



Cascade Designs, Inc.

Christina Erb (360) 313-7070, ext. 2 christina@hayterpr.com

MSR[®] Upgrades SureLock[™] Trekking Poles with Greater Comfort and Trekking Performance

Seattle, WA (July 12, 2012) – MSR[®] today announced a series of new improvements to its MSR Trekking Poles. Designed for multi-purpose use in the backcountry, the collapsible trekking poles come in two- and three-section models and feature upgraded comfort elements and streamlined adjustment designs, making them the ultimate solutions for safe and efficient travel through the mountains.

In 2011, MSR introduced its innovative SureLock™ technology, a push-button positive-locking system that delivers no-slip reliability in an intuitive, fast and absolutely secure design. On the TR series poles, this foundation is combined with a patent-pending Trigger Release that allows one-handed pole adjustment from the grip—revolutionizing the way consumers interact with their poles and the terrain.

The MSR TR-3 pole, a three-section compact pole featuring the one-handed trigger release, was honored with a 2011 Outdoor Industry award for its high degree of innovation, design quality, functionality and trendsetting character.

For 2013, MSR has made significant improvements to the overall comfort and trekking performance of the TR series (trigger release) and UL series (ultralight) poles, including:



- Ergonomic Grips: Ultra-light, contoured grips made with injection-molded cork (TR series) or smooth foam (UL series), which maximize comfort and minimize hand fatigue in the backcountry.
- **Quick-Adjustment, Safety Straps:** Redesigned for next-to-skin comfort, new quick-adjustment straps will force eject if the pole becomes lodged during a fall.
- **Streamlined Form:** New discrete ferrules create smoother pole section junctions to shed bulk and create an incredibly lightweight, sleek pole.

The MSR Trekking Poles feature trekking baskets that prevent pole tips from getting caught in rock crevices and mud, yet are small enough to minimize the hassle of getting hung up on trailside foliage. An aircraft-grade aluminum construction delivers maximum strength with minimum weight, and the poles' precision engineering creates a high center of gravity delivering the most efficient—and smooth—swing possible. The poles can be used to pitch a variety of lightweight MSR shelters, providing the long-distance backcountry trekker the ideal tools for ultra-light travel.

The updated MSR Trekking Poles will debut in July at the Outdoor Trade Fair in Friedrichshafen and in August at Outdoor Retailer in Salt Lake City. They will be available at retail stores in January 2013.



Media Contact: Cascade Designs, Inc.

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About MSR[®] (Mountain Safety Research[®])

Seattle-based MSR has been engineering standard-setting high-performance outdoor equipment since 1969. A commitment to quality manufacturing and innovation ensures customers are outfitted with the finest, most reliable gear available for outdoor adventures. MSR product lines include: stoves, fuel, cookware, water treatment and hydration systems, shelters, snowshoes and trekking poles. The majority of MSR products are made in the company's Seattle, U.S.A. and Cork, Ireland manufacturing facilities. For more information, visit www.msrqear.com.