Using Your Needle/Vacuum Pump

To Add Air to a Touchpad



Figure 1: Touchpad Test

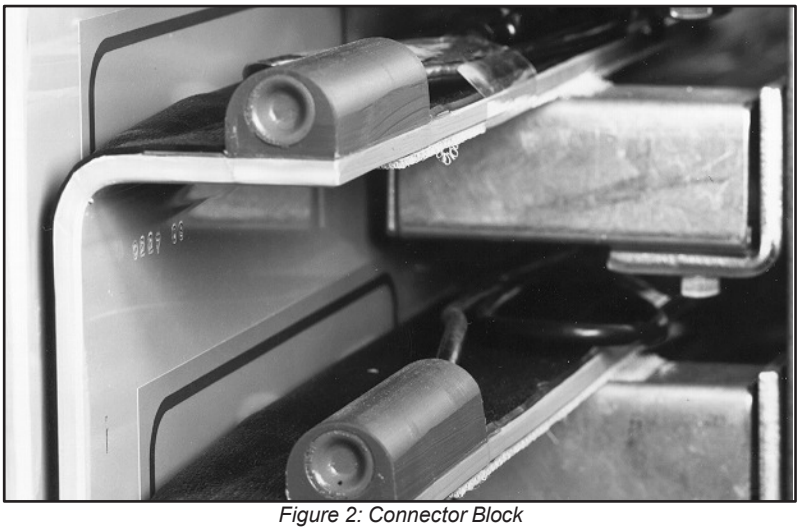
If your touchpad always sends a signal to the electronic swim timer, it is "shorted" and may need to have air added (vented) to it. Please consult the Troubleshooting Guide in your Touchpad Manual. If venting is recommended, follow these steps:

1) Air must be added to a touchpad while it is out of the water. IMPORTANT: Make sure the cable end of the touchpad is not splashed or doused with water while the adjustment is being made.

NOTE: DO NOT add air to the touchpad while the touchpad is in the water! If air is added to the touchpad while in the water, water may get inside the touchpad. This will ruin the touchpad.

2) Insert the touchpad plug (see Figure 1) into the test meter included with your system.

3) Ensure that the orange rubber plug on the connector block is completely dry (see Figure 2).


Figure 2: Connector Block

4) Remove the needle from its receptacle on top of the touchpad meter. Ensure the needle is free of all burrs, or rough edges. Burrs can be removed by drawing the needle across a stone or concrete surface, rotating the needle as you move it.

5) Insert the needle into the center of the orange plug as far as it will go. BE CAREFUL NOT TO PUSH THE NEEDLE TOO HARD. Leave the needle in the orange plug until the red meter lights are off. Wait three seconds and remove the needle (see Figure 3).

6) If adding air to the touchpad does not result in the above meter reading, refer to the Care and Maintenance chapter of your Touchpad Manual.

NOTE: Never handle your touchpads by the cable. This includes when adding air to or releasing air from the pads.

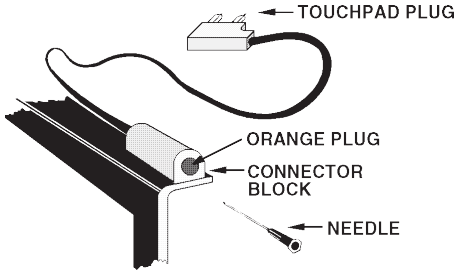


Figure 3: Touchpad venting instructions

To Release Air from a Touchpad

If your touchpad will not send a signal to the electronic swim timer while fingertip touched, it is "open" and may need to have air released (evacuated) from it. Please consult the Troubleshooting Guide in your Touchpad Manual. If evacuating is recommended, follow these steps:

1) Remove the touchpad from the water.

2) Insert the touchpad plug (see Figure 1) into the test meter included with your system.

3) Ensure that the orange rubber plug on the connector block is completely dry (see Figure 2)

4) Verify that the vacuum/pressure switch is pointed toward "vacuum." (see Figure 4).

5) Remove the needle from its receptacle on top of the touch-pad meter.

6) Remove the needle cover, and ensure the needle is free of all burrs, or rough edges. Burrs can be removed by drawing the needle across a stone or concrete surface, rotating the needle as you move it.

7) Replace the needle cover and attach the needle to the needle adapter luer in the end of the clear plastic hose. Twist clockwise to secure.

Scan for video

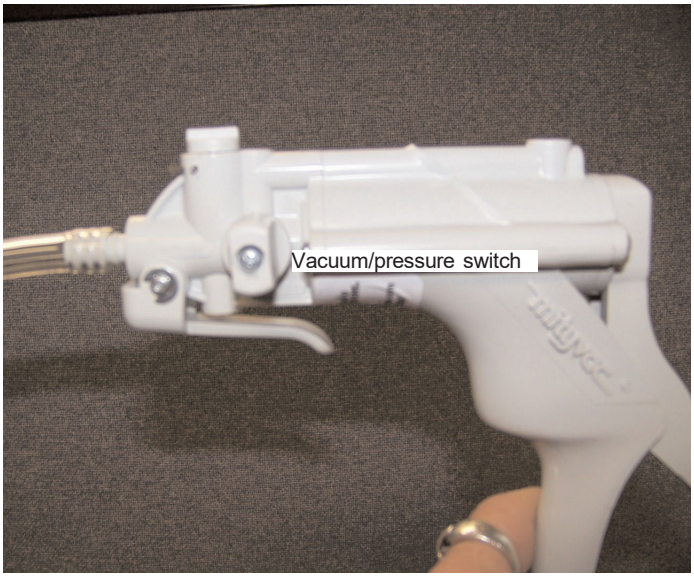


Figure 4: Vacuum and pressure ports

8) Remove the needle cover, and insert the needle into the center of the orange plug as far as it will go. BE CAREFUL NOT TO PUSH THE NEEDLE TOO HARD.



Figure 5: Vacuum pump in use

9) Squeeze the handles on the pump together, pumping and releasing until the test meter lights up red completely from right to left. At this point, the touchpad switch mechanism is fully closed. Stop pumping and wait until the meter lights begin to go off from right to left. Wait five seconds and remove the needle from the orange plug.

10) Replace the needle cover on the needle and return the needle to its receptacle on top of the touchpad meter.

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