# VacuFlush<sup>®</sup> Installer's Guide



### This book belongs to





# VacuFlush<sup>®</sup> System Components



### VacuFlush<sup>®</sup> Principles of Operation



- Uses pressure difference between atmosphere and vacuum in the tank.
- The vacuum pump is activated by the loss of vacuum in the vacuum tank.
- Vacuum is maintained at all times. The "leak-down" time period should be approximately three hours. (The pump should not come on within a three hour window of non-use.)
- Recharging vacuum takes less than a minute.



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Note: Magnum Opus and VHT Installations are shown in other Installation Guides

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# Section I: Toilet Installations

#### SeaLand toilets are available in many different outlet configurations. Please review a SeaLand brochure for current model information.



18 1/2°

# **Critical Toilet Mounting Clearances**



### Above the Floor Discharge - Side and Rear



Kit P/N 385310580

These joints require SOLVENT BONDING per procedure on page 11!

90 Elbow Detail Cannot be used with models ending in 147 or 148.

#### Section I

# Through Floor Funnel Comparison



### Below the Floor Discharge



-08 Model Detail

This joint requires SOLVENT BONDING per procedure on page 11!

### Toilet Base & Through-floor Funnel Installation Guidelines



### When there is NO room.... Use this Quick Turn Funnel



### **Solvent Bonding For Rigid Pipe & Fittings**



### The most important steps:

- 1. Use a PVC cleaner on both bonding surfaces.
- 2. Use a PVC cement (must contain Tetraheyrofuran) on both bonding surfaces.
- 3. Connect parts using a twist and hold motion until the glue is set.
- 4. Let joint cure for at least four hours or per instructions on the container. (Cold temperatures require longer cure times.)

# **Incoming Water Supply**

The incoming water line MUST...

- Be cold water ONLY
- Be 1/2" (13mm) MINIMUM ID
- Provide a MINIMUM flow of 2 gallons/min (7.6 liters/min) at the toilet. This requires a 2.8 GPM (10.6 l/m) demand pump, or greater depending on line restrictions.



• Include a **SHUT-OFF valve** for maintenance purposes

Fresh water is highly recommended. If the choice is made to use salt or brackish flush water, SeaLand requires the use of a primary and secondary filter. The secondary filter must be 100 mesh or less.

#### Section I

# Keep Debris Out of the Toilet

- To prevent leaks, THE BALL SEAL MUST BE PROTECTED FROM DEBRIS. Keep the toilet bowl covered.
- Lag bolts and/or T-bolts MUST be securely fastened in FOUR locations, or toilet wobble will result.
- Should debris collect under the ball seal, use the brush and cleaner samples to remove (provided with toilet).

Ball seal debris is THE MOST COMMON installation problem!!



Leave this protective cover in place until final delivery.

### **Critical Guidelines – Toilet Installations**

- 1. Allow proper clearances from rear and side objects (bulkheads, partitions, etc).
- 2. When installing a funnel, secure the funnel flat against the floor using 8 fasteners.
- 3. Fasten toilet securely to floor using 4 fasteners.
- 4. When installing a funnel, the bottom of the toilet base and the bottom of the funnel flange must be mounted on the same surface.
- 5. Follow proper solvent bonding procedure for rigid PVC on page 11 when required.
- 6. Assure minimum incoming water supply of 2 gallons per minute (7.6 liters/min) at the toilet.
- 7. Keep debris out of the toilet bowl/funnel DURING INSTALLATION to avoid vacuum or water leakage through the ball seal.

### Section II: Vacuum Sources



# Locating the Vacuum Source



Each toilet must have a separate vacuum source (vacuum generator or tank/pump).

- A. Maximum height of vacuum piping from toilet outlet to vacuum source inlet is 6 feet (1.8 meters).
- B. Maximum length of vacuum piping from toilet outlet to vacuum source inlet is 30 feet (9.1 meters).

# Supporting the Vacuum Hose



The inlet hose of the vacuum generator must not have a side load (see picture below). Support the hose, as necessary.

Do not let the hose go unsupported (up or down). It will pull the fitting out of the seal, creating a leak.





# S-Series Vacuum Pump



- Mount pump horizontally
- Mount pump at same level or lower than vacuum tank outlet.
   Do not mount the pump higher than the vacuum tank outlet.

Optional straight or 90<sup>o</sup> swivel quickdisconnect fittings are available for suction & discharge sides of vacuum pump.





# Sailboat Pump Mounting



When mounting S-Pump or Vacuum Generator athwartships (at right angle to keel) on sailing vessels, compensate with a 15° incline on the discharge side.

# Vacuum Tanks Do's & Don'ts





• The outlet of the vacuum tank must be at the lowest level.



 The vacuum switch must be on the top when mounted vertically.

Never tamper with the vacuum switch! Vacuum levels can ONLY be adjusted at factory!

Section II

 Proper clearance must be allowed for access to the vacuum switch.

# Accessibility is Critical!

# Do NOT do this!! Insufficient access.

- EASY access is needed to service
  - Pumps
  - Vacuum Switches
  - Tank inlet and outlet fittings
  - Vent Filters
- All pumps and tanks must have access to replace if necessary.



Vacuum Generator is located behind an appliance, difficult to access and entire unit can not be replaced.

# Vacuum Tank Critical Access Areas



### **VG Critical Access Areas**



### Avoid locating pumps under sleeping areas



### **Critical Guidelines – Vacuum Sources**

- 1. Do not exceed the maximum length between toilet outlet and vacuum source of 30 feet (9.1 meters) or the maximum height of 6 feet (1.8 meters).
- 2. There must be a separate vacuum source (vacuum generator) for each toilet.
- 3. Support the hose coming from the vacuum generator.
- 4. Mount pumps horizontally.
- 5. Vacuum tanks
  - Locate the outlet of the vacuum tank at the lowest level.
  - When mounted vertically, the vacuum switch must be at the top.
    - Never tamper with the vacuum switch settings.
- 6. All fittings and connections, pumps, vacuum switches, tank inlet and outlet fittings and vent filters must be readily accessible.
- 7. Avoid locating vacuum pumps under berths.

# III. Hose and Piping Layout

### **Problems to be Avoided**

Crushed, pinched, kinked hoses found on new boats.





This could be avoided by using a quick turn funnel.



Hose is routed improperly.





Hose forced beyond bend radius, routed too tightly.



# Piping Runs to the Vacuum Source



### Limit of TEN 45 and 90 bends



### **Use Generous Bend Radii**



# Hose Run Simplification





#### BEFORE

- One-head system with 40 gallon holding tank
- Excessive hose runs
- · Difficult to reach wye valve
- Discharge hose from holding tank always filled with sewage

#### AFTER

 Now a two-head system with 40-gallon holding tank on same footprint. Created by matching a SeaLand holding tank with rigid pipe fittings.

### **Avoid Heat Sources**



# Avoid Binding Corners & Sharp Bends



### Do not restrict the ability to pull the hose or pipe. Do not use wire ties to secure the hose or pipe.

Support flexible hose every 1 foot (0.3 m) and rigid pipe every 5 feet (1.5 m).

#### Section III

### Do Not Risk Affecting Structural Integrity



# **Making Hose Connections**



Never use an open flame or overheat hose end!



#### How To Use The SeaLand Hose Heater

- Insert hose into pre-heated hose heater for 1.5 - 2.0 minutes. Do not leave the hose in the hose heater for longer than 10 minutes, hose degradation will occur.
- 2. Remove hose from heater. Using liquid dishwashing soap, quickly lubricate fitting and inside hose end, then push hose onto fitting. For second end, twist hose counterclockwise before placing onto fitting. This will ease installation due to natural twist (helix) of the hose.
- 3. Allow hose to cool to room temperature, then clamp hose to fitting with two clamps. Make sure clamp mechanisms are 180° from each other when tightened.



# Making Hose Connections (cont'd)



adapters due to chemical reaction with certain PVC formulations.

hoses slipping off of adapters.

**SEALANT** inhibits ability to service system easily at a later time if needed.

at a later time if needed.

# Making Hose Connections - TIPS

- All hose connections should be double clamped with screw mechanisms 180° apart and reversed.
- Use ONLY liquid soap and SeaLand hose heaters as aids for installing sanitation hoses.
- Connect hose only to **barbless fittings** sized at a diameter of 1.53 .015" (39 .4mm).





 Fully insert hose to the positive stop. If there is no stop, minimum hose insertion is 1 1/8" (29mm)



### Avoid Common Hose/Piping Problems in Conventional Layouts



Wye valves create odor permeation problems by trapping waste in unused hose runs.

To avoid odor permeation problems, eliminate unnecessary runs that can trap liquids.

Use RIGID pipe for any locations of standing sewage.

### Hose....Avoiding Malodors

### Use rigid piping for standing sewage!





# **SeaLand Fitting Information**

### **PVC Rigid Pipe**

1½-inch (38mm) PVC pipe cut in 5-foot (1.5m) length for easy handling. For use with all fittings shown on next two pages.

 Product No.
 Description
 Length

 307001540
 1½-inch (38mm)
 5-foot (1.5m)

# SeaLand RIGID Pipe Fittings



# SeaLand FLEXIBLE Hose Fittings



### **Critical Guidelines - Hose Runs**

- Simplify the layout eliminate unnecessary valves and hose runs.
- 2. Use plumbing fittings or hose with generous bend radii to avoid hose kinking.
- 3. Do not run hose or piping close to heat sources.
- 4. Avoid sharp edges where hose or pipe pass through bulkheads or panels.
- 5. Pre-heat hose using SeaLand Hose Heaters.
- 6. Follow the hose connection procedure on pages 34-36.
- 7. Double clamp all hose connections, rotating clamps 180.
- 8. Use only RIGID PIPING for any runs containing standing sewage.
- 9. Follow solvent bonding procedure per page 11.

#### Section III

# Section IV: Holding Tanks

### SeaLand holding tanks available in MANY configurations



Rotationally molded, polyethylene holding tanks, which have thick walls and are resistant to corrosion, are recommended.





### **Conventional Layout**



Use RIGID PVC pipe for any locations of standing sewage.

Section IV

# SeaLand Simplified Holding Tank Layout



- Vacuum flushing action keeps sewage from accumulating between toilet and vacuum generator.
- Sewage collects in the holding tank only.
- Note: vented loop is only needed if top of the toilet is below the waterline.

# Holding Tank Locations

- 1. The BEST location for a holding tank is at an elevation lower than the vacuum pump.
- Allow room above the tank for attaching inlet and outlet fittings, vent fittings and level indicator cap.
- All flexible hose runs should be installed to drain into the holding tank or to the seacock.
   If runs of standing sewage cannot be avoided, use RIGID pipe.
  - Better to use vacuum source to lift sewage, not to push sewage with pump.



Section IV

# If the holding tank MUST be located above the vacuum source...



vacuum generator, but in layouts with no alternatives, follow the above guidelines.

# **Use Diptubes**

#### **Conventional Discharge**



Recommended Discharge



- Diptubes can be added to existing SeaLand or any holding tank.
- The engineered angle on diptubes will reduce the possibility of plugging.
- Angled suction fitting also lowers the tank contents to provide maximum liquid pumpout.
- Diptubes eliminate standing liquid in the discharge hose, eliminating the possibility of odor permeation.
- Diptube connection on top of tank allows for increased tank length (A).

# **Use Vent Filters**



3. Easy access must be allowed to replace the vent filters!

# **Discharge Pumps**



The maximum vertical distance recommended on the discharge side is feet 13.

To calculate the pump discharge head, take the following two measurements and add them together:

- X. The vertical height from the discharge outlet of the pump to the highest point in the discharge line
- Y. The distance below the waterline of the discharge thru-hull if connected directly to a seacock.

X + Y = feet Maximum Total Head 13 feet

Vented loops are mandatory when the toilet is or may be below the water line (due to heeling or loading).

#### Sectio IV

# Level Indicators for Holding Tanks



# **Critical Guidelines – Holding Tanks**

- 1. Do not pump to the holding tank if possible, use vacuum to lift sewage.
- 2. Rigid pipe must be used for runs where standing sewage may collect.
- 3. Hose runs into and out of the holding tank should be made through the top of the tank.
- 4. If layout must pump up, 6 feet (1.83 m) is maximum allowable head and a rigid stand pipe must be used.
- 5. Use diptubes to eliminate discharge lines that contain standing sewage.
- 6. Be sure that vent filter lines do not have low spots that trap liquid.
- 7. Allow easy access to replace vent filters.
- 8. Any probe lengths and float switches must be positioned properly at installation.

# Section V:

# **Critical Guidelines – Electrical System**

1. Each pump (or vacuum generator) must have its own circuit breaker or fuse.

12v pump draws 6 amps, recommend 10 amp fuse and 12-14 gage wire (2.1-3.3mm) 24v pump draws 3 amps, recommend 5 amp fuse and 14-16 gage wire (1.3-2.1mm)

- 2. Always use stranded copper wire (preferably tinned).
- 3. Always use crimp type connectors. Do not use wire nuts (they corrode).
- 4. Follow part specific wiring diagrams as outlined in Owner's Manual.
- 5. Wire size must be appropriate for the installation per ABYC/ISO wiring practices.

# Section VI: System Checkout

### Before energizing the system, check the following:

- ✓ Key system components (vacuum generators, wye valves, seacocks, etc.) are labeled appropriately (port, starboard, forward, aft, guest, etc.).
- ✓ Toilet(s) mounted securely.
- ✓ Vacuum tank(s) mounted securely.
- ✓ Pump(s) mounted securely.
- ✓ Holding tank is vented correctly.
- All connections have double hose clamps installed tight and rotated 180.
- ✓ No kinks or sharp bends in hose.
- ✓ No crushed or partially collapsed hose.
- ✓ Holding tank mounted securely.
- System must be winterized per page 56 instructions for areas with temperatures below freezing.
   Section VI

# **Power On Check**

- ✓ Pressurize water system.
- ✓ Energize vacuum system.
- ✓ Hold flush valve open on each toilet for 30 seconds to charge vacuum pump with water. Assure that sufficient water has circulated through the system to wet pump valves before proceeding with the following test procedure. Do not test system dry.
- ✓ After closing toilet flush valve, note time it takes for pump to shut off. Vacuum pump should shut off within one minute.
- ✓ Inspect inlet water connections on toilet(s) for leaks.
- ✓ Turn off power to the pump and let the system sit for three hours. Re-establish power to the vacuum pump. If the pump turns on, there is a vacuum leak. Use the Digital Vacuum Gauge Instructions per pages 57-58 to troubleshoot the leak.
- ✓ Winterize the system to prevent freeze problems by flushing the system with antifreeze or draining all water from the water valve assembly (see following page).

# Winterizing the System

- 1. Thoroughly flush the system with fresh water.
- 2. Empty the holding tank.
- 3. Shut off the water supply to the toilet and remove the inlet waterline.
  - 4. Push the flush lever until all water is drained from the toilet and water valve.
  - 5. Drain potable water tank.
  - 6. Add antifreeze to potable water tank. The antifreeze should be pink and contain no alcohol. DO NOT DILUTE the antifreeze with water.
  - 7. Reconnect the water inlet to the toilet. Flush the antifreeze through the system into the holding tank.
  - 8. Empty the holding tank.
- Draining water from the water valve

Flushing

antifreeze

with

- 1. Remove the brass cap from the bottom of the water valve.
- 2. Depress the flush pedal to allow water to drain out of the toilet.
- 3. Allow all water to drain out of water valve and water inlet line.
- 4. Reattach the brass cap to the bottom of the water valve. (Be careful not to strip the plastic threads on water valve body.)

# Determine the System Leak Rate

Use SeaLand's Digital Vacuum Gauge (P/N 318530003) to confirm the system leak rate and find the leak.

- Be sure that water has circulated through the system and the duckbill valves are wet. Turn off water to toilet.
- 2. Follow the instructions included with the vacuum gauge to determine the leak rate.

Digital gauge measures vacuum in 1/100 Hg in.

Reads 8-hour leak rate in 15 minutes!





Drop in Vacuum (15 min)	Extrapolated time between pump cycles		
> .2" Hg (not acceptable)	2.5 hours		
*.15" Hg (acceptable)*	3.3 hours		
.10" Hg (good)	5.0 hours		
.05" Hg (very good)	10.0 hours		

\* Maximum acceptable leak rate\*

Refer to SuperTech manual for instructions on using the gauge with a vacuum tank and pump.



# Section VII: System Troubleshooting

#### 1. Water will not stay in the bowl.





#### 4. Water does not shut off in toilet (toilet overflows).



#### 5. Water does not enter toilet bowl properly.



#### 6. Cannot lift flush lever to add water to the bowl.



#### 8. Water is leaking from the rear of the toilet bowl.

#### 9. Water is leaking from the toilet bowl/base connection.

The bowl-to-base clamp ring may be loose. Check the bowl-to-base clamp ring by removing the base cover. Tighten band clamp around the the base and bowl until very snug (65 inch-pounds). Is the water still leaking? The internal ball seals may be worn or defective. Replace the ball seals. Water should no longer be leaking. The ball seals may be misaligned. Be sure the ball seals are centered over the flush ball and in the center of the base. Reposition if necessary. Is the water still leaking? YES

#### 10. Pump is running too often between flushes (more than once every 3 hours).

Determine the system leak rate before starting per Digital Gauge Instructions.



#### 11. Pump will not shut off.

Determine the system leak rate before starting per Digital Gauge Instructions.

![](_page_65_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_66_Figure_0.jpeg)

#### 13. Vacuum pump runs too slowly, very hot, or blows fuses frequently.

![](_page_67_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### 14. Toilet will not flush. (No vacuum)

Also see problem #3.

![](_page_68_Figure_2.jpeg)

Blockages may also be caused by the following

- 1. Improper operation of the toilet. *Mare sure toilet is being operated correctly and each person using the toilet knows the correct operating procedure.*
- 2. Flushing foreign objects down the toilet. DO NOT flush any non-dissolving items (I.e. sanitary napkins, facial tissue, paper towels, etc.) or excessive toilet tissue down toilet. Rapid-dissolving SeaLand® brand toilet tissue is best.

The duckbill valves in the pump may have inverted due to a clogged discharge line or closed seacock. *Replace the duckbill valves.* The toilet should now be flushing properly.

#### 15. Pump leaks water internally or externally (may emit an odor).

![](_page_69_Figure_1.jpeg)

### Warning

Pump starts automatically. Turn off power before servicing.

### Notes: