



PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release.

Contacts: Rod Bremer, Lindsey Phelps, 1-800-891-3100 or 503-685-5015

Fax: 503-682-9680 E-mail: info@crkt.com

Tualatin, Oregon, U.S.A.— January 19, 2010

Take two pieces of stainless steel, cut, grind and bend them just right, and you have Glenn Klecker’s new “irreducible complexity” NIRK™ folder from CRKT.

Intelligent design advocate Michael Behe coined the term “irreducible complexity,” which means “a single system composed of several well-matched, interacting parts that contribute to the basic function of the system, wherein the removal of any one of the parts causes the system to effectively cease functioning.”

It certainly describes this new Columbia River Knife & Tool® (CRKT®) folder by Glenn Klecker, award-winning knife and tool designer from Silverton, Oregon. He has named it after his son: Nathan’s IRreducible complexity Knife, or NIRK™. There are just two well-thought out pieces, plus a blade pivot screw.

The innovation is Glenn’s use of a single sheet of stamped and folded stainless steel to serve as the folder frame, back spacer, spring and lock, resulting in a solid lockback folder. The geometry of the cutout areas is critical, carefully calculated to provide just the right spring action when the rear of the spine is pressed.

At the front of the frame, the lock tab mates with a notch in the blade to provide safe lockup. The tighter the grip on the handle, the tighter the lockup, making this an exceptionally safe design. It is very difficult, if not impossible, to accidentally release the lock, and it is very, very strong.

When the blade is closed, the same lock tab ramps over a rounded detent to hold the blade in the closed position.

The high-carbon stainless steel blade is a utilitarian drop point shape with a deep belly, high hollow ground for easy cutting, and with a swaged top edge to aid penetration. It is a hefty 0.131” thick. The blade can be opened with either hand using the oval thumb hole.

Two NIRK models are available. The 5180 sport and work model has a high satin blade finish, brushed frame and Razor-Sharp cutting edge. The 5185 tactical model receives a black oxide nonreflective coating, and has a Combined Razor-Sharp & Triple-Point™ Serrated edge. Both models have a stainless steel pocket/gear clip.

There you have it: a simple, flat, almost indestructible folder. All you need to do is oil and sharpen it occasionally and you have a friend for life. It is priced so you can afford several: one for the toolbox, one for the backpack, one for the truck, one for the boat, one for the survival kit. The satin finished model 5180 has an MSRP of only \$24.99, while the black finished model 5185 is just \$29.99 MSRP.

In the knife world, it is a fine example of intelligent design.

Specifications

Klecker NIRK™

5180: Satin Blade, Brushed Frame, Razor-Sharp Cutting Edge
MSRP: \$24.99 US

5185: Black Oxide Blade & Frame, Triple-Point Serrated Cutting Edge
MSRP: \$29.99 US

Blade: Length: 3.125" (79 mm)
Thickness: 0.131" (3.3 mm)
Steel: 3Cr13, 51-53 HRC
Closed: Handle length: 4.50" (114 mm)
Open: Overall length: 7.63" (194 mm)
Weight: 3.5 oz. (99 g)

All CRKT knives are protected by the CRKT Limited Lifetime Warranty.

Columbia River Knife & Tool is dedicated to producing knives, tools, and accessories of uncompromising quality and selling them at affordable prices. CRKT products are distributed through specialty retail, sporting goods and cutlery stores that offer customers knowledgeable service and are available from www.crkt.com or other reputable web site purveyors.

www.crkt.com

###