



**THUASNE**

**TriggerLock**



## Operating Instructions

Townsend Design fabricates a variety of knee braces and KAFOs with locking hinges. The instructions for operating the locks and cable release are the same for all of these brace designs.

### Hinge Options

Standard Trigger Lock Hinges feature a release mechanism at the top of the joint. When the patient presses UP on the trigger at the top of both hinges, the locking mechanism will release to allow the patient to bend the knee. When the patient straightens the leg, the locks automatically re-engage.

The second hinge option, Trigger Lock Hinges with Free Motion Release, feature the upper release trigger AND a second release mechanism at the bottom of the joint. When the patient presses UP on the release at the bottom of both hinges, the joints unlock and remain unlocked in a free motion position until the release is pressed back down. This release allows patients who have some stability to ambulate without having the joints fixated at extension.

The third hinge option, Single Pivot Hinges with Free Motion Release, eliminates the use of external manual components. Because the trigger release and free motion override are incorporated into the twist lever, the patient no longer has to engage or disengage the locks at the joint.

### Twist Release Instructions

To achieve trigger release, the twist lever is turned clockwise until the hinges become free motion. The twist lever should return to a neutral position. Once the patient returns to terminal extension, the locks will engage. To achieve continuous free motion, twist the lever clockwise until it clicks, engaging the free motion override. **(NOTE: The lever should not return to a neutral position).** This allows patients to ambulate without having the joints fixated at extension. To disengage the free motion override, push the center button on the twist release until the lever returns to a neutral position. The brace will lock once the patient returns to terminal extension.

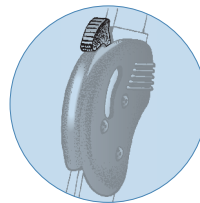
### Optional Cable Release

The optional push down cable release mechanism allows the patient to simultaneously release both locks, enabling the patient to bend the knee. Once the patient returns to terminal extension, the locks will re-engage. The push down lever is routinely located on the proximal thigh shell at the lateral aspect of the brace.

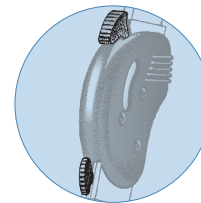


### Twist Release

The twist release - shown in a neutral position - provides the patient with an accessible alternative to Townsend's traditional cable release mechanism. It also eliminates the need for an external locking override mechanism at the joint line.



Standard  
Trigger Lock  
Hinge



Trigger Lock  
Hinge With Free  
Motion Release



Single Pivot Hinge  
With Twist Release  
Free Motion

### Important Notice for Fitters!

To avoid damage to the brace, patients must be instructed how to "unload" the joints before attempting to push down on the release lever. Forcing the handle down while fully weight bearing (with the joints load) can cause damage to the lever and/or cable!!!

#### Locked Position

The locks on this brace were set to lock at the degree that was indicated on the patient order form. The locked position cannot be adjusted or changed without returning the brace to Townsend's fabrication center.

#### Questions

If you have questions regarding the fit of the brace or function of the hinges, please call 800-432-3466.

