**Matthews Claw expands Rigging Options for Astera & T12 Tube Lights**

Matthews announces the answer for safely mounting Astera Hyperion, Titan and Helios as well as T12 tube lights to standard grip equipment. The Claw is a new generation clamp, designed to solve real on-set issues, by Sci-Tech Award-winning Key Grip Richard Mall with gaffer Jeremy Launais and crafted by the team at MSE headquarters in Burbank, California.

This smart innovation offers smooth, intuitive operation and a solid hold, while protecting a delicate tube from slippage, over-squeeze and scratching.

Made of lightweight aluminum and weighing under one-half pound, the system offers the familiar operation of the popular Matthellini Clamp. But in this case, the Claw is purpose-built for delicate tubular lighting fixtures.

A unique tool, The Claw brings these popular lights into the grip world, offering ease and compatibility with any common rigging that has a baby receiver. Integral to The Claw is a Matthews 5” long, industry-standard 5/8” Baby Pin. Designed with the mounting pin in-line with the fixture, facilitates low-profile and simple mounting to a 5/8” grip head or Baby receiver. The ¼”-20 threaded receiver allows the pin to be extended using a MicroRod or similar hardware. Adding Claws to a grip kit enables easy stacking of any number of tubes or accomplishing custom designed tube light arrays.

Operation is easy. The Claw’s threaded pin may be activated by rotating its winged handle. Clockwise tightening engages the jaw’s four fingers, clamping them more than 180-degrees around the fixture for a sure hold. The handle is specially sized to eliminate over-cranking— a half turn is all it takes.

For added protection each Claw finger is padded with textured rubber to avoid surface damage and slippage—safeguarding from nicks and scrapes on the tube’s housing. Within the jaw a series of magnets work to keep the Claw fingers in the open position ready to receive a tube.

The Claw comes with a black anodized finish and features an attachment insert for a safety strap. The Claw begins shipping in October 2021 at an MSRP of $89.

This fall, Matthews will also offer the Veeboxx portable soft box enclosure to integrate with The Claw. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/MSE_The_Claw>

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

**About Matthews Studio Equipment**

MSE now has 50 years of success in the manufacturing industry—specializing in hardware, camera and lighting support. Its equipment is being used on entertainment productions and in major studios in over 90 countries around the world. The company has been honored with two Presidential “E” Award for outstanding contributions to growing U.S. exports, strengthening the economy and creating American jobs. Matthews has also been honored by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences and the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences for Technical Achievement. MSE offices are located at their state-of-the-art manufacturing facility at 4520 West Valerio Street, Burbank, CA 91505. [www.msegrip.com](http://www.msegrip.com)

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

For additional photos and other news, please go to [www.aboutthegear.com](http://www.aboutthegear.com)

Information Prepared by Lewis Communications: [susan@lewiscommunications.net](mailto:susan@lewiscommunications.net)