



it is extremely sturdy. The biggest feature of this design is the “shelf” for want of a better word. Instead of using straps or what have you to hold the weight of whatever

you’re trying to carry, the Lastenkraxe has a rigid shelf that takes the weight so you only need to fasten your load to stop it rolling off. The shelf also has an integrated stand that means the frame sits upright when you put it down so everything stays in place. It’s so obvious I can’t believe someone hasn’t thought of it before! Of course I can see us Kiwis loading them up with far more than 50kgs...but they are so well made I’m sure they’ll handle it. At 2.7 kgs its not a heavy pack either.

IN THE FIELD

We used the Lastenkraxe on quite a few meat hunting trips recently, and it totally lived up to my expectations. For day hunting when I knew I was going to carry meat, I’d attach my normal daypack to it till we got to the hunting area or actually shot an animal, then I’d put the deer on first then put the daypack back on top and away back to the vehicle. It was the easiest, most bloodless way to carry deer, and reminded me of how the Graf boy’s Shortie and Clyde used to carry their animals. As for carrying building materials, mattresses, water barrels etc into bivvy sites - man, what a revolution! This is one item that Tightlines won’t be getting back.

Tightlines also sent us the Tatonka Bison 90 litre pack, which looked to be a bomb proof pack for those trips when you needed extra load carrying capabilities.

It does stand 50mm or so taller than our current 90 to 95 litre packs, so while positioning the load most comfortably, it would get caught up more in off track bush situations. We didn’t

have time or room to give the Bison a proper test unfortunately.

Check out Tightlines website www.tightlines.co.nz to see the full range of products they bring in. We’ve only just scratched the surface here.



TATONKA LASTENKRAXE

Tatonka is the Sioux name for the Bison, or North American

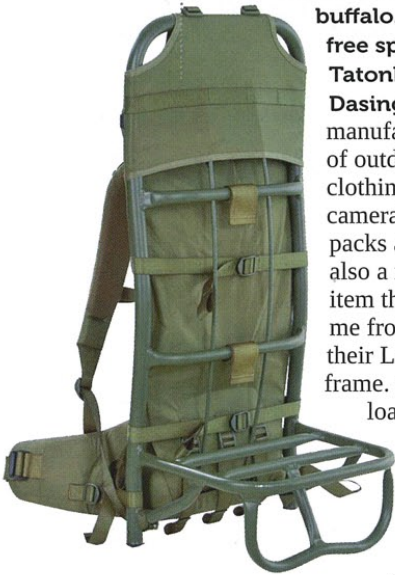
buffalo. Named after the free spirit of the Bison, Tatonka are based in

Dasing, Germany. They manufacture a wide range of outdoor products - clothing, cooking utensils, camera and travel bags, packs and rucksacks, and also a range of tents. The item that really interested me from their lineup was their Lastenkraxe pack

frame. This totally unique load carrier is designed for carrying awkward items that you can’t put into a pack - for example deer carcasses,

inflatable rafts, large barrels, possum traps etc

etc – the list goes on and on! The Lastenkraxe features Tatonka’s adjustable V2 carrying system, which they claim enables you to carry heavy loads (up to 50kg) in comfort. The welded outer frame is made from aluminium and the four diagonal cross bars ensure



Reweti, son of Labour MP Kelvin Davis carrying his first deer home on the Lastenkraxe

SPECIFICATIONS:

LED Lenser	H14	approx.	RRP \$199
	P14		RRP \$179
Tatonka	Lastenkraxe		RRP \$299
	Bison		RRP \$499