



BROOKS-RANGE ADDS TO ITS SNOW SCIENCE SUITE OF PRODUCTS FOR 2009/10 SEASON

Additions to backcountry shovels and snow saws makes the Brooks-Range offerings even better for outdoor enthusiasts

FREMONT, CALIF. (June 1, 2009) – Brooks-Range, a innovative manufacturer of mountaineering and backcountry equipment has expanded and enhanced its current collection of backcountry gear to include a choice of saws, as well as avalanche probes so adventurers of all skill levels are better prepared for whatever conditions they encounter in the alpine and backcountry environments. Based on user feedback, Brooks-Range has also made a variety of improvements and offered more design options for its most popular item, the Backcountry Shovel by offering a Long Neck version as well as a Compact version.

“We are continuously improving our products and this year we have incorporated many of the suggestions made by our customers and implemented significant design changes that will enhance their outdoor experiences,” said Matt Brooks, president of Brooks-Range. “The 2009/10 collection will provide a broader spectrum of options, ensuring that our customers are equipped with just the right gear for the right adventure.”

Brooks-Range has developed several new products to round-out its snow science suite of products. These new products include: 240+ Carbon Pro Avalanche Probe™, extension for 240+ Carbon Pro Avalanche Probe™, 240 Aluminum HD Avalanche Probe™, Igloo Saws™ (fixed and folding versions), Scientist Saws™ (fixed and folding versions), AIARE Rutschblock Folding Saw™, and a Snow Density Compact Gauge™.

Brooks-Range 240+ Carbon Pro Avalanche Probe™

Designed for those who desire high-quality, lightweight products for backcountry adventures, the 240+ Carbon Pro Avalanche Probe is ideal because it is extremely flexible yet unbreakable due to its Kevlar® carbon construction. The large heads of the probe drill a bore channel that is larger than the diameter of the probe so that the probe can be pulled out easily and will not freeze in the snow and ice. The “conic” tube segments and the practical screw fastener make it very easy to assemble. Weight: 200 grams; MSRP: \$92.00.

Note: a 60cm extension is also available for the 240+ Carbon Pro Probe, MSRP: \$20.00

Brooks-Range 240 Aluminum HD Avalanche Probe™

The 240 Aluminum HD Probe is the ideal combination of length, price and stability. The probe measures a standard 240 cm and features different colored segments that indicate depth. The tapered segments with a threaded coupling mechanism make for a quick and easy assembly. Like the 240+ Carbon Pro Probe, the tip of the Aluminum HD Probe is wider so that it can easily be pulled out of the snow and ice without freezing. Weight: 330 grams; MSRP: \$59.00.

Brooks-Range Igloo Saws™

The Igloo Saws are available as a fixed saw or a folding saw. Both are made of high-quality anodized aluminum and are ideal for building shelters, and cutting cornices in the snow. They are lightweight and packable, featuring aggressive “ripping saw” teeth that make quick work of any job. The Igloo Saws feature offset blade teeth that cut a ¼” (6 mm) wide slot in the snow, which prevents the blade from binding and freezing while sawing. The Igloo Folding Saw is 22.75” (58 cm) long and weighs only 8.4 oz. (238g). The Igloo Fixed Saw is 19.25” (49 cm) long and weighs only 4 oz (113g). The handles for both saws can be connected to the Brooks-Range Backcountry Shovel shaft as well as telescoping ski poles to increase the reach. MSRP: \$24.00 for the Igloo Fixed Saw; \$49.00 for the Igloo Folding Saw.

Brooks-Range Scientist Saws™

The Scientist Saws are made of tempered stainless steel and are available as a fixed saw or a folding saw. They are lightweight and packable, featuring an offset thin kerf that makes for a finer, finished cut, ideal for snow study work. The handles for both saws can be connected to the Brooks-Range Backcountry Shovel shaft as well as telescoping ski poles to increase the reach. The Scientist Fixed Saw is 16.5” (41 cm) long and weighs only 4.5 oz (130g). The Scientist Folding Saw is 17” (43cm) long and weighs only 8 oz (225g). MSRP: \$24.00 for the Scientist Fixed Saw; \$49.00 for the Scientist Folding Saw.

Brooks-Range AIARE Rutschblock Folding Saw™

In conjunction with American Institute for Avalanche Research and Education (AIARE), Brooks-Range has developed the AIARE Rutschblock Folding Saw. When extended, the saw is 44” (112cm) long weighs only 17 oz., but when folded onto itself it is only 15” (38 cm) long. The Rutschblock Folding Saw is lightweight and packable, featuring an offset thin kerf that makes for a perfect “finishing saw” for snow study work. The handles of the saw can be connected to the Brooks-Range Backcountry Shovel shaft as well as telescoping ski poles to increase the reach. Ten percent of the proceeds from this saw are donated to AIARE. MSRP: \$160.00.

Brooks-Range Compact Snow Density Gauge™

Brooks-Range has designed a compact backcountry snow density gauge similar to that currently used by the National Weather Service. The Brooks-Range Snow Density Gauge is the optimum tool for field measuring of snow density. A specially constructed aluminum tube with a serrated cutter fitted to one end of the tube is scaled to accurately measure water density in the snowpack. The gauge operates on mass balance and its construction makes the gauge compact, lightweight, corrosion resistant, and unaffected by altitude. It is the perfect compromise between laboratory precision and rugged simplicity in a small, convenient, and easy to use design. Snow scientists, avalanche forecast observers, and backcountry skiers can use the Snow Density Gauge to assess the rate of snow metamorphism, new snow quality, snow pit data, precipitation rates, slab information, and snow pack moisture content. Accuracy within 0.1% water; scale reads from 0% to 60% water (0-600 Kg/m3) in 1% increments. Weight: 3.5 oz; MSRP: \$90.00.

Brooks-Range Backcountry Shovel™

This shovel is one of Brooks-Range’s most popular products and will now be available in a Long Neck version, as well as a Compact version. The Long Neck Shovel™ features a telescoping shaft that packed is 35 inches long and when extended is up to 45 inches long, providing a long reach for added leverage. For smaller packs or working in more confined areas (such as inside an igloo) the Compact Shovel™ will feature a shorter shaft that measures 30 inches long when packed and 38 inched long when extended. Consumers will have even more choices with the option of a Pro blade (10.5” x 10”) or a Mini Pro blade (9.5” x 9.75”), as well as the choice of a heavy-duty D-grip handle or the new T-Bar handle. Finally, consumers will also be able to choose from a smooth blade edge, or a serrated “Sharktooth” edge that makes short work of the toughest ice and hard pack.

- Long Neck Backcountry Shovel Pro: MSRP is \$40.00
- Long Neck Backcountry Shovel Mini Pro: MSRP is \$40.00
- Compact Backcountry Shovel Pro: MSRP is \$40.00
- Compact Backcountry Shovel Mini Pro: MSRP is \$40.00

- Long Neck Sharktooth Shovel Pro: MSRP is \$50.00
- Long Neck Sharktooth Shovel Mini Pro: MSRP is \$50.00
- Compact Sharktooth Shovel Pro: MSRP is \$50.00
- Compact Sharktooth Shovel Mini Pro: MSRP is \$50.00

All shovels models come in either the Brooks-Range exclusive Chaos Finish™ or solid color in red, blue or gray. All shovels models are compatible with the line of Brooks-Range Rescue Sleds.

Brooks-Range also has a variety of other products that are well suited for backcountry adventures, including the Ultralite Rescue Sled™ that is designed to transport a person of any size, along with his/her skis and poles, weighs only 12 oz. and folds into a compact 6” x 11” envelope; Ultralight Tarps that are ideal for ground covers and/or shelters, have a strong strength to weight ratio, and range from seven to 13 ounces, depending on the size; the Ski Guide Card™ Sets that feature critical safety information that was developed and tested by professional mountain guides, avalanche and backcountry professionals; and the All-In-One Map Tool™, a 4” x 7” non-glare, flexible map tool that contains most scales typically used on topo maps. Brooks-Range also offers a variety of other accessories such as ski straps, storage bags, hand warmers, dog collars and leashes, and spare stretcher bars for the rescue sleds, tarps, and straps, all compatible for use with other Brooks-Range products.

About Brooks-Range

Brooks-Range is a mountaineering company located in Fremont, Calif., providing innovative, top-quality backcountry gear for professional guides and recreational travelers alike. Our products -- designed to deliver the ultimate in comfort and safety in the backcountry – are tested by some of the world’s top mountaineering, avalanche and backcountry professionals. These experts form the core of the Brooks-Range Advisory Board. All products are made in the USA and are sold at outdoor retail shops nationwide, and on the web at www.brooks-range.com