

# EHKAC500 Air-Cooled Hot Knife

## User Manual

- Please read these instructions carefully before operation
- Take special note of the safety prompts in these instructions to avoid injury to yourself, other people and objects.
- Please follow the guidelines in these instructions to avoid damage to the tool

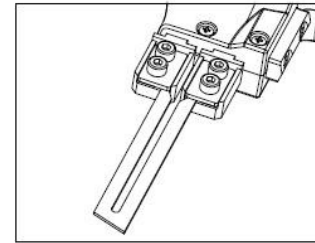


★ The EHKAC500 is the first Air-Cooled Hot Knife in the world, allowing continuous operation of the tool.

## Introduction

The EHKAC500 Hot Knife is a professional-grade hot cutting tool for foamed plastics. The EHKAC500 Hot Knife heats up in seconds and offers the operator variable temperature control, allowing for easy, mess-free use in a number of materials.

## Recommended Uses



Cutting of Expanded Polystyrene (EPS), Extruded Polystyrene (XPS), Polyethylene, Cross-Linked Polyethylene, Polypropylenes, and many other foamed plastics and materials. Check with the foam manufacturer for safe and proper cutting procedures.

## Blade Installation

**NOTE:** Always unplug the power cord of the EHKAC500 Hot Knife before installing or removing the blades. Allow sufficient cooling time for blades, blade holders and mounting screws before handling.

**IMPORTANT:** The EHKAC500 blade has a sharpened razor edge. For the cleanest cut, always cut in the direction of the sharpened edge.

### To Install the Hot Knife Blade:

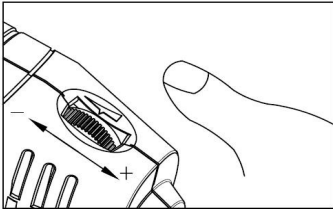
1. Loosen the screws on the blade holders with the provided Allen wrench.
2. Slide the blade under the square pressure plates until snug.
3. You can orient the sharpened edge of the blade toward you or away from you. Just remember to cut in the direction of the sharpened edge.
4. Securely tighten screws to assure the proper electrical connection. Do not over-tighten.

**CAUTION: DO NOT** cover the air intake!

---

## Operation

Once the blade is firmly in place, plug the EHKAC500 Unit into a standard 110V power supply. The temperature control knob has 16 settings click setting that correspond to the graduated ridges on the surface. The smaller the ridge the lower the power setting.



Set the temperature control knob to a midrange setting, place the blade against the edge of the foam and depress trigger. Begin moving the blade along the intended cut line. Optimum cutting should be virtually smoke free.

**NOTE:** For the best results, practice on scrap pieces of foam.

Excessive power output and heat generation may cause the blade holders to overheat resulting in damage to the unit. Use only the power output for proper cutting. The blade does not need to be red hot to move through foamed plastics.

When cutting foam it is best to keep the temperature and speed consistent. If smoke develops during the cut, you are cutting too slowly or the blade is too hot which could result in an oversized, uneven cut. This can be remedied by lowering the temperature and intermittently releasing the trigger during your cut. As the cutting resistance increases, depress the trigger again. The EHKAC500 Hot Knife will reach the set temperature within seconds. You can accomplish your cut with minimal smoke using this process. Cutting in this manner will also prolong the life of the knife.

Releasing the trigger approximately one to two inches prior to the end of the cut will help keep the blade clean and free from buildup.

Use the proper length blade for the application. The cutting blade should not extend more than 3/4" past the thickness of the foam. The foam cools the blade as it cuts. The exposed portion can overheat and cause the blade to warp.

### CAUTION:

1. Consult the foam manufacturer's MSDS sheet for flash points and toxicity of the material.
2. Always operate the EHKAC500 Hot Knife in well-ventilated space.
3. Never burn off excess residue on the hot knife blade. The blades will overheat, warping the blade and potentially overheating the Hot Knife.

4. Only operate the EHKAC500 Hot Knife when it is in contact with the foam.
5. Keep hot blades away from skin, clothing and other flammable materials. A hot blade may cause injury or burns to exposed surfaces.
6. This tool is not suitable for people with health issues, sensory or mental impairment.
7. This tool is not intended for children.
8. Operate the Hot Knife only as instructed. Use gloves and appropriate safety gear when using the tool. Store the tool in a dry place when not in use. Do not use the tool in damp or wet locations.

---

## Maintenance

Continuous use of the EHKAC500 Hot Knife may result in polystyrene material build up on blades and the brass holders. This excess polystyrene can interfere with heat transference and impair the performance of the blades. The brass blade holders and blades can be thoroughly cleaned with a wire brush.

Always inspect your device before use. Do not use if the power cord is damaged. Tool should be repaired by a certified electrician to avoid injury.

---

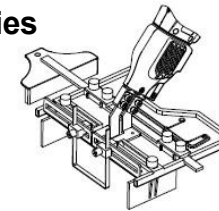
## Specifications

- **INPUT:** 110 Volts / 60Hz
- **OUTPUT:** Max. 190 Watts (with 4" blade)
- **Continuous Operation**
- **WEIGHT:** 1.28 pounds
- **LENGTH:** 13.4"
- **WIDTH:** 1.75"
- **TEMPERATURE:** 932°F

### Available Accessories

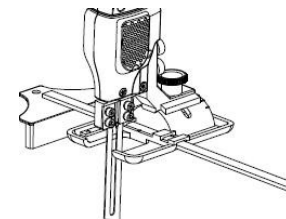
#### Sled (ESLED01)

For cutting grooves from 3/4" – 5 1/2"  
(pictured cutting guide sold separately)



#### Cutting Guide (EGUIDE01)

Adjusts from 0 – 45°



#### Grooving Adapter (EGBADAPT01)

Use with TapeTech grooving blades or make your own.

