



*Owners Manual*  
*Unilift*

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## Introduction

Thank you for purchasing the Horcher Unilift Series lift. Please take the time to read this manual carefully and to familiarize yourself with its contents before using the lift for the first time. If anything is unclear, or if you require further information, please contact your authorized Horcher Medical Systems Distributor before using it.

The Horcher Unilift Series has been designed and manufactured to the highest standards and has proven itself to be an invaluable aid to thousands of people with restricted mobility and their caregivers over many years. The Unilift can be installed in almost unlimited configurations from simple single track systems to room covering transversal systems, covering several rooms in homes, hospitals and institutional settings. With various spreader bar options and a comprehensive range of slings, we are confident, that the Unilift will provide the solution you have been looking for.

Contact our USA Corporate Office for further information or service:

Horcher Lifting Systems, Inc.  
1884 NW 57<sup>th</sup> ST  
Ocala, FL 34475

Phone: 1-800-582-8732  
Fax: 1-866-378-3318

## Safety Advice

### Caution!

Read instructions for the Unilift and accessories carefully before using the lift. A thorough understanding of the contents of instruction guides is essential. Only trained and knowledgeable personnel should use the equipment.

This Owners Manual contains important information about the use of the Unilift System. All personnel who use this product must be familiar with its contents. Keep the Owners Manual where it is easily accessible for the users.

Before using the Unilift for the first time, make sure that:

- The lift and its accessories is assembled and installed according to the instructions.
- All parts are correctly and securely fastened to the Unilift Systems.
- Personnel using the Unilift are properly trained in the use of the equipment.

Before using the Unilift make sure that:

- The lift and all accessories show no signs of damage or wear.
- The sling and its straps are correctly and safely attached.
- The patient sits safely in the sling.

We do not recommend using the Unilift Series independently of a caregiver. If it has to be used independently, please ensure that you have some form of back up safety system e.g. cell phone, emergency call systems available.

Before lifting, always tell the patient what you are going to do and, where possible, make sure that the patient is willing to help.

Make sure that the transfer path is clear of obstacles e.g. furniture, pets etc.

Before lifting ensure that all straps of slings are connected to the hooks on the spreader bar and that the shoulder straps are of equal length and the leg straps are of equal length.

Before use, visually check the track, lift and sling. Do not use if you notice any defect.

Make sure that the lifting strap is directly above the patient before you commence lifting. Doing otherwise will cause the patient to sway.

Do not use strong detergents to clean the lift. A damp clean cloth should suffice.

Using unauthorized equipment with the Unilift Series or repairs carried out by unauthorized personnel may result in personal injury and will also void any or all warranties and guarantees.

## Warranty

All mechanical and electrical components of the Horcher GmbH "UNILIFT", excluding the primary strap and any slings have a two year warranty from the date of the original purchase and delivery, providing such defect is the result of poor craftsmanship or inherent defect in component material and not the result of improper use or handling. The warranty shall only apply if the installation has been paid for in full. This warranty does not affect any statutory rights.

Please call our USA Corporate Office for a full Warranty policy and exemptions.

## Using the Unilift

Horcher GmbH has been designing and manufacturing hoists since 1986 and we take pride that the UNILIFT is used by individuals, families and professionals in private residences, hospitals, nursing homes and a variety of other settings throughout Europe and North America.

The UNILIFT can help you achieve greater mobility and freedom and we have found it to be of particular benefit to both user and carers who have to operate in areas where space is at a premium.

The UNILIFT can be installed in virtually unlimited configurations to meet practically any personal lifting need. Just a few track configurations are shown below. With imagination and creativity the user can design track routes to fit their own living space - if you have a design in mind and want to discuss it's viability please contact your nearest authorized Horcher supplier.

## Operating Instructions

Only suppliers who have been trained and authorized by Horcher GmbH should give detailed instruction as to the safe use of the UNILIFT.

Only Horcher GmbH sling systems should be used with the UNILIFT. Improper use of the hoist or the use of unauthorized equipment or repairs could result in personal injury and invalidate any warranty or guarantee.

Caution must always be exercised when operating the UNILIFT.

## Hand Controls

– the UNILIFT is available in versions with 2, 4,6 and 8 functions.

2 function controls – motors up/down

4 function controls – motors up/down/left & right

6 function controls – motors up/down/left/right/forwards & backwards

8 function controls – motors up/down, left/right, forward/backward and has two addition functions for auxiliary fuctions

Each of these options is available with either air pressure hand controls or electric hand controls.

## Air Pressure hand Controls

Air pressure hand controls are completely free of electrical components and can be operated safely in water without causing malfunction. If required they can be operated by mouth.

## Electrical hand Controls

Electrical hand controls are safe for use in damp areas but should not be immersed in water.

## Fitting the Sling

HORCHER has a comprehensive range of slings designed to meet your individual requirements. Please contact your authorized Horcher distributor for further details. The description which follows is for one of our most popular slings – the Universal.

The Universal sling is designed to support the patient's back while also providing access to most of the patient's rear end. It consists of a portion that supports the patient's back, and two leg straps. The Universal sling can be applied in either a reclined or seated position:

To apply the sling in a reclined position either lift the upper body enough to slide the sling behind the back or, alternatively, roll the patient onto their side whilst placing the sling behind their back. Gently roll the patient back onto the sling and pull the sling through to the other side of the body. The leg straps wrap under and up between each of the patient's legs. Alternatively, to adduct (close) the patient's legs pull each strap under both legs and attach to the outer points of the spreader bar.

To apply in a seated position, start at the shoulders and gently slip the sling behind the patient's back. Then work the sling down past the hips and the surface of the seat. The leg straps are wrapped under and up and between the patient's legs as described above. We recommend placing the straps as high up on the thigh as possible to ensure maximum comfort during lifting.

## How to attach the sling to the lift

Like most slings, the Horcher Universal has four straps - two on each side of the sling "shoulders" and two at the bottom, one for each leg. These straps are attached to the hooks of the spreader bar. **IMPORTANT** – all four straps must be attached to the spreader bar before lifting the patient. Normally the shoulder straps are attached to the outer hooks and the leg straps are attached to the inner hooks. To adduct (close) the legs as described above in 'Fitting the Sling', all 4 straps are fitted to the outer hooks.

The straps are fitted with three loops allowing three different strap lengths – long, medium or short. The longer length on the leg straps will place the patient in a more upright position and the shorter length places the patient in a more reclined position. The longer length on the shoulder straps places the patient in a more reclined position and the shorter length in a more upright position. Please consider the patient's comfort and any physical restrictions when deciding which length of straps to use. In all circumstances please ensure that the shoulder straps are of equal length and that the leg straps are of equal length. If you do not, the patient will be lifted unevenly!

Attaching a sling to a motorized patient positioner:

Motorized patient positioners are either designed to be used with slings fitted with clips or slings fitted with loops. The four clips fit over and lock onto the four pins at the end of the patient positioner and the loops attach to four hooks on the patient positioner. The two shoulder clips or loops attach to the shoulder pins or hooks and the two leg clips or loops attach to the two pins or hooks found either side of the patient positioner leg bar.

## Lifting and Lowering the Patient

To prevent swaying, the lift box should always be positioned directly above the patient prior to lifting. Attach the sling to the spreader bar as described above. To lift the patient press the ↑ "UP" button on the hand controls. To lower the patient, press the ↓ "DOWN" button on the hand controls. The hand controls for any C SERIES lift fitted with a motorized patient positioner will have at least two additional buttons. One button – on the left – depicts a person in a reclined position and pressing this button brings the patient into a more reclined position. To bring the patient into a seated position, press the button on the right which depicts a person seated.

Please take care to prevent the strap from twisting when it is being wound into the lifting box.

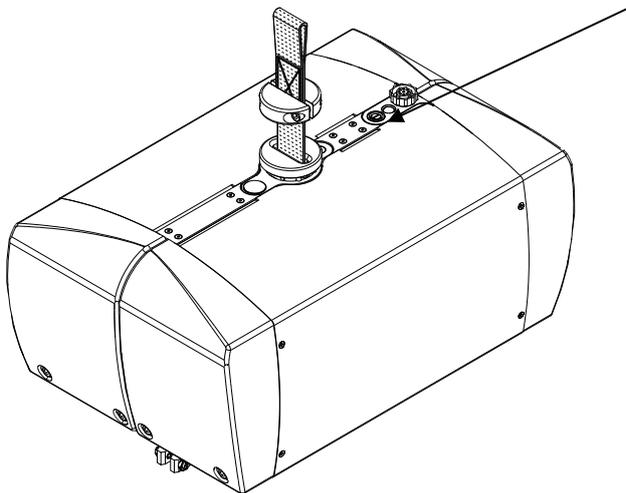
## Emergency Controls

Please make sure that you are familiar with the emergency controls before using the UNILIFT. If you have to use the emergency let down controls do not use the lift again. Contact your supplier to arrange for it to be repaired.

All UNILIFT models are fitted with three controls to lower the lifts spreader bar in an emergency – two electrical and one mechanical.

Electrical emergency let down – if the hand controls fail to work properly, press the black button (arrow) on the bottom of the lift to lower the lifting strap. A red or pink cord can be used as additional emergency lowering and on / off Switch . With the lift in the On position, pull cord once and release to turn lift Off. Pull again and hold cord for emergency lowering. Call Horcher Lifting Systems, Inc. for Service if this is used. NOTE: The unit will not charge while in the Off position.

Mechanical emergency let down – If both the hand controls and the electrical emergency lowering devise fail, the UNILIFT is fitted with a mechanical emergency let down. Remove the end cap by using a #5mm Allen Key. Use a small Phillips head screw driver to remove screws on bottom of lift that connects the end caps to the metal casing. When the end caps are removed, insert a #6mm Allen Key into the end of the motor and turn counter clockwise to lower. If this unit is being used in a facility, please call your maintenance department for repair and notify Horcher.



As an optional extra, the standard spreader bar for the UNILIFT can come complete with an integrated secondary lifting strap which is operated by removing the security nut in the middle of the spreader bar and slowly turning the handle anticlockwise. UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES can the lift be used again until it has been repaired by an authorized technician.

## Battery and Charging Systems

Your Unilift has been installed either with a charging station or continuous charge system. Both systems have a red light on the bottom cover of the lift box. Every time you press a button on the hand control the red light will flash for an instant. This does NOT mean that the battery is low.

Charging station – If the red light at the bottom of the lift is continuously on, the battery is low and should be charged immediately by parking it in the charging station. When charging, the green charger light will glow and fade out to indicate that the batteries are fully charged, and the charger will automatically turn itself off. You cannot overcharge the batteries and we recommend that they be left on charge when the lift is not in use.

Continuous charge – continuous charge systems have copper strips inside the track which charge the batteries all the time. The green light on the charger control will glow when the lift is operated.

Fuse:

Your Horcher Unilift is supplied with a spare 6.3AMP fuse. Should the lift fail to work, please unscrew the fuse holder with a screw driver or coin to see if it has blown. If it has blown, replace it with the spare and call for service.

## Servicing

We recommend that your lift be serviced at least once every twelve months by an authorized technician. Please contact your dealer for details of servicing contracts.

## Technical Information

Maximum Load .....	up to 1000 pounds
Maximum Lifting Capacity .....	1320 pounds
Maximum static load.....	3000 pounds
Maximum travel distance (up and down) .....	8.0 feet
Maximum speed .....	6-8 feet per minute
Battery .....	24 volt DC
Battery Capacity .....	7,2ah
Battery charger.....	110 volts AC /24VDC-1 AMP
Maximum current.....	6.3 amps

### **EC-Declaration of Conformation**

Further to Annex VII of the Council Directive 93/42/EWG of the 14th of June 1993 relating to medical devices

Horcher GmbH of Philipp-Reis-Str.3, 61130 Nidderau, Germany declare  
**CEILING LIFT SYSTEM „UNILIFT“**

Serial Number. ....

to be in compliance with the essential Requirements of the Council Directive 93/42/EG of 14 June 1993 Annex 1.

Nidderau, 13/01/2009

Stefan Horcher  
Managing Director  
Horcher GmbH

## Equipment data

Inventory-No. \_\_\_\_\_

Equipment \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Equipment \_\_\_\_\_

Factory-No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Manufacturer/ Importer \_\_\_\_\_

Supplier \_\_\_\_\_

Year of purchase \_\_\_\_\_

Functional Testing  
 on: \_\_\_\_\_  
 by: \_\_\_\_\_

Instruction  
 Person Responsible \_\_\_\_\_

☐Date	MFG / Supplier	Name of the person responsible for Instructions	Signature

Personnel / User

Date	Instructors Name	Name of person instructed	Signature <input type="checkbox"/>

Technical Safety Controls

Date	Performed by Person / Firm	Solution	Observation <input type="checkbox"/>

Maintenance Service  
(Maintenance / Inspection / Repairs)

Date	Performed by Person / Firm	Short description of Maintenance <input type="checkbox"/>

Functional disturbances or repeated operating mistakes

Date	Description of problems

Horcher GmbH has a policy of continuous product development and reserves the right to change designs without prior notice.

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