1 and 5; where three are inserted, use seats 1, 3 and 5.

- An additional screw may be inserted at 45°-90° to the first group using a single screw clamp attached to the diaphyseal ring.
- Where this screw is used, only two screws would normally be inserted through the Sheffield Clamp.
- This clamp can rotate for optimal screw placement.
Standard frame may be preconstructed before inserting the X-Wires.

The Orthofix Quality System has been certified to be in compliance with the requirements of:
- Medical Devices Directive 93/42/EEC, Annex II - (Full Quality System)

⚠️ See “Orthofix External Fixation System” instruction leaflet (PQ EXF) prior to use.