

Company History

Klein Tools was founded in 1857 by an industrious German immigrant, Mathias Klein, who began in the hand tool business when a broken side-cutting pliers was brought to his forge shop by a telegraph lineman. Mathias repaired the pliers by forging and finishing a new half for the tool and riveting it to the old half. Soon the lineman returned because the other original half of the pliers had broken and needed replacement. Mathias forged and finished the second half of the pliers and riveted it to the other replacement half – creating the first complete Klein pliers.

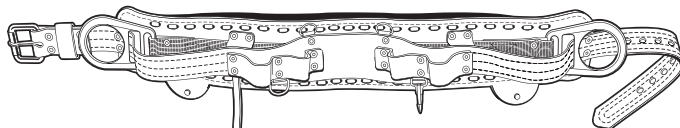
To this day, Klein Tools is proudly owned and managed by the Klein family. Through years of hard work and dedication, Klein has earned the reputation of supplying only the finest quality products for professional hand tool and occupational protective equipment users.



The Growth of Klein Tools Occupational Protective Equipment

Klein's involvement in the area of OPE dates back to the last century when the first telegraph lines were strung. In addition to providing linemen of that time the finest hand tools available, Klein produced the belts, pole straps, and climbing equipment they required to

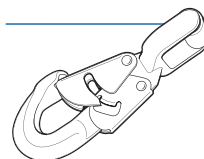
do their jobs. In the present day, the development of innovative products and well-planned acquisitions has made Klein Tools the brand professionals rely on to get the job done right.



Klein acquired the R.H. Buhrke Company (founded in 1890) to meet the need for an expanded line of OPE and leather/canvas products. This acquisition provided Klein with a more comprehensive selection of occupational protective equipment.



Klein-Kord® is a product innovation Klein created to help make positioning straps, body belts, and climber straps exceptionally long-lasting and strong.



Klein-Lok® locking snap-hooks are a product innovation designed for fall protection needs.



Klein's reputation as a leading producer of professional-quality products is global. Klein Tools products are available worldwide through a well-established network of agents and distributors who stock what is needed for their particular markets.



The Klein Difference

Not all professional equipment and hand tools are the same. With Klein Tools, there really is a difference – a difference you can see and feel every time you use them.

What sets Klein apart from other manufacturers are the extra steps we take in order to make our products exceptional in quality and performance. Forged steel D-rings, testing products to meet OSHA regulations, and using the highest-quality U.S. materials are a few of the reasons why professional tool and occupational protective equipment users have and continue to prefer the Klein brand for nearly a century-and-a-half.

In addition, our dedication to quality products makes Klein Tools one of the leading brands used in the maintenance, electrical, construction, and industrial trades. Loyalty to Klein is strong because of Klein's commitment to professionals, and the extra steps Klein takes in making its products exceptional.

The Klein Difference. It's what makes Klein Tools the brand you can depend on.

