

Jon Fauer, ASC

www.fdtimes.com

Jun 2015

Issue 70

FILM AND DIGITAL TIMES

Art, Technique, and Technology in Motion Picture Production Worldwide



Easyrig Inventor Johan Hellsten gets wound up at Band Pro's NAB Booth with his new Vario 5

Easyrig Vario 5



Johan Hellsten (above left) introduced the new Easyrig Vario 5 at NAB. It took him and his team five years to develop. The big deal is that you can adjust the tension of the camera-supporting cable by turning a screw in back with a hex driver. This supports cameras from 11 – 38 lb.

Previous EasyRigs came in different models and you ordered supports depending on camera weight.

Like other models, the new adjustable Easyrig Vario 5 takes the weight of the camera off your back, neck and shoulders and redistributes it to the hips. Johan invented the original EasyRig while working as a news cameraman, shooting hand held for hours. “It extended my career 20 years,” he said. We’ve just read (pp 26-32) how Gavin Finney BSC used the EasyRig on “Wolf Hall”.



Johan Hellsten is a hands-on guy. He’s back in Sweden, clearing ground and expanding facilities for his EasyRig factory in Umeå, just south of the arctic circle. Response to the NAB introduction of the new EasyRig Vario 5 was huge; rigs are shipping now. On the phone yesterday amid the noise of chainsaws and bulldozers, Johan said, “I stopped working for Swedish TV two years ago to focus all my attention on building EasyRigs.”

The Easyrig Vario 5 has the same advantages as the other Easyrig models with the added benefit of being able to adjust the line tension to adapt to many different cameras and configurations.

The Easyrig Vario 5 helps to steady hand held shots while relieving strain on back, neck and shoulders. The load is redistributed to the hips allowing you to shoot handheld in comfort for hours.

The Easyrig Vario 5 can be ordered with several different vest and arm options. With the Cinema 3 vest and adjustable arm, it weighs 5.2 kg / 11 lb.

EasyRig is not a replacement for Steadicam. What it does best is to let you comfortably shoot handheld, steadily, for long periods of time or with heavy cameras or cameras with longer zoom lenses. Thousands of them are working worldwide—available from 16x9 Inc in the USA, EMIT in France, Sanwa in Japan, Chrosziel in Germany, Cartoni in Italy, Lemac in Australia, Band Pro in Germany and Israel, and more.

www.easyrig.com

Flowcine Gravity One, Serene and Puppeteer stabilizing accessories for Easyrig and other rigs: www.flowcine.com

