Using the Losmandy FlexTrak

This amazing seamless dolly track can be configured in straight runs that can suddenly curve in any radius or direction. Each section rolls up into a 2 foot diameter bundle and weighs 30 lbs, creating unprecedented portability for a track rigid enough to support an operator, yet flexible enough to curve into a 90° turn with a 2 foot radius. The FlexTrak works best with the Losmandy Spider Dolly.

Some Helpful Hints

To facilitate rolling up the FlexTrak, velcro ties have been added to each end. When rolling up the FlexTrak, start with the end that has the 1” by 21” velcro tie, make an 18” to 24” loop and secure it with the tie. This will keep the end from flopping around as you roll up the track. Then simply walk above the track, rolling it up as you go. When you reach the other end, secure the entire bundle with the larger 2” by 36” velcro tie. When putting the FlexTrak into a case, lay the track out straight and pull it towards you as you coil it into the case. Do not roll it into a bundle and then try to put it into its case.

As with any piece of equipment, keep the FlexTrak clean to preserve a smooth surface.

DON’T drag the FlexTrak over rough asphalt or any other surface which can abrade the rubber and cause flat spots.

DON’T kink the track. Be careful when coiling and uncoiling the track that you do not overly stress the internal steel ribbing causing it to kink. It could collapse the internal structure if too much pressure is applied.

FlexTrak can be used in non-level environments. A frame made with our FlexTrak Channels and our Channel Spreaders can be leveled with traditional dolly track wedges. Because FlexTrak has no seams, leveling does not need to be as precise as it does with traditional track, which greatly reduces set-up time. Simply place the end of each channel into the plastic receptacle on each spreader to create the frame, then position the FlexTrak into the channels.

FlexTrak/Spider Dolly Accessories

The Losmandy Spider Dolly is the most portable professional dolly on the market. Combined with a piece of FlexTrak, the simple 3-Leg Spider converts your tripod into an inexpensive, extremely portable, tracking dolly. Upgrade your system to a fully rideable dolly by adding a fourth leg, Adjustable Center Column, Foot Platforms, Pushbar and our Pivoting Seat on Swivel Seat Mechanism. Our 4-Leg System breaks down into three carrying cases.

Studio Wheels are available for freewheeling use on smooth floors. The Spider Dolly, when combined with floor wheels and extended spider legs, creates an easy and safe way to position jib arms, like our Standard Porta-Jib and Porta-Jib Traveller.

Our End Spacers are used to keep the open ends of track from curling or the loop from ballooning out when using a single piece of FlexTrak.

Our 36” Track Channels are used to create straight runs. The FlexTrak on the guide side is snapped into the U-shaped channel to insure perfect straightness.

The Track Channels are used in conjunction with the Channel Spreaders to create our Leveling Kits.

For use with one piece of 40’ FlexTrak:
10 Track Channels and 6 Spreaders
Total 15’ run

For use with two pieces of 40’ FlexTrak:
26 Track Channels and 14 Spreaders
Total 39’ run

Supports 400 lbs.
**FlexTrak Set up**

The Losmandy FlexTrak is quick and simple to set up and use. Since it is made of rubber it can be shaped easily into any desired arc or laid straight. The key to its effectiveness, however, relies on the unique wheel system of the Losmandy Spider Dollies. On one side, the wheels simply pivot at the center of the wheel cluster. We call this side the guide wheel side. On the other side, the wheels have a double pivot, which allows the wheels to float in and out several inches to compensate for variations in the spacing between the two tracks. Since there are no seams in the track, there is no shimming of joints to be done. Set up is done in minutes. Simply approximate a 2 foot separation and you are ready to go. When doing straight runs, you only need to have the guide wheel side of the track straight. Our Track Channels help to insure a straight run.

The standard FlexTrak track is 40 feet (12m) in length and when folded in the center will provide approximately 17 feet (5.5m) of track. When using only a single piece of FlexTrak, place end-spacers at the looped and the free ends to maximize the length of the run. When using two pieces of track, a 40 foot run is made by placing them in parallel, laid out end to end without looping.

Unroll the FlexTrak and lay it into position for the desired path, placing the rails approximately 24 inches apart. Place the Spider onto the track making sure the single floating wheel is on its own rail.

Slowly roll the dolly over the track while watching the floating wheel and adjust either rail in or out as necessary (nudging with the foot) so that the arm tracks directly over the rail. Watch that the articulating arm does not move all the way in to hit the mount, or all the way out to be perpendicular to the rail. Either situation will result in a mis-track and prevent smooth movement.

Once the track has been placed into position and adjusted for proper tracking it will stay put on most surfaces.

**Basic Setups**

**STRAIGHT PATH:** When using a single piece of track, bend the FlexTrak in the middle and secure with the End Spacer. Lay the two rails out evenly about 24” apart. For optimal straightness use our Track Channels on the guide wheel side.

**ARC:** Since the inside radius is shorter, initiate the bend off-center to maximize the curved path length.

**S PATH:** If the curves will be equal in both left and right directions then the FlexTrak can be bent at the middle to provide maximum path.

**90°:** Lay the track as shown and place the floating wheel on the inside of the radius for tightest turn.

**Spiral 360°:** Lay the FlexTrak out in a spiral such that the two ends are about 48” apart with one loop between them. Place the floating wheel on the inside of the spiral.

**360°:** Use two 40’ FlexTraks. Lay out the outer circle first and then the inside circle maintaining about 24” distance from the outer circle, overlapping as necessary. Place the floating wheel on the inside rail.