HANDY HOOK REVISITED
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INTRODUCTION
The partial hand device called the Handy Hook which was made by the Robin-Aids Company [1] from the early 1950s to the 1980s and has been unavailable for many years is again available. The Hosmer-Dorrance Corporation [2] is making the attachment kit for this device and it is part #62594. This hook adaptor system is useable for a partial hand to hook attachment as well as a functional split hook adaptor for quadriplegics and other functional loss situations. The adaptor creates a very low profile hook attachment to a hand splint or partial hand socket to provide functional grip.

HISTORY OF THE HANDY HOOK
The Handy Hook was produced by Robin-Aids Company and was part of a line of partial hand prosthetic options they produced and have since discontinued. (Figure 1)

Fig 1 The design of the original handy Hook system discontinued many years ago.

The current design of the hook adaptor (Figure 2) is quite similar to the old design and allows for mounting a split hook on a variety of prosthetic and orthotic devices. The kit consists of parts including a mounting plate with a post that attaches the hook to a threaded friction block. A reaction bar is provided to hold the cable housing to provide opening force to the hook from the split figure-of-eight harness system.

Fig 2 The current parts kit available from Hosmer Dorrance part #62594

This system will provideprehension ability for not only partial hand amputees but is also adaptable to hand splints to provide function in the case of limited or absent hand function. (Figure 3)
The mounting system can be placed in a variety of locations depending on the needs of the individual. (Figure 4-5) When some hand function is present, the hook can be mounted on the back of the hand or close to the wrist joint to improve the length and functional position of the hook.

The harness system is a traditional split Figure-of-eight design (Figure 6) using scapular protraction to open the terminal device. The cable is easily removable to allow the hook to be used for passive function and positioning when active prehension is not needed.

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References


[2] Hosmer Dorrance Corporation 561 Division Street, Campbell, CA 95008