

# **Operating Instructions Merlin - Clay target launcher**



## WARNING

Clay target launchers can be dangerous and must be treated with great care at all times to avoid accidents.

Never place any bodily part into the path of any mechanical piece whilst the machine is in motion or likely to be so.

Specifications:

150 target Carousel. Weight: 42.5 kg / 94 lbs Length: 527mm / 20 ½" Width: 440mm / 17½ " Height: 635mm / 25" (On tilt base)

You must treat a clay target launcher with the same caution that you would treat a loaded gun. <u>Assume at all times that a clay target launcher is armed and loaded and treat it accordingly</u>



This document must be read in full before attempting to operate the machine

#### Preface:

Every effort has been made to ensure that the information contained within this manual is complete, accurate and up-to-date. Promatic International assumes no responsibility for errors beyond its control.

#### Conventions used within this manual:

**Trap:** Your Merlin - Clay target launcher—commonly known as a clay trap and may be referred to in this manual as "The trap" or "The machine"

#### Warnings & Cautions:



**Warning:** This section contains instructions which, if ignored or carried out incorrectly, may result in risk of personal injury.



**Caution:** This section contains instructions which, if ignored or carried out incorrectly, may result in malfunction or damage to the equipment



**Note:** This section contains additional information which the user may find useful, but is not essential to the operation of the product.



#### 12v DC Power Source:

This product is designed to be powered from a 12v DC battery, it SHOULD NOT BE DIRECTLY CONNECTED TO MAINS AC POWER

**Battery:** Where a trap is connected to any other suitable power source i.e. a Transformer - the relevant sections of instructions should still be observed, i.e. "Disconnect the battery" and applied to this or any other power source.





EYE PROTECTION MUST BE WORN WHEN WORKING ON OR AROUND A CLAY TARGET LAUNCHER AS SMALL SHARP PIECES OF CLAY MAY BE EJECTED DURING NORMAL USE.





#### Connecting the battery:

Ensure you are behind the machine, the <u>ARM/DISARM</u> switch is in the **OFF** position and it is otherwise safe to proceed. Connect the red cable to the Red (+) terminal and the black cable to the Black (-) Terminal. Ensure the terminal fasteners are tight, the battery is securely strapped to its tray and the charger has been removed.



Never approach the machine from the front or sides, Do not assume the trap is safe even without electrical power it may still be armed.

#### **Electrical Troubleshooting :**

**Trap fails to re-arm** - after a period of prolonged use the trap fails to re-arm itself and is found to be stalled (may also be making a humming sound) then this is an indication that the battery is depleted, and the voltage has fallen too low to operate the trap. Disconnect the battery immediately and re-charge (or fit a replacement fully-charged battery).

Although the battery may appear to have recovered, the trap should not be used any further than necessary to make it safe as this may cause damage to the motor, Battery or other electrical circuits.

**Trap fires by itself** - Disconnect any external cable and switch the trap back on. If the trap arms normally then the command cable is faulty. If the trap continues to fire, switch the machine off and disconnect the battery. Check the roller switch is moving freely and an audible click can be heard when it is moved. Re-test the machine. If the machine still fires by itself then the Roller switch is faulty and must be replaced.

**Circuit breaker has operated** - The battery may have been incorrectly fitted (terminals reversed) or an excessive amount of current was drawn either due to a fault or obstruction within the trap.



If the circuit breaker has tripped due to an obstruction DO NOT AS-SUME THE TRAP IS SAFE it may still be armed with the obstruction holding back the energy from the spring - carefully clear the obstruction whilst remaining in the safe area behind the trap BE AWARE of the path of the throwing arm AND the debris that may be ejected.

### Positioning the machine

- 1. Clay Target Launchers must be situated on firm level ground in a position that will allow unrestricted access to rear of machine.
- 2. There must be no obstructions to the path of the throwing arm.
- 3. Ensure that the power supply can be easily disconnected and cables cannot become tangled in any part of the mechanism.
- 4.

## Firing the machine

- 1. Turn the <u>ON/OFF</u> or **O** switch (if fitted) to the ON or **I** position and set the <u>ARM/DISARM</u> switch to the <u>ARM/LOAD</u> position. The machine will move automatically and arm itself ready to launch a loaded clay.
- 2. Press the **<u>FIRE</u>** button on the command cable to throw a clay.
- 3. The machine will fire every time the **FIRE** button is pressed and will automatically rearm itself, until disarmed and switched off or disconnected.

### Disarming the machine

- To disarm the machine push the <u>ARM/DISARM</u> switch upwards to the <u>DIS-ARM</u> position and immediately release (long enough for the trap to fire, but not giving the machine a chance to rearm).
- 2. Turn the <u>ON/OFF</u> or **O** switch (if fitted) to the ON or **O** position and disconnect the battery.



Ensure the machine is stable on firm level ground before use. Bolt the machine to a solid base or the Optional Trolley Base.

ALWAYS disarm the machine before any loading, adjustment or maintenance. ALWAYS load clays from rear and ONLY if the machine is disarmed and safe. NEVER approach the machine from the front or sides. ALWAYS from the rear. NEVER allow children or untrained persons to approach or touch the machine. NEVER move an armed/loaded machine. ALWAYS disarm and disconnect battery. REMOVE the main throwing spring before Transport in a vehicle.

**BE AWARE** of the fall zone of both broken and unbroken clays and that a change in wind direction will affect this.

#### Safe Mode Procedure - Warning: Stand at rear of machine only

**1.** Disarm the machine by flicking the <u>ARM/DISARM</u> switch upwards towards the <u>DISARM</u> position and immediately releasing (long enough for the trap to fire, but not giving the machine a chance to rearm). The Gearbox block (A rectangular block attached to the gearbox shaft) should stop in a position pointing towards the front of the machine.

**2.** If the Gearbox block is pointing directly towards the front of the machine, push the <u>ARM/DISARM</u> switch momentarily in direction of <u>DISARM/NUDGE</u> just enough to allow the block past its forward pointing position.

**3.** If the block has gone too far, rearm the machine and then disarm again until the desired position is achieved.

**4.** Disconnect the battery/power source from the machine once the block is in the correct position.

**5.** With the Gearbox block now pointing just past the forward pointing position, the throwing arm can be pushed slowly, **USING THE PALM OF THE HAND ONLY**, around counter clockwise .

**6.** As the throwing arm gets to the firing position (pointing direct to the back of the machine) the spring will take over, at which point the drive bolt on the Gearbox block stops the arm, and prevents it from firing.

This is **SAFE MODE** the arm is now trapped between the drive bolt in one direction and locked on the one-way bearing within the trap, it cannot move or release again until power is applied and the <u>ARM/DISARM</u> switch operated.



ALWAYS disarm the machine before carrying out loading, adjustment or maintenance.

#### **Adjustment: Elevation**

#### Setting Elevation angle

Trajectory of clays are from approximately 26 - 50 degrees.

Loosen handwheel nut as shown, tilt to desired angle, re-tighten handwheel .





Be aware that if machine is already tilted upwards, when the handwheel is subsequently undone the machine will jolt forward. Support the weight of the machine from the top of the carousel when adjusting the elevation angle.

#### Adjustment: Setting up knife edges

The trap has been factory set to a standard Promatic clay, however it may be necessary to re-adjust the knife edges to suit the differing thickness of clay targets from different manufacturers.

Place one clay target on the top plate of the machine and slide it half way under the two knife edges.

Using a 10mm spanner/wrench, adjust the height of the inner and outer leading edge of each blade. It is desirable to have no less than 0.5mm clearance between the underside of the knife blades and the horizontal shoulder of the clay.





#### **Adjustment: Spring Tension**

Spring adjustment is always easier if the spring attachment point is at its rearmost position, this relieves the spring of a large proportion of it's tension making adjustment much easier as well as reducing wear on the spring adjustment mechanism.

To achieve this, first perform the Safe Mode Procedure (see page **6**) to put the machine into safe mode and then nudge forward until the throwing arm projects forward from the front of the machine. At this point stop nudging and disconnect the battery.



**Decrease tension**—Using the handwheel loosen spring to desired position. Hand tighten inside nut to back of frame and clamp with a further turn of the handwheel.

**Increase tension**—Loosen handwheel one turn, then adjust the inner nut to allow the spring room to pull back. Using the handwheel tighten spring to desired position. Hand tighten inside nut to back of frame and clamp with a further turn of the handwheel.



Important: leave 30mm (1 3/16") thread length between inside nut and spring coil. Increasing spring tension up to full length of thread will seriously detriment the performance of the machine and will cause spring damage or failure.





#### WARNING BEFORE ADJUSTMENT (Arm timing)

Part of this procedure requires you to work very close to the trap - before proceeding be sure you understand and have practised the procedure for putting the trap into safe mode (this can be found on page 6 of this manual) and fully understand when the trap is safe and when it is not.

#### Adjustment: Throwing arm timing

Perform the Safe Mode Procedure found on page 6 of this manual. To correctly time the machine, the Crank Arm must be pointing directly forwards with the bolts on the crank arm and gearbox crank touching. Repeat the Safe Mode Procedure until this is achieved. This is to prevent the arm firing. (If in any doubt, perform this procedure after first removing the spring). **Disconnect the battery at this point**. Loosen the arm clamp block and rotate the arm clockwise until the front of the yellow friction strip lines up between the centres of the two bolts to the rear of the machine. Re-tighten the arm clamp block firmly. Your trap is now correctly timed. Re-assemble if necessary and test.



#### **Spare Parts List:**

For parts not listed please call Promatic or you local dealer / service agent.





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#### **CERTIFICATE & DECLARATION OF CONFORMITY FOR CE MARKING**

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#### Promatic International Ltd. declares that their:

Clay Target Launchers listed as the following models Elite, Hawk, Superhawk, Harrier, Harrier ABT/Wobble, Eagle, Eagle Battue, Hobby / Merlin, Ranger 8, Osprey/All American Ranger, Ranger Battue, Ranger ABT/Wobble, Sporter 400TT, Sporter 400TT ABT/Wobble, Super Sporter Battue, Super Sporter, Super Sporter Downhill Thrower, Super Sporter ABT/Wobble, Rabbit, Squirrel, Ranger Chondell, Chondell, Hunter Wobble, Huntsman, Huntsman XP, Fieldsman, Club Skeet, Pro Skeet, Int Skeet, Olympic Trap, Club 275 DTL/ATA, International DTL/ATA, Pro ABT/Wobble, Auto Trap DTL/ATA/ABT/Wobble, International Doubles DTL/ATA/Wobble and Sporter Doubles DTL/ATA/Wobble

> are classified within the following EU Directives: Machinery Directive 2006/42/EC Electromagnetic Compatibility Directive 2004/108/EC

and further conform with the following EU Harmonized Standards:

EN 12100-1:2003+A1:2009 EN 12100-2:2003+A1:2009 EN 61000-6-3:2007 EN 61000-6-1:2007

Dated: 19 April 2011 Position of signatory: Group Technical Director Name of Signatory: Graham Stephen Fair Signed/below:

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