



MFCInternational

by RESPIREX

ENGINEERED INFLATABLE PRODUCT SOLUTIONS

API Stretcher

Product **Manual**

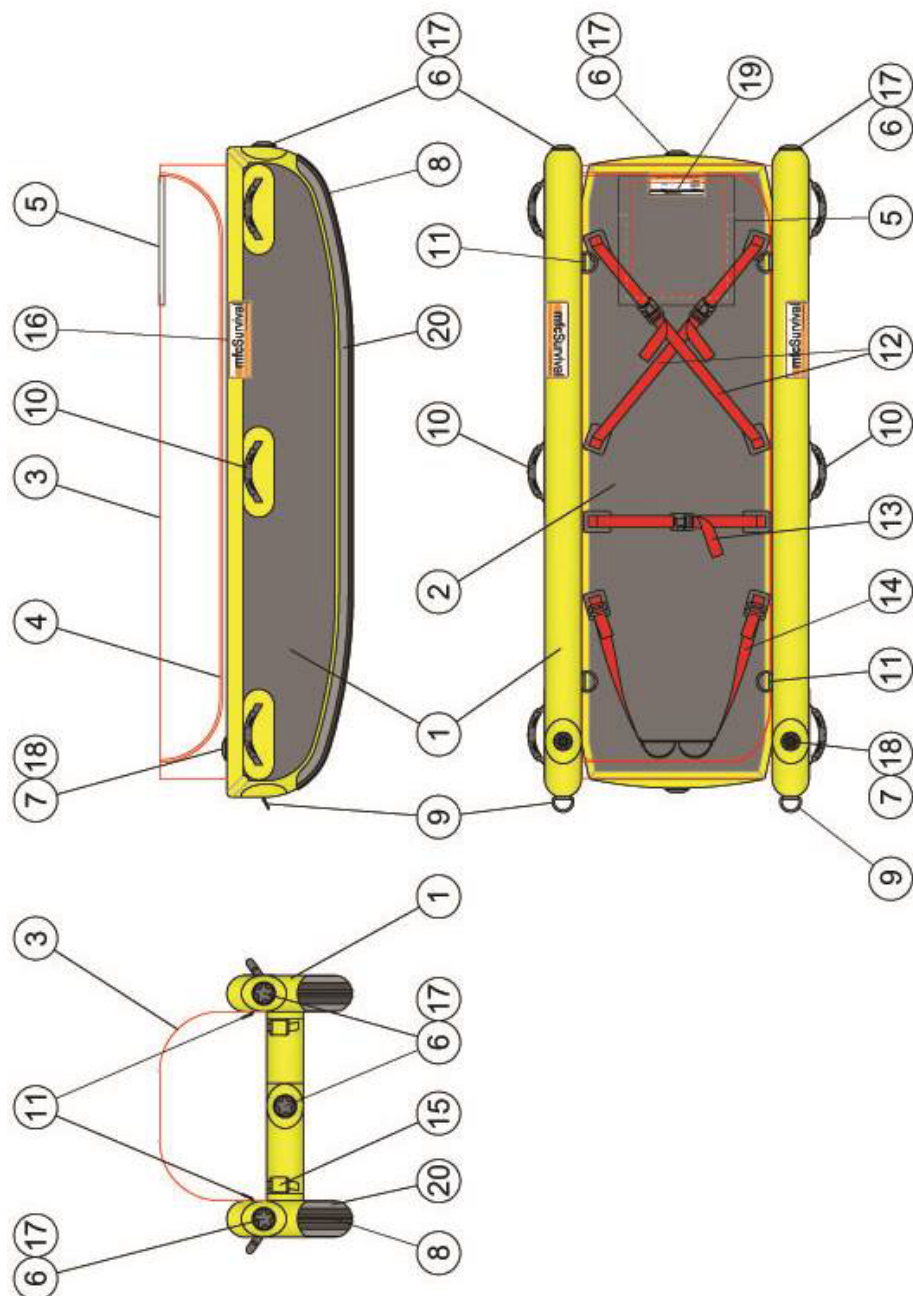


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WARNING: Carefully read this manual before operating the Stretcher.

NOTICE: The manufacturer takes no responsibility for the consequences of actions not complying with the instructions given in this manual.

	Standard
Product code	WR0219
No. of persons	1
Length (cm)	215
Width (cm)	89
Height (cm)	41.5
Capacity (kg)	200
Air requirements (ltr)	370
Pack size (cm)	70x45x30
Weight (kg)	11.25
Recommended regulator	8 bar



	Item	Description
1	Inflatable side	Neoprene-coated drop thread – Black Hypalon coated polyester - Yellow
2	Inflatable bed	Neoprene-coated drop thread – Black Hypalon coated polyester - Yellow
3	Optional Cover	P.U. Coated ripstop nylon - Orange
4	Zip (optional cover)	N/A
5	Opening window (optional cover)	N/A
6	Inflate/Deflate valve	Leaffield C7 - Black Acetal
7	Relief valve - 0.41 bar	Leaffield A6 - Black Acetal
8	Antichafe rubstrake	Nitrile/PVC extrusion - Black
9	Towing patch	4cm stainless steel 'D' ring 4cm Polyester webbing - Black Hypalon coated polyester - Yellow
10	Carrying handle	Hypalon coated polyester - Yellow Webbing strap with moulded rubber handle
11	'D' Ring lifting patch	5cm stainless steel 'D' ring 4.7cm polyester webbing - Black Hypalon coated polyester
12	Chest restraining strap	3.8cm polyprop webbing - Red ISO 12402-7 S/R Buckle - Black
13	Leg restraining strap	3.8cm polyprop webbing - Red ISO 12402-7 S/R Buckle - Black
14	Foot securing strap	3.8cm polyprop webbing - Red, 316 S/S buckles
15	Cover retaining points	Hypalon coated polyester - Yellow, PE Velcro
16	Logo Label	White vinyl, digitally printed
17	Inflate/Deflate valve label	Yellow Vinyl, digitally printed
18	Relief valve label	Yellow vinyl, digitally printed
19	Data label	White Vinyl, digitally printed
20	Antichafe strips	Neoprene coated Kevlar
21	Valise (not shown)	PVC coated polyester - Orange
22	HP Inflation Hose (not shown)	Reinforced hose C/w C7 valve adaptor
23	Repair kit (not shown)	70m;. tube Neo. Adhesive, hypalon patches x4

Operational Instructions

1. **INFLATION**

- 1.1. At deployment point, select best possible flat debris-free site.
- 1.2. Unpack the Stretcher from its valise and unroll.
- 1.3. Prepare for Inflation:-
 - a) Fix Regulator to cylinder(s) and connect delivery hose to Regulator.
 - b) Remove dust cap from inflation valve in the inflatable bed and sides, ensure the central valve diaphragm is closed; i.e. the internal spindle is raised. (push and turn to release).

Note: The stretcher is to be inflated through the inflation valves located on the head end of the inflatable bed and sides. (see pg. 4, item 6)

- 1.4. Hold delivery hose tight into inflation valve. Open cylinder valve and inflate until relief valve activates. Close cylinder valve. Do not release hose during inflation.

Warning: Failure to do this may result in personal injury to the operator.

- 1.5. Ensure dust caps are replaced to prevent ingress of dirt and water.

2. **DEPLOYMENT & USE**

The following points are operational recommendations established by deploying the Stretchers at many different training and demonstration events. MFC acknowledge that almost every operational scenario will have different hazards and risks, which can only be properly assessed at, and during, an operational rescue/recovery.

Warning: During use on water, mud and suspect surfaces, personnel should wear a "Lifejacket" or appropriate buoyancy aid. Failure to do this may result in personal injury or death.

- 2.1. Securing lines - When using the Stretcher in fast flowing water use securing lines attached to the Towing patches located on the foot end of the Stretcher to manoeuvre and secure the Stretcher to convenient tie points on the bank / shore. (see pg.4 item 9)

Caution: The Stretcher should only be secured with the foot end pointing towards the flow of water to reduce the possibility of water swamping the bed.

- 2.2. Towing - The Stretcher may be towed on water, snow, ice or mud at a maximum speed of 5 mph. The tow line must be secured to both Towing patches located at the foot end of the Stretcher. (see pg.4 item 9)

Caution: Avoid contact with sharp or abrasive objects as they may puncture the fabric causing a loss of buoyancy.

- 2.3. Stability in water – The weight of the transported casualty, should if possible, be distributed centrally over the full length of the stretcher.

Caution: Do not push down on the side of the Stretcher in water as this may cause it to tip over and trap the casualty.

- 2.4 Body restraining straps - The casualty can be strapped into the stretcher during transportation using the 2 diagonal chest restraining straps and the leg restraining strap. (see pg.4 items 12 & 13) All straps must be tightened to secure the casualty. To undo the straps press the red button located on the side of each buckle.

Caution: Ensure that the two parts of the buckles are pushed together and securely locked (audible click) before moving the casualty.

- 2.5. Foot securing strap - The foot securing strap is fitted by placing the webbing loops over the feet. The continuous strap goes over both insteps and the short strap forms two loops that go under the soles of the feet (see pg.4, item 14). The strap must be adjusted equally at each end to secure the casualties feet in the centre of the Recovery board.

Warning: While using the stretcher on water:-

DO NOT leave the casualty unattended at any time.

DO NOT use and body/foot restraining straps or zip the optional cover closed, as the casualty will become trapped underwater if the stretcher capsizes. This may result in injury or death of the casualty.

- 2.6 Carrying handles - The Stretcher should only be carried by using the moulded handles provided on each side. (see pg.4 item 10)
- 2.7 Optional cover - A weatherproof cover is available for the protection of the casualty in poor weather conditions. This is fitted by laying the cover on the stretcher bed with the window facing up at the head end of the stretcher. Open the zip and pass the buckle ends of the chest and leg straps up through the corresponding slots in the cover. Release one end of the foot strap from its buckle and pass it up through the slot on the opposite side of the cover. Push the released buckle up through its slot and rethread the end of the foot strap making sure it is not twisted. Pull on the foot strap to ensure that it is secure. Open the 4 Velcro patches (see pg.4 item 15) on the corners of the bed and secure the corresponding Velcro straps attached to the cover. Close the Velcro flaps and press to secure. The zip can be adjusted so that varying amounts of the cover can be left open to allow access to the casualty. A clear, opening window is provided above the casualty's face.
- 2.8 Hoist Lift - The Stretcher should only be hoisted by attaching the optional Mfc lifting sling to the four "D" Ring Lifting patches fitted to the sides of the stretcher. (see pg.4 item 11)

Note: the 2 short legs of the sling must be attached to the head end of the stretcher and the longer legs to the foot end. The legs of the sling must not be twisted.

Caution: Ensure that the shackle pins are secure and the tang of the shackle pin is locked into the slot on the side of the shackle.

Warning: Failure to correctly fit and secure the lifting sling may result in the injury or death of the casualty.

1. After every use, especially in salt water and on mudflats, the Stretcher should be hosed down in its inflated state, to remove as much debris as possible.
2. Allow the Stretcher to become as dry as possible before packing.
3. Lay the Stretcher on a clean, debris free area.
4. Deflate the Stretcher. This is achieved by depressing the central spindle in all three inflate/deflate valves, (push and turn to lock open). (see page 4, item 6).
5. Roll Stretcher from the foot end to expel the air.
6. Un-roll the Stretcher to its full length once again. Fold each side towards the centre of the inflatable bed.
7. Roll the folded Stretcher from the foot end again, taking care to maintain the width of the roll.
8. Lay the valise on the ground as an 'open box', place Stretcher into valise, close and secure using the webbing straps and buckles fitted to the valise.

Storage

1. On return to base the Stretcher should be unpacked, inflated and left to dry.
2. When the Stretcher is completely dry it and its associated equipment should be checked for wear or damage. If none is found it should be repacked in the valise.
- 2.1. If any damage is found it should be repaired or replaced immediately in accordance with the Repair instructions.
3. Where possible the packed Stretcher should be stored on the floor of the locker/ appliance, ensuring no damage can be caused by it's proximity to other items of equipment.

1. GENERAL

It should be noted that, due to the type of fabrics used in its construction, when the Stretcher is wet, there may sometimes be visual evidence of miniscule white bubbles, which form a line of froth at the seams and joints of the unit. This is recognised within the industry as 'lateral leakage', and is simply air that is trapped in the layer of nylon between the rubber coatings, forcing its way to the nearest available edge of the fabric. This type of leakage will not affect the performance of any inflatable product over the course of an operational procedure, and can be safely ignored.

However, if there is evidence of large, transparent bubbles, this is clearly evidence of a leak that must be repaired at the earliest convenience.

The following is a recommended regime for maintenance & test.

2. QUARTERLY

- 2.1. Check control equipment as per relevant manual.
- 2.2. Inflate Stretcher to working pressure.
- 2.3. Check audible relief valve operation.
- 2.4. Whilst inflation system is charged, check connections and valves using brush and soapy water.
- 2.5. When relief valve has operated, and the unit is at working pressure; it can be left to stand for a length of time that would be comparable to an operational situation (e.g. 2 to 3 hours.)
- 2.6. After this time, the Stretcher should still be firm.
- 2.7. If the Stretcher has become soft, the air-loss should be located by applying a soapy-water solution.
- 2.8. Any significant leaks (See 1 above) should be marked and repaired using the repair kit provided.
- 2.9. Inspect optional cover for damage and repair/replace as necessary.
- 2.10. Inspect optional lifting sling for wear or damage particularly to the webbing and sewing. If in doubt, do not use.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The Stretcher and its associated equipment should undergo an annual test carried out by the manufacturer, or persons certified by MFC International Ltd. If in doubt, contact the service department.
2. The Stretcher should be inspected and tested in accordance with relevant Internationals, European or National standards and appropriate records maintained throughout its operational life.

Repairs

As a general rule, punctures and other damage will need to be assessed in two categories: a) that which is repairable at the base, or b) serious damage that will need to be repaired by MFC International Ltd.

- a) Repairs that are manageable at the base workshops will be minor punctures to any area of the Stretcher. These can normally be repaired by the application of a small repair patch.
- b) Repairs that should be carried out by MFC will be the more serious kind, such as damaged valves, badly torn fabric (either on the sidewalls or the flat surfaces) and the replacement of damaged fittings.

If in doubt as to the extent of the damage and the level of repairs necessary, please contact:-

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