

SPORTUBE

# Product Training Manual

HARD SIDED SKI AND SNOWBOARD  
CASES & BAGS



PROTECT YOUR GEAR

# Introduction



## Sportube History: Est 1995

Ideally situated in the Rocky Mountains between the world class ski resorts of Vail and Beaver Creek, Colorado, Sportube has been a manufacturer and distributor of ski travel cases since 1995. We continue today to be the world's number 1 supplier of hard cases to the winter sports market with distribution to over 40 countries in the ski, snowboard, fishing, spearfishing and water ski space.

Sportube was established in 1995 and is credited with a number of firsts in the industry:

- 1995: First company to introduce a single hard ski case with wheels
- 1995: First company to introduce a 'double' hard ski case
- 1998: First company to introduce a snowboard and hard ski case
- 2014: Launched our first range of boot bags
- 2015: Added to our range with a double wheeled ski bag and wheeled carry-on boot bag
- 2017: Introduced the Sportube heated boot bag
- 2020: To be announced!

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# HARD CASES

## HARD CASES

MADE IN USA 

Proudly made in the USA, Sportube hard cases are strong, durable and lightweight. Check them with airlines, ship them with FedEx™ or UPS™, or strap them to the roof of a vehicle for easy and convenient travel no matter the destination.

Some airlines only accept liability for damages if your gear is checked in a hard case, so it's like buying an insurance policy for your gear. When used, a Sportube case will protect your equipment from road salt, dirt and grime.



[Loading a Series 1](#)

[Training Video 1](#)

[Loading a Series 2](#)

[Training Video 2](#)

[Loading a Series 3 with Skis](#)

[Loading a Series 3 with Boards](#)

## SPECIFICATIONS

All Sportubes are manufactured in and distributed from Sturgis, Michigan, USA. Sportube hard sided cases are blow molded from High Density Polyethylene, the same material used on ski and snowboard bases, so there's no risk of the case damaging equipment!

### SERIES 1 SINGLE SKI CASE

- Can fit 1 pair of skis/poles or 2 pairs of XC skis/poles
- Our smallest and lightest case (weighs approx. 8 lbs empty)
- 6 5/8" w x 5 1/2" d (168mm x 140mm)
- Adjustable from 48" to 83" (122cm to 212cm)
- Comes with EZ Pull handle, pin to close the case, and 2x brake retainers

### SERIES 2 DOUBLE SKI CASE

- Can fit 2 pairs of skis/poles or 4 pairs of XC skis/poles
- Our mid-sized case (weighs approx. 12 lbs empty)
- 11" w x 6" d (280mm x 152mm)
- Adjustable from 48" to 83" (122cm to 212cm)
- Comes with EZ Pull handle, pin to close the case, 4x brake retainers, and 4x ski straps

### SERIES 3 SNOWBOARD/MULTI- SKI CASE

- Can fit 1 or 2 boards with bindings and boots
- Can fit 3 pairs of skis/poles
- Can fit 1 snowboard with bindings and 1 pair skis/poles
- Our largest case (weighs approx. 14 lbs empty)
- 14 1/2" w x 7 7/8" d (368mm x 200mm)
- Adjustable from 42" to 72" (107cm to 183cm)
- Comes with EZ Pull handle, pin to close the case, 6x brake retainers, and 6x ski straps

## FEATURES



**Black and Blaze Orange Sportubes come with a 5 year manufacturer's warranty. Special Edition cases offer a lifetime manufacturer's warranty.**

## WHY SPORTUBE?

Sportube is the #1 ski and snowboard case brand in the world. We have a range of cases for all winter sports equipment as well as fishing, hunting, spearfishing, and diving! Sportube cases have been in production for 25+ years and are the proven consistent and trusted industry leader.

## EASY SALE

Skis, boards, bindings and poles make for an expensive luxury purchase and they are worth protecting.

- Insurance policy for your customers gear
- Protection
- Durability/longevity
- Convenience
- Versatility

## PROTECTION

- Having just sold a \$700+ package, a Sportube protective case is an easy add-on sale that helps your bottom line and your customer's peace of mind! Most airlines won't accept responsibility if damage to gear occurs, unless packaged in a hard case. See 'What the Airlines Say' next.
- Sportube hard cases offer the added peace of mind that one cannot get when shipping or traveling with a run-of-the-mill soft ski sleeve.
- Accepted & recommended by all airlines because Sportube cases reduce damage and ultimately the airline's liability.
- A rigid hard shell case creates a protective shield around the skis and snowboard, and while the case may take the brunt of the force, the equipment inside will remain undamaged. You want to be assured of this on your annual ski trip-there's nothing worse than waking up to 2 feet of freshies, only to discover the airlines have blown out your ski edge.
- All Sportubes can be securely locked with a Sportube TSA cable lock.

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### DURABILITY & LONGEVITY

- With a high strength to weight ratio, High Density Polyethylene (HDPE) plastic is naturally very strong and durable.
- While still rigid, HDPE remains somewhat pliable, therefore not becoming brittle and having a tendency to crack or splinter.
- The case's integrity and strength will not be compromised with these attributes mentioned above.
- There are no external straps, zips or buckles to get broken or shredded like on soft luggage.
- Sportube cases will protect your customer's gear for many, many years.

### CONVENIENCE

Check it, ship it, drive it. Sportube cases offer your customers multiple travel options.

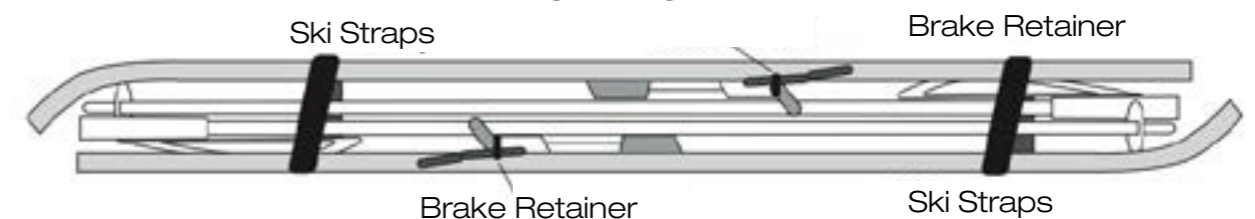
- Check it: Fly their equipment to any destination with peace of mind.
- Ship it: Ship ahead of time to ensure skis/board are at the resort before they arrive, taking the hassle out of traveling!
- Drive It: Customers can attach a Sportube case to a roof rack while knowing their gear is protected against road salt, dirt and grime. Cases are very easy to clean after being subjected to the elements.

### VERSATILITY

- Sportube cases can be used to carry and protect many other products outside of the snow sports industry.
- Cases have been used for fishing rods, spear guns, kayak paddles, mining probes, antennas, instruments, and much, much more!

### PACKING A SPORTUBE

Skis fit tip to tail, bindings facing inward like shoes in a box



# WHAT THE AIRLINES SAY

## HARD CASE PROTECTION



"Skis and poles must be packed in a rigid and/or hard shell case specifically designed for shipping. If otherwise packaged, items may be refused for carriage."



"All ski or snowboard equipment must be in a sturdy container for protection since we do not provide ski boxes."



"...Frontier is not liable for the mentioned items (ski and snowboard equipment) if you pack them and they are damaged unless packed in a hard sided case."



"We will only be liable for any damage to sports equipment if they are in a hard sided case and the outside of the case is visibly damaged."



"Virgin America will not assume liability or responsibility for recreational/sports items not presented in a hard sided case."



"United Airlines is not liable for damage to water skis or snow skis. Equipment must be securely encased in a suitable container"



"Snow skis are accepted when enclosed in a suitable container."



"Fragile sporting equipment such as skis, snowboards or fishing rods will be accepted as checked baggage only if, in Delta's sole determination, the items are appropriately packaged in an original factory sealed carton, or a container or case designed for shipping such items."

# TIPS AND WARRANTY

## TIPS

1. Remove EZ Pull Handles at check-in for transportation
2. Ensure your customers are using the rubber band brake retainers when packing skis into the Sportube
3. On that note, ski's fit best when packed tip to tail with bindings facing inward  
\*If your customer insists on carrying their skis base to base, sell a Series 2!
4. The 2 holes on the out half of our cases are not meant to align with the inner holes by design. This is to allow for closer incremental size adjustments to fit all lengths of skis and boards
5. Ski Shield™ folds into itself for easy storage
6. Our cases are perfect for summer storage too. Just make sure that the skis and boards are dry prior to storing them

## WARRANTY

We occasionally get inquiries about what does and does not constitute a warranty item/replacement/repair on Sportube cases. As we all, Sportube cases are pretty strong and robust and we don't see too many damages or warranty claims. We want to clarify our position on what we consider warranty/repairs on a case and how best to approach a potential warranty claim or repair for a customer.

After 25 years in the hard case business, the kind of damage we generally see is purely airline travel abuse or general wear and tear, which of course are not defects in the product and do not constitute a replacement. Please do not carte blanche replace a case for a customer without first contacting us for clarification as it will save us both a lot of time and expense. Most problems can be solved with a simple repair.

Conversely- Please don't hesitate to have the customer contact us directly and we will be able to help them out with a replacement/repair if the damages are in fact a manufacturer's defect.

Have them Call: 970-949-4014 or 1800-423-4439  
Or email description of damages & pictures to: [info@sportube.com](mailto:info@sportube.com)

## WHAT IS A WARRANTY ITEM?

Black and Blaze Orange Sportubes: 5 year limited manufacturer's warranty  
Special Edition Platinum Sportubes: Lifetime limited manufacturer's warranty

A true manufacturer's defect is what we consider to be a warranty item.

This could include:

- Sportube splitting at the seam (Fig. 1). If the case is split because of an excessive extraneous force, warranty coverage would not apply.
- Broken molded plastic handles.
- A case that is structurally thin, less than 45/1000" or .045".
- Any components on the case that are damaged out of the box ie. stitching on Velcro straps. (Fig. 2)



Fig. 1



Fig. 2

## WHAT IS NOT A WARRANTY?

At Sportube, we strive to build cases that are strong, durable, protect the equipment inside and stand the test of time and travel. That being said, our cases can be subject to damage if excessive force or handler neglect is applied. Some examples of these excessive handling damages include:

- Any components (wheel and axles, EZ pull handles, locking pins, etc.) that are damaged or lost due to airline, TSA or traveler neglect.
- These components can all be easily replaced. The entire case does not need to be replaced. (Fig. 3)
- Dented, scratched or crushed cases from airline or traveler neglect (Fig. 4) - These are damages that were caused from airline neglect and were not a manufacturer's defect. Recommend that the customer files a damaged baggage claim with their airline carrier.
- Cracked cases from excessive baggage handling or traveler neglect.
- Lost locking pins.
- Broken EZ pull handles if left on during the check-in process.



Fig. 3



Fig. 4



# SOFT BAGS

## SOFT BAGS

Sticking true to our reputation of high quality protection, Sportube has become a major player in the snow sports industry by expanding into the ski bag and boot bag markets. Our line of bags focus on well-crafted components that won't wear out over time and provide more protection than a typical soft bag can offer.

Durable, practical products to protect your gear and stow away your smaller items. Available in various sizes, styles, and colors, Sportube boot and ski bags are designed to last. Life is about the adventures we take and the memories we make, so travel often with peace of mind that your gear will always be protected when heading to those epic places!



[Freerider™ Gear and Boot Bag](#)

[Overheader™ Gear and Boot Bag](#)

## SPECIFICATIONS & FEATURES

### **1680D Ballistics Polyester, 840D Polyester and 600D Polyester Fabrics**

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Our materials are lightweight but extremely strong and durable due to the composition of the weave. This makes for a long lasting, well-crafted product to protect gear and travel with ease.

### **YKK Zippers**

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YKK has been the world leader in fastening devices since the 1930s. You can be confident that your customers can jam-pack our bags and our zippers will hold true.

### **Ventilation and Drainage Holes**

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Allows for airflow which helps dry out damp boots and clothing. No one wants a stinky gear bag.

### **Fully Padded Boot and Ski Compartments**

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Help protect gear from damage when checking luggage with airlines. (If you haven't noticed already, we are all about protection!)

### **Hideaway Backpack Straps**

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Reduce the risk of damage to your bag during transport. No lose straps or buckles to get caught on conveyors and ripped off.

### **Durable Water Resistant Tarpaulin Bottoms**

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Protects contents from ice and snow, as well as adding another layer of protection and durability.

### **Hitchin™ Technology**

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Allows a boot bag to quickly attach to a Sportube case or Ski Shield™ bag allowing your customer to move with multiple bags in tow and still have a free hand. (Freerider™, Overheader™ and Traveler™ models)

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### **GearShield™ Technology (GST)**

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High density polyethylene sheathing around the tips and tails of the Ski Shield™ for added protection against damage. See next page for more details on the Ski Shield™.

### **Airline Carry-On Compliant**

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Let your customers be assured they have their boots and enough gear for a day on the hill. There's nothing worse than flying to Colorado and arriving to find your boots are actually on a beach vacation without you in Mexico. (Cabin Cruiser™ and Overheader™ models)

### **Contoured Backpack Straps and Padded Back Panels**

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Boots and gear become heavy after a day of sending it! These features take away the aches and pains of lugging heavy equipment. (Freerider™, Overheader™, Toaster Elite™ and Toaster™ models)

### **Heated Boot Bags**

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The Toaster™ Series take the chill off the first few runs and make getting into boots effortless.

- 120V and 12V plugs for both the home and car.
- Fold out padded changing mat: allows for changing into boots without standing on snow or wet ground.
- 3 heat settings: allows customers to choose how toasty they want to get their boots.



Ski Shield™ Ski/Snowboard Bag

## WHY SPORTUBE?

### **Ski Shield™**

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We get it-not everyone wants a hard case. Nevertheless your customers don't have to compromise on quality or protection with our Ski Shield™. It features GearShield™ Technology and full length padding not found in most soft ski bags. The GST plastic sheathing creates a semi-rigid box around the tip and tails. With an added binding protector in the middle and individual internal/external straps, each board of pair of skis is held securely and safely.

Ski Shield™: 190cm in length

### **Toaster Heated Series**

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Cold boots on a morning are a bear to put on. The Toaster Series of bags come with a 120V and 12V plug which allows customers to warm up the boots up before they leave or on the way to the slopes. We've added a layer of foil between the walls to retain the heat in the bag for longer. With heaps of space for helmets, gloves, goggles, and jackets, the Toaster Series is a different series of grab bag.

Toaster Elite™: 60L

Toaster™: 50L

### **Cabin Cruiser™ and Overheader™**

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Both models are airline carry-on compliant at 22"x14"x9" in dimension. This means that after your customers have dropped their hard-earned cash for a pair of boots, insoles, and boot fitting they can rest easy knowing they can board with their boots and not risk them going to Aruba if they check them. With 2 compartments, 1 padded for boots and the other for clothing, gloves, goggles etc., they will have enough gear for a day on the hill should the rest of their luggage go astray.

The Cabin Cruiser™ with the extra long collapsible handle allows those taller folk the comfort of a brisk walk through the airport without the frustration of the bag hitting their heels. Conversely the Overheader™ allows users to be comfortable during travel without boot buckles sticking in their back or worse slinging their boots over their shoulders! (Don't be a Jerry!)

Cabin Cruiser™: 41L

Overheader™: 44L

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### **Freerider™**

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Keeping with Sportube's mantra of protection (and knowing this huge bag will likely have to be checked), a pair of boots, helmet, clothing and accessories will be well-protected in all compartments of this bag. Even though you can pretty much get the kitchen sink in here, your customers won't notice it because the bag is comfortable to carry, regardless of weight. With contoured shoulder straps, padded back panel and load control straps, this bag fits as good as their boots.

Freerider™: 70L

### **Traveler™ & Wanderer™ Series**

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We have bags for all budgets while still utilizing high quality, well-crafted and lightweight fabrics. Smaller volumes and less emphasis on features are perfect for the cost conscious buyer.

Traveler™ Boot: 50L

Traveler™ Ski: 190cm in length

Wanderer™ Boot: 50L

### **Freestyler™ JR Boot**

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Without compromising on quality, we even have a boot bag for the little shredders out there. Help mom and dad out and suggest the kids carry their own gear!

Freestyler™ JR: 38L



Overheader™ Gear and Boot Bag

Cabin Cruiser™ Gear and Boot Bag





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**PROTECT YOUR GEAR**