SERVICE PROCEDURE

Adjusting The Elevation Chain Tension

Applicable Model(s)

This applies to the SawStop Router Lift (RT-LFT).

Tools Needed

- 4mm Hex Key
- 6mm Hex Key
- Wire brush for cleaning
- Light machine oil
- Dial caliper or similar measuring device (only needed if alignment needs adjustment)

Related Links

RT-LFT Owner's Manual

PROCEDURE SUMMARY

This bulletin will show how to adjust the elevation chain for the router lift. If the chain is too tight, it can make the lift difficult to raise and lower. If the chain is too loose, it could potentially skip teeth on the sprockets. This procedure will also allow removal of the chain if necessary for cleaning or replacement.

SAFETY

WARNING: Disconnect the plug from the power source from the tool before making any adjustments, changing accessories, or storing power tools. Such preventive safety measures reduce the risk of starting the power tool accidentally.

WARNING: When servicing your tool, use only replacement parts from SawStop.

WARNING: Keep handles and grasping surfaces dry, clean and free from oil and grease. Slippery handles and grasping surfaces do not allow for safe handling and control of the tool in unexpected situations.

WARNING: Read and understand the instruction manual and all
safety warnings that came with your tool before attempting to maintain or operate the tool. Failure to follow instructions or heed warnings may result in electric shock, fire, serious personal injury or property damage. Save these instructions and refer to them whenever necessary.

SERVICE PROCEDURE

ADJUSTING THE ELEVATION CHAIN TENSION

1. The router lift must be removed from the router table to perform any adjustment. Use the elevation handle to lower lift to its minimum elevation.
2. Use a 4mm hex wrench to remove two flat head socket screws securing the aluminum router plate to the router table. Set the screws and hex wrench aside. (Image 1)

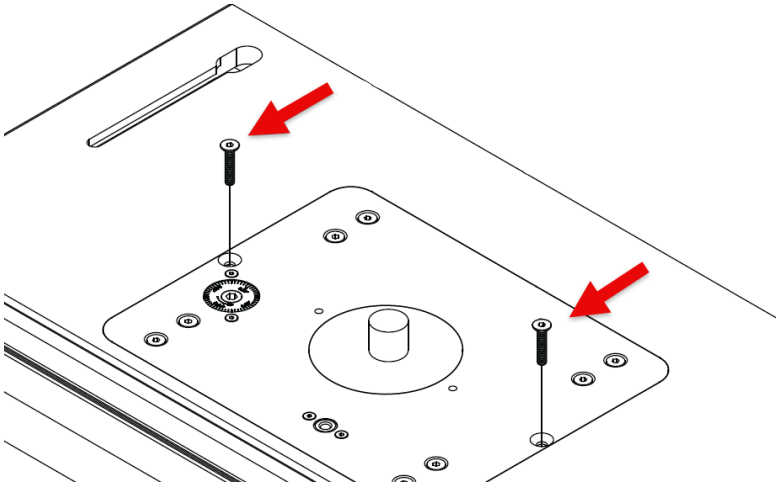

Image 1

3. Lift router lift (and router, if installed) out of router table. Use a 6mm hex wrench to slightly loosen the socket head cap screw in the elongated hole in carriage plate. (Image 2)

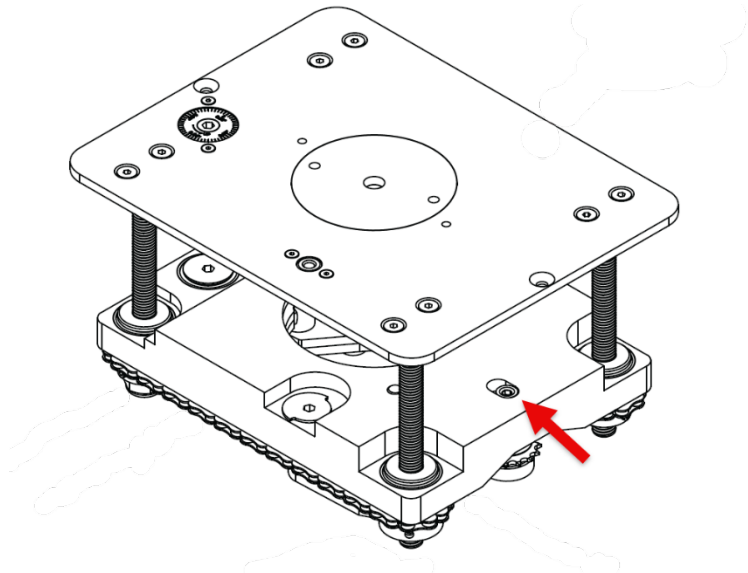

Image 2

4. Turn the router lift over and set it back into the table upside-down. The elevation chain should now be exposed and easily accessible.

5. The router lift chain can be removed at this point by sliding the sprocket toward the outer edge of the carriage plate. **Do not turn any of the other sprockets when removing or reinstalling the chain- this could cause a misalignment in the travel of the carriage plate.**
6. The chain can be cleaned with a wire brush and a light coat of machine oil can be applied if desired.
7. If the moving carriage is not level with router plate of the lift, measure distance from router plate to moving carriage at all 4 corners. If this distance is not equal, with chain removed, physically turn individual sprockets one at a time until all 4 corners are at the same distance (Image 3). Once aligned, reinstall chain.

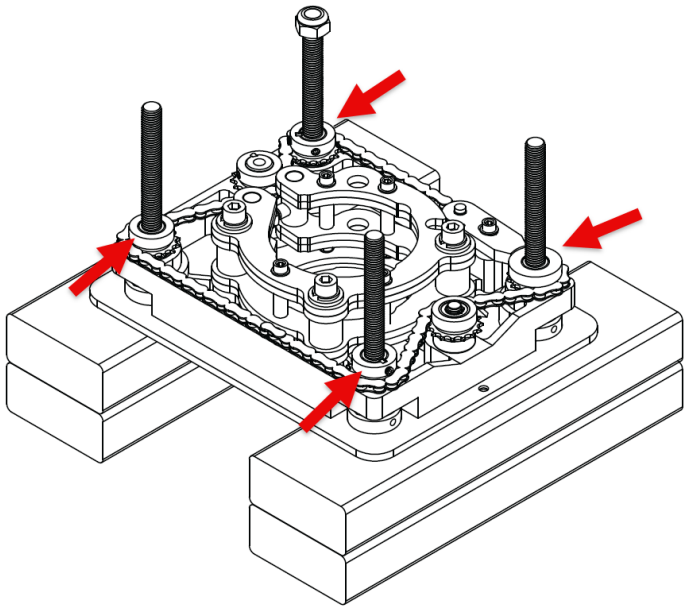

Image 3

8. Slide the socket head cap screw in elongated hole in carriage plate by pushing offset sprocket away from outer edge of the carriage plate. This will increase tension on the elevation chain. When properly set, the chain should have a little play in it.
9. Hold the sprocket in place and use a 6mm hex wrench to tighten the socket head cap screw. (Image 2)
10. While the router lift is upside down on the table, it is advisable to clean the threaded posts that the carriage travels up and down on. Use a wire brush to clear any buildup of debris. If necessary, a solvent can be used to remove any stubborn buildup- strong isopropyl alcohol, denatured alcohol, naphtha, or similar solvents are recommended. Avoid using mineral spirits and acetone, as these can mar finished surfaces.
11. Once clean, apply a drop or two of a light machine oil to each threaded rod (Image 3). Running the elevation up and down will evenly spread the oil.
12. Turn the router lift back over and reinstall it into router table using the two flat head socket screws. (Image 1)