


FERNO PXB Pool Extraction Board



User Manual

FERNO/MAN/0123/214-R4/UK
Stock No. 2003-0145

Read this Manual and Retain
for Future Reference 



Ferno UK Customer Services

Customer Service and product support are important aspects of each Ferno product. Please have the product serial number available when calling, and include it in all written communications. For technical support questions:

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ALL OTHER LOCATIONS

For assistance or information, please contact your Ferno distributor. If you do not have a Ferno distributor, please contact your nearest Ferno Customer Services office.

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Disclaimer

This manual contains general instructions for the use, operation and care of this product. The instructions are not all-inclusive. Safe and proper use of this product is solely at the discretion of the user. Safety information is included as a service to the user. All other safety measures taken by the user should be within and under consideration of applicable regulations and local protocol. Training on the proper use of this product must be provided before using this product in an actual situation.

Retain this manual for future reference. Include it with the product in the event of transfer to new users. Additional free copies are available upon request from Customer Relations.

Proprietary Notice

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Limited Warranty Statement

The products sold by Ferno are covered by a limited warranty, which is printed on all Ferno invoices. The complete terms and conditions of the limited warranty, and the limitations of liability and disclaimers, are also available upon request by calling Ferno on +44 (0) 1274 851999 or +44 (0) 1274 854511



Serial Number _____

Location: Foot-end, on the underside of the board



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USER MANUALS

To request additional user manuals, contact Ferno Customer Services, your Ferno distributor, or www.ferno.com.

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1 - SAFETY INFORMATION


1.1 Danger

Danger notices indicate an immediate hazardous situation which, if not avoided, will result in injury or death.

 DANGER
INSTALL/USE/OPERATE/MAINTAIN the product only as described in this manual.

1.2 Warning

Warning notices indicate a potentially hazardous situation which, if not avoided, could result in injury or death.

 WARNING
Improper use of the product can cause injury. Use the product only for the purpose described in this manual.
Untrained operators can cause injury or be injured. Permit only trained personnel to operate the product.
Improper operation can cause injury. Operate the product only as described in this manual.
An unattended casualty can be injured. Stay with the casualty at all times.
An unrestrained casualty can be injured. Use restraint straps to secure the casualty on the board.
Helpers can cause injury or be injured. Maintain control of the product, direct all helpers.
Improper maintenance can cause injury. Maintain the product only as described in this manual.
Improper parts and service can cause injury. Use only Ferno parts and Ferno-approved service on the product.
Modifying the product can cause injury and damage. Use the product only as designed by Ferno.
Attaching improper items to the product can cause injury. Use only approved items on the product.

1.3 Important

Important notices emphasise important usage or maintenance information. Failure to follow Important notices could result in damage to the product or property damage.

Important

1.4 Blood-borne Disease Notice

To reduce the risk of exposure to blood or other potentially infectious materials when using the product, follow the disinfecting and cleaning instructions in this manual.



2 - OPERATOR GUIDELINES

2.1 Operator Training

Operator using the product:

- Must read and understand this manual
- Must have full training on the proper use of the product
- Must have training on patient handling techniques and manual handling procedures
- Must have the physical ability to assist the casualty
- Must practice with the product before using it with a person / casualty
- Must keep training records. For a sample training record see page 16 or refer to RLSS training records.

Operating Training courses, manuals and videos:

For full training on the correct operation of the product & procedures for handling of casualty, please contact RLSS UK at <http://www.rlss.org.uk>

2.4 Daily Operator Duties

It is good practice for operators to check equipment daily. To check the Ferno PXB follow the procedures as described in this manual:

- Ensure that all components of the board are present and undamaged
- Ensure the product has no signs of visible damage
- Visually inspect the board to ensure it is fit for use



WARNING

**Untrained operators can cause injury or be injured.
Permit only trained personnel to operate the product.**

2.5 Using Additional Help

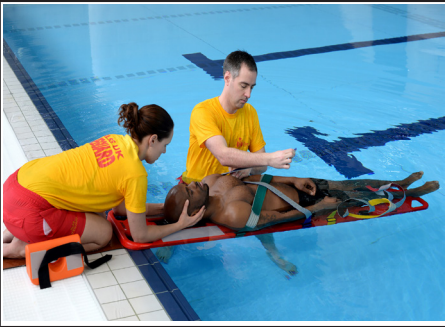



Operating Ferno PXB Pool Extraction board requires a minimum of two trained operators. They may need additional help when working in certain pool configurations.

- Operators positioned at the head-end and foot-end of the board must maintain control of the board at all times, follow the procedures they have been trained on, and direct all additional operators
- For freeboard pools up to a maximum of 30 cm, 3 trained operators are required to operate the board

Refer to the table below for suggested placement of operators in various pool configurations and operational scenarios

⚠ WARNING

Helpers can cause injury. Maintain control of the product at all times whilst directing other operators.

	Applying straps	Lifting PXB & casualty out of swimming pool
Deck level Pool		
Freeboard Pool (max 30cm)		

3 - ABOUT FERNO PXB

3.1 Description

The Ferno Pool Extraction Board (PXB) is a multi-purpose pool rescue board, designed to extract casualties from swimming pools and other environments.

The Ferno PXB is for professional use by a minimum of two trained operators (a qualified and competent lifeguard or an individual who is suitably trained and competent).

3.2 Features

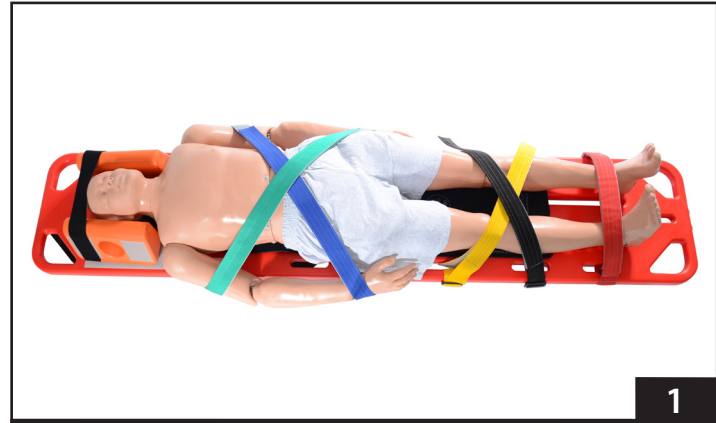
- Specifically designed board with hand-holds and strap-fixing holes around the side of the board
- Neutral-buoyancy flotation capability
- Buoyancy of the board is such that with the board anchored to the side of the pool, the casualty can be floated on the water surface once restrained immobilised, without the need for any floatation devices, but not so buoyant as to hinder holding the board down in the water when initially receiving the casualty at the pool-side
- Rubberised anchor mat attached to head-end of board, ensuring safe and effective anchoring of the board to the pool-side
- Durable edge-stitched Neoprene anti-slip mat, designed for use in water, attached to the board with straps using VELCRO® fixing.
- Straps made from durable polypropylene material, with easy-to-operate fixation system, using specially developed anti-bacterial VELCRO®
- Straps fully colour-coded, for ease of use and speed of deployment
- C-spine immobilisation headblocks contain anti-bacterial additives throughout, for improved infection control
- Anti-bacterial VELCRO® for attaching headblocks to the board
- Headblocks designed not to sink in water
- Board underside designed to give firm anchor against poolside whilst casualty being brought onto the board and immobilised

3.3 Benefits

- Reduce number of operators required to rescue casualty from pool to 2 (3 in a pool with freeboard)
- Speed of immobilising and extracting casualty improved, compared to Aquaboard
- Minimise manual handling risk during process of rescuing casualty from pool
- Reduced training required, as operating board is simpler and more intuitive to use
- Can also be used in place of manual assisted-lift procedure, for fast and safe extraction of unconscious casualties, eliminating all associated injury risks
- Suitable for use in most pools, due to minimal number of operators required and the various configuration of pools it has been designed to be used in
- Has been tested, and is suitable for use with casualties from the age of around 5 and upwards

WARNING

Improper use of the product can cause injury. Use the product only for the purpose described in this manual.




3.4 Product Overview

- Ferno PXB is a multi-purpose pool rescue board, designed to extract casualties from swimming pools and other environments.
- Developed by Ferno (UK) Ltd in partnership with RLSS (UK).
- Can be used at both shallow and deep-end, in deck-level pools and freeboard pools (not exceeding a freeboard height over 30 cm).
- Minimum depth of water in which PXB can be used is recommended at 50 cm
- Replaces previous 4-person operating procedures as used with Aquaboard.
- PXB can be operated with 2 operators in a deck-pool, 3 in a freeboard pool.
- Full head & body immobilisation for suspected spinal injury casualties, utilising a set of headblocks attached to the board using VELCRO®, with material headstrap and five restraint straps.
- The board is held to the side of pool by one operator kneeling on the attached anchor mat and holds the board at an angle in the pool. Casualty is then brought onto the board by one operator in the pool, casualty is strapped onto the board and immobilised. The board and restrained casualty are then extracted from the water in safe and a controlled manner, by dragging the board out using the hand-holds in the anchor mat.
- Minimises manual handling of casualty and subsequent injury risks to the casualty and rescuers.
- Speed of extraction with two rescuers in a deck-level pool can be completed in substantially less time than previously used Aquaboard.
- Board and procedure can also be used in replacement for manual assisted-lift, thereby further minimising injury risk when extracting an unconscious casualty.
- Board is principally designed as a pool extraction board and should not be used as a general spineboard for transferring casualty to hospital or other location. The board is not X-Ray, CT or MRI scan compliant.
- If casualty requires moving from the pool-side for further medical treatment, then they should be transferred using a Scoop operated by qualified paramedics.

Specifications	Imperial	Metric
Load Capacity	28 st / 400 lb	182 kg
Nett Weight	22 lb	10 kg
Board Construction	Cross-linked Polyethylene	
Base mat	Anti-slip Neoprene	
	5 in total	
	Green/Blue chest/waist straps, cross-strapped	
Restraint straps	Yellow/Black legs straps, cross-strapped	
	Red ankle strap	

Dimensions	Imperial	Metric
PXB - Board Length		
Minimum	78.7"	2000 mm
PXB - Board Width		
Overall	15.7"	400 mm
PXB - Board Thickness		
Board body	1.5"	40 mm
Overall (board and rail)	2.8"	70 mm
PXB overall depth with head blocks attached		
Maximum	7.8"	200 mm



Load Capacity

Inspect the product for any damage if the load capacity has been exceeded.

3.5 Compliance

Ferno PXB has been developed and tested in line with BS standard BS 8403:2002, "Specification for aquatic spineboards for recovering casualties in controlled aquatic conditions".

3.6 General Specifications

Specifications for the Ferno PXB are shown in the tables to the right. General specifications are rounded. Metric conversions are calculated before rounding the Imperial measurement.

Ferno reserves the right to change specifications without notice. For more information, contact Ferno Customer Support or your Ferno Distributor (see page 2).

- Length is the overall measurement of the board
- Nett weight is without anti-slip mat, restraint straps or headblocks

4 - SETUP AND INSTALLATION

4.1 Delivery of the Ferno PXB

The Ferno PXB is shipped in a cardboard packing box. Inside the box along with the board itself, you will find the neoprene anti-slip mat, head and body restraint straps and a set of headblocks. Before assembly check that all items are present;

- PXB red board with attached rubberised anchor mat
- Neoprene anti-slip mat
- A set of 5 colour-coded body restraint straps
- 2 x headblocks + 1 headstrap
- Wall mount bracket
- User manual

Options and accessories

Replacement items are available separately. (See page 15)

4.2 Restraint strap positioning

Before placing PXB in service, assign appropriate personnel to ensure the anti-slip mat, restraint straps and any accessories shipped with PXB are all correctly attached to the board.

Correct positioning of the 5 straps are shown in picture 2 above. For instructions on attaching a strap, see page 10.

Make sure to keep this user manual for future reference. For additional manuals, contact Ferno Customer Service (page 2).

4.3 Attachment of the anti-slip mat

With the concave side of the board face up, make sure the anti-slip mat is positioned on the board with the printed surface uppermost and the head icon at the top of the board. (Picture 3).

The anti-slip mat is attached to the back of the board using the VELCRO® straps (Picture 4). Starting at the head end, each tape is passed through the slots in the board and the VELCRO® tapes attach to each other behind the board. Make sure the straps are tight the ends tucked in the slots to prevent them from snagging.

Check that there are no loose tapes protruding from the back of the board.

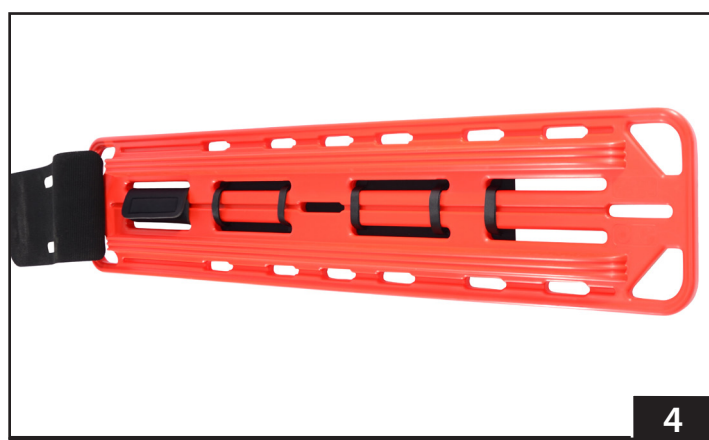
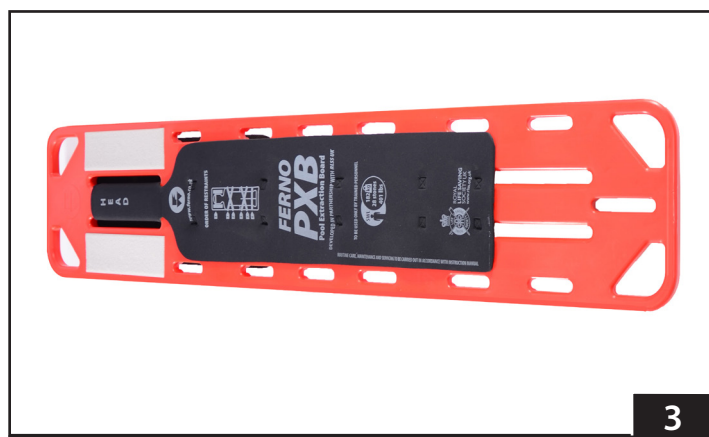
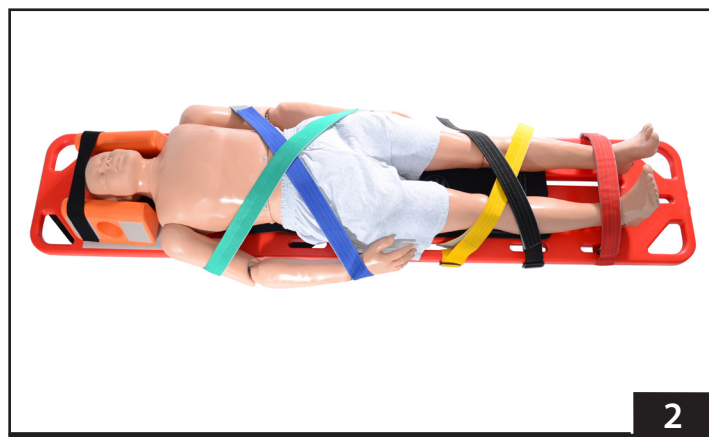
4.4 Location of PXB when not in use

The PXB should be located on the poolside for easy access, at a point specified within the pool centre's "Normal Operating Procedures" or as defined by the location's manager.

The board should be easily accessible and located as close as possible to the planned point of extraction from the pool. Some pools will specify where the board will be used to extract a casualty from the water. Where possible PXB should be used at the shallow end of the swimming pool

The supplied wall bracket should be used at all times to hold the board up on a suitable wall. The bracket should be screwed to the wall at an appropriate height such that the top of the board holds onto the bracket arms. The board should not be leaned against the wall with the base of the board sitting on the floor.

In an emergency the board will need to be prepared ready for use by moving the black head block strap onto one of the blocks and undoing the VELCRO® straps ready for use. It is important not to roll or crush the VELCRO® surface whilst the board is being stored as this can reduce the life expectancy of the straps.



4.5 Attachment of the restraint straps

The Restraint straps are attached to the hand-hold slots down either side of the board. The order and colour of the straps is important.

Before using the board, ensure that the straps are in the correct positions as per picture 6, and that all straps are tightly attached to the sides of the board.

When replacing or refitting a strap, make sure to maintain the same positioning and order. To attach a strap, pull the two parts of the strap apart separating the VELCRO® hook and loop. Taking the strap with the VELCRO® loop on it, pass the strap buckle under the board and back through the hand-hold slot. Then feed the strap back through the retaining buckle, and pull it as far as possible until it is tight, then feed the strap again through the next part of the buckle and pull tight.

Note that the orientation of the strap is important. The straps on the left side of the board, with VELCRO® loop on them, should be orientated such that the VELCRO® is facing upwards when the straps are laid out open as per picture 5. The strap should be orientated such that the VELCRO® is facing downwards when feeding it through the buckle when attaching to the board.

The straps on the right side of the board all should all have VELCRO® hook, and are orientated the opposite way to the straps on the left side, i.e. the VELCRO® should be facing downwards when straps are laid outwards as per picture 5, in other words the VELCRO® is facing upwards when feeding it through the buckle when attaching the strap.

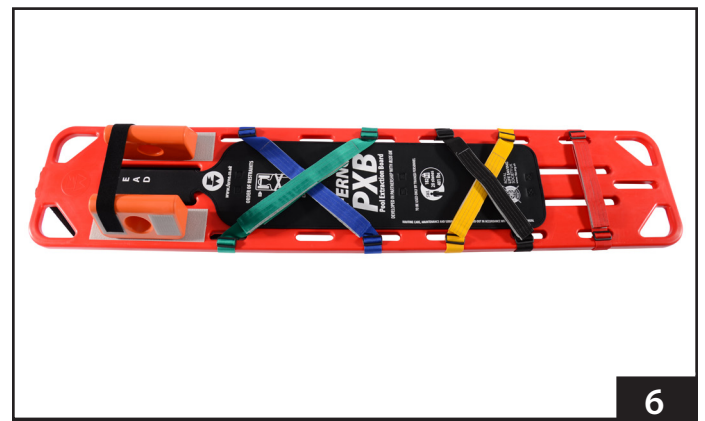
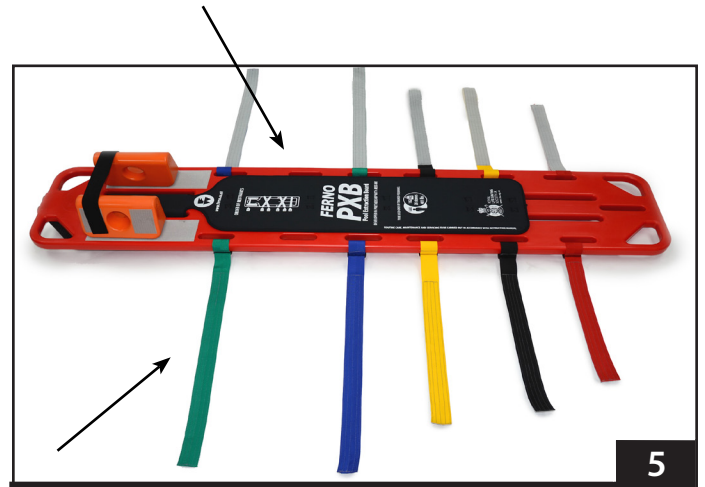
The straps are deployed by bringing both straps together and attaching the VELCRO® loop on the left side strap to the VELCRO® hook on the corresponding colour strap on the right side of the board, as per picture 6

The 2 chest/waist straps are cross-strapped, as well as the 2 leg straps, whereas the ankle strap is a single strap across the board.

The straps vary in length according their position and use, the blue and green chest/waist straps being longer than the yellow and black leg straps and the ankle strap being the shortest.

4.6 Preparing the straps for storage

Whether used purely for training or as a result of an emergency incident, the PXB restraint straps should always be cleaned immediately after use, in fresh water as a minimum, and preferably first washed down with soapy water and then rinsed with fresh water and allowed to dry naturally. This keeps the straps clean, minimises any effects of chlorine and salts, thereby maximising the lifetime of the straps.



WARNING

Attaching improper items to the product can cause injury.
Use only Ferno-approved items on the product.

5 - USING FERNO PXB

5.1 Before Using Ferno PXB Pool Extraction Board

- Before use, personnel who will work with the Ferno PXB must read and understand this manual. Appropriate skills and training are also required. See "Operator Skills and Training" on page 5
- Set up PXB, following the instructions in "Setup/Installation" on page 9.

5.2 General Guidelines for Use

- Medical advice is beyond the parameters of this manual.
- It is the users' responsibility to ensure safe practices for the casualty and themselves.
- A **minimum** of two trained operators is required for deck level pools and a minimum of three in a pool with a freeboard (max 30cms)
- Follow standard emergency patient-handling procedures when using Ferno PXB.
- Operators work together and maintain control of the board at all times.
- Operators **must** communicate with one another and use coordinated movements to operate the board.
- An operator **must** stay with the casualty at all times.
- **Always** use the straps to secure the casualty on the board.
- Operate only with the weight you can safely handle and within the SWL of the board. Use additional help when working with heavy loads. For placement of helpers, please refer to RLSS guidelines.
- Operating Training courses, manuals and videos: For full training on the correct operation of the product and procedures for handling of casualty, please contact RLSS (UK) at <http://www.RLSS.org.uk>

5.3 Preparing and using the board

The board should be first prepared on the poolside by separating the left side and right side restraint straps as per picture 7. The board should then be placed into the pool and held on the side of the pool as per picture 8, Operator 1 kneeling on the anchor mat to hold it in place, ensuring that the underside rail on the board is butted up to the side of the pool for best anchorage. Operator 1 should then remove the head blocks attached to the board and place them on the side of the pool, one either side of the board, with the headstrap still attached to one of the headblocks.

Ensure to:

Slide the board in a slow low and straight movement into the pool, holding each handle at the head-end of the board.

Lock the board into position by pulling back the board towards you until the underneath rail is against the poolside and the board is secure.

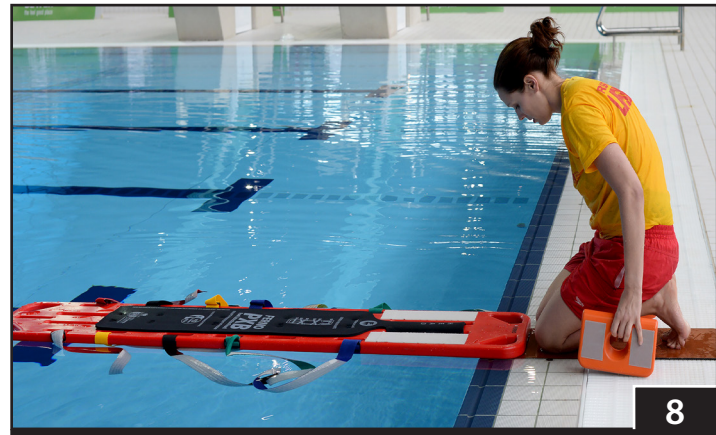
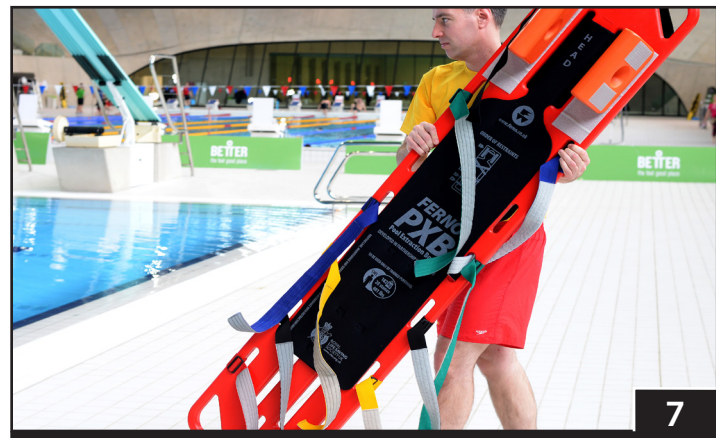
Kneel close to the board on the anchor mat, remove both head blocks together and place by one either side of you within in arms reach as this makes it easier to place the head blocks and submerging the board.

WARNING

Improper operation can cause injury. Operate the product only as described in this manual and as trained

An unattended casualty can be injured. Stay with the casualty at all times.

An unrestrained casualty can be injured. Always use the restraint straps to secure the casualty on the board.



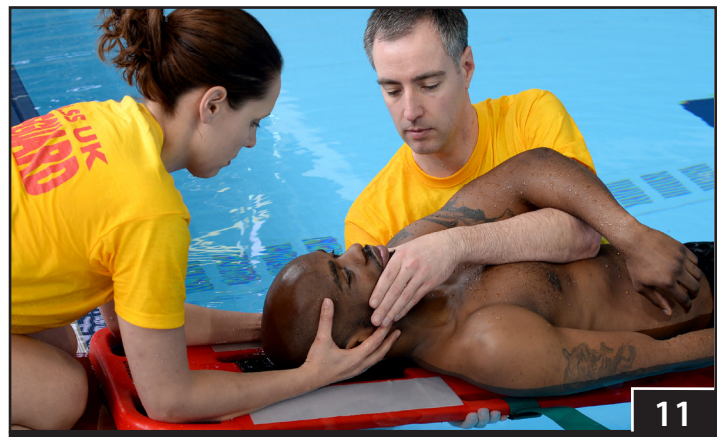
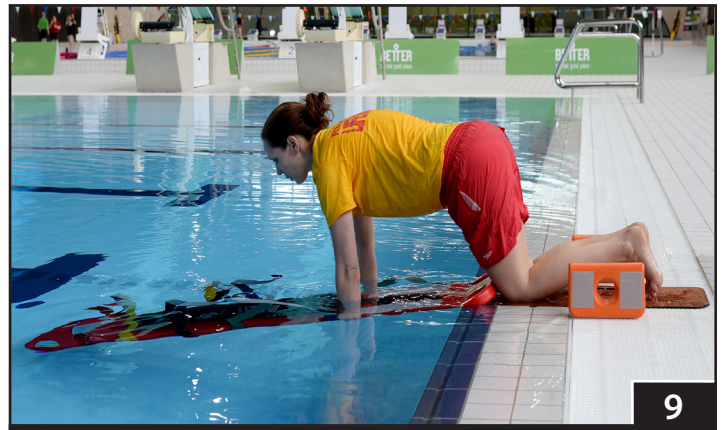
5.4 Submerging the Board

1. Operator 1 places their hands in the nearest strap-fixing holes on each side of the board.
2. Lean upper body forwards, using body weight with straight arms.
3. Keep arms straight and lean forwards using body weight, this will sink the PXB (Picture 9). This enables the casualty to be trowled onto the PXB.
4. Operator 1 communicates with operator 2 in the water to ensure casualty's body is in alignment with the board and operator 2 brings the casualty onto the board, ensuring the casualty's head is held in neutral alignment at all times using vice-grip technique, minimising any head movement.
5. Once the casualty has been brought into position as high up the board as possible, aiming for casualty's shoulders to be at the top of the wide black mat, their head will then be in between the two strips of VELCRO® where the head blocks attach Operator 1 then releases the downward force on the board by bending their elbows and leaning back, with their hands remaining in the board hand-holds. This will allow the board to raise up out of the water and support the casualty on the water surface. (Picture 10)
6. With the board now raised to the surface, Operator 2 removes their arm between the PXB and the casualty and places it under the board to stabilise it. (Picture 10)
7. Operator 1 then takes hold of the casualty's head (Picture 11)

5.5 Restraining the casualty

Once the casualty has been manoeuvred on to the board and Operator 1 is holding the casualty's head, the straps can be secured by Operator 2.

1. Apply the green strap first, then blue strap across the casualty's chest. Ensure the VELCRO® straps are firmly fastened, securing the casualty to the board. (Picture 12)
2. Operator 2 then takes over hold of the casualty's head by re-applying the top arm of the vice grip onto the casualty and reaching with other arm under the board to maintain stability of the board throughout.
3. Operator 1 aligns the headblocks with the casualty's shoulders, squeezing the blocks gently against either side of the casualty's head and set blocks in place simultaneously (ensure there is no hair underneath the head blocks).
4. Apply the short black VELCRO® strap across the blocks to secure in place (this may be across the casualty's forehead) (Picture 13)
5. Operator 2 then continues to restrain the casualty by applying the yellow and black leg cross-straps and finally the red ankle strap, ensuring that all straps are tightly holding the casualty.



5.6 Extracting the casualty

1. When the strapping is complete, operator 2 in the water must move to the foot end of the board and stabilise the board securely with both hands. (Picture 14)
2. Operator 1 on the side of the pool must then carefully stand whilst remaining in contact with the anchor mat at all times.
3. Using both hand-holds on the anchor mat, with a stable foot position, keeping close to the board, bend knees, keep back straight and lift the board (ready steady lift) (Picture 15). The lift should only be performed if the casualty is central on the board.
4. Lift only the amount necessary to clear the poolside edge, then immediately lower the board onto the side of the pool and in one movement carefully slide the board with casualty onto poolside. (Picture 16)
5. Operator 2 should apply upward lift if necessary and stabilise the PXB throughout the extraction, also assisting to slide the board fully out and onto the side of the pool until the board is completely laid out on the poolside. This can be achieved at pools with surround at least 2m in width (length of board). For narrower pool surrounds, refer to section 5.8.
6. Once on the side of the pool, the casualty can be medically examined and appropriate follow-up action carried out.
7. Note that the board should be kept at the poolside at all times and should not be used to transport the casualty to another location in the building or away from the building. If the casualty requires further medical treatment away from the poolside, then the casualty should be transferred onto a Scoop by attending paramedics and subsequently transferred to an ambulance or to alternative location.



5.7 Operation in swimming pools with a freeboard

1. For operation in a pool with a freeboard up to 30 cm, it is recommended to always use 3 operators, as outlined on page 6. Please refer to RLSS UK training and operating procedures for more details. Contact RLSS UK at <http://www.rlss.org.uk>

5.8 Use of PXB as replacement for manual assisted-lift

1. Ferno PXB can also be used to extract an unconscious casualty from the pool. In a deck level pool the headblocks, and black, yellow and red leg and ankle straps do not need to be used and only 1 of each of the green and blue chest straps needs to be deployed before extracting the casualty from the pool. Refer to RLSS training and operating procedures for more details.

5.9 Operating in pool with narrow surround

1. Ferno PXB can be used in pools where the poolside surround is so narrow that the board cannot be fully extracted from the pool due to limited space. The board can be extracted using a tested technique where the board is rotated after partially removing from the pool, as per picture 17. This alternative technique can be used in pools with surround between 1.25 and 2m wide. See picture 17. Refer to RLSS training and operating procedures for more details.



6 - MAINTENANCE

6.1 Maintenance Schedule

The product requires regular maintenance. Set up and follow a maintenance schedule. The table at right represents suggested minimum intervals for maintenance.

Keep maintenance records. For a sample record sheet, see "Maintenance Record" on page 17.

6.2 Cleaning the Restraint Straps

The restraint straps should be cleaned after each use. The straps should be washed down with warm, soapy water to remove chlorine and salt residues and then rinsed thoroughly with fresh water.

6.3 Cleaning the anti-slip mat

Clean down the anti-slip mat on the board after each use. This should be washed down with warm, soapy water and then rinsed thoroughly with fresh water.

6.4 Cleaning the board

1. Hand clean all surfaces of the board with warm soapy water, and then rinse thoroughly with fresh water.
2. Dry the board with a towel or allow it to dry naturally.

6.5 Regular Inspection of PXB

Ensure that PXB is regularly inspected by the Pool Manager or other person responsible for equipment in that location, including condition of all straps, headblocks, anti-slip mat, VELCRO®, anchor mat and board bungs.

Check that the board has no water ingress and that the bungs are hand-tight and not come loose.

If inspection shows any irregularities, damage or excessive wear, remove the product from service until repair is made. See "Parts and Service" on page 15.

6.6 Inspecting the wall bracket

Ensure that PXB wall bracket is regularly inspected by the Pool Manager or other person responsible for equipment in that location, to ensure the bracket is not loose and is firmly attached to the wall, and that the bracket itself is intact.

If inspection shows any damage or excessive wear, remove the item from service until repair is made. See "Parts and Service" on page 15.

WARNING

Improper maintenance can cause injury. Maintain the product only as described in this manual.

Minimum Maintenance	Each Use	Monthly
Disinfecting	•	
Cleaning	•	
Inspecting	•	•

Important

Disinfectants and cleaners containing bleach, phenolics, or iodides can cause damage. Do not use products containing these chemicals. Using abrasive cleaning compounds or applicators on the product can cause damage. Do not use abrasive materials to clean the product.

Inspection Checklist

- Are all components present?
- Are the straps in good condition with no cuts or frayed edges?
- Are the restraint straps properly attached and in the correct position?
- Are the straps free of visible damage and do they operate properly?
- Are the VELCRO® fixing pads free of any damage and fixing correctly?
- Are either of the headblocks or head restraint strap missing?
- Are the board bungs in position and not loose?

7 - PARTS AND SERVICE

7.1 Ferno (UK) Ltd

In England, Scotland & Wales, to order parts, service or repair for your product, contact Ferno Service. Ferno to manage, service, and repair Ferno products.

Telephone Main Reception	+44 (0)1274 851999
Service Department	+44 (0)1274 854511
Service Email	services.uk@ferno.com
Web	www.ferno.co.uk

WARNING

Improper parts and service can cause injury. Use only Ferno parts and Ferno-approved service on the product.
Modifying the product can cause injury and damage.

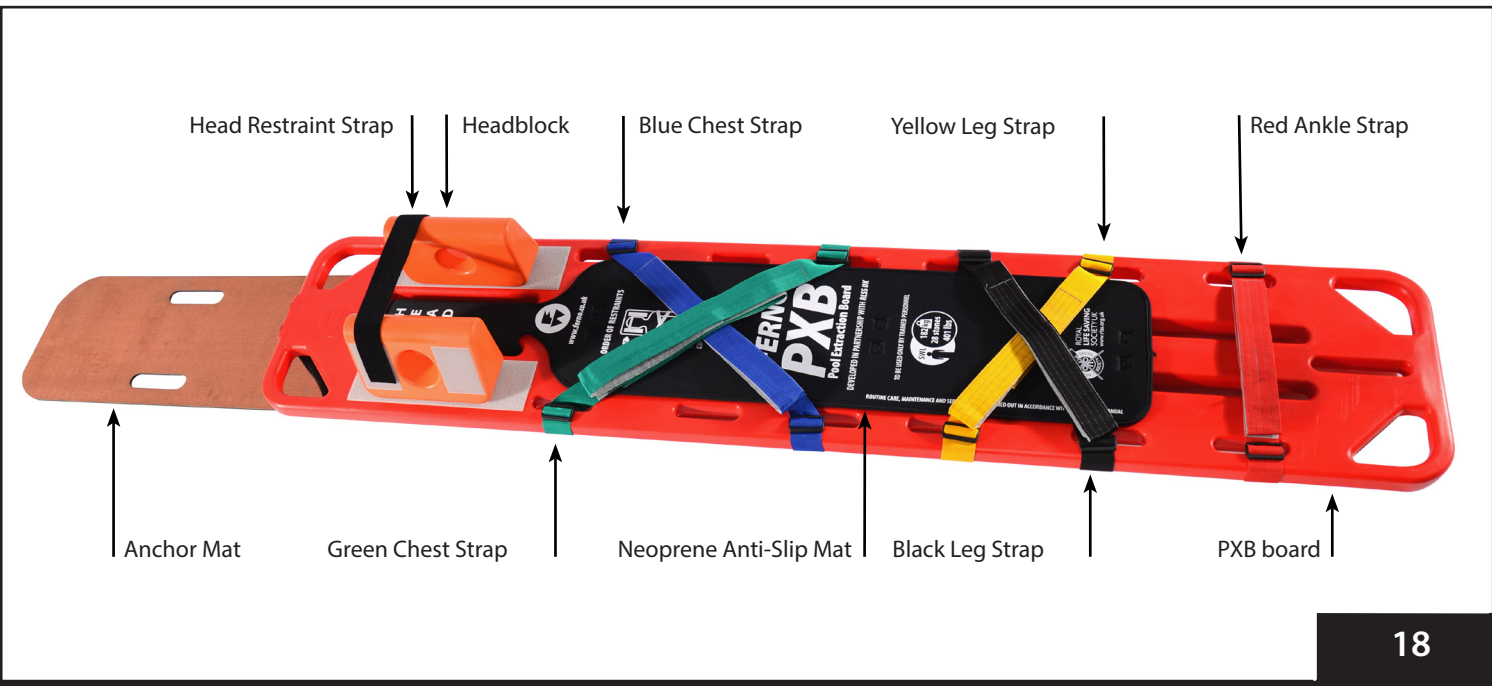
7.2 Worldwide

To order Ferno parts, and for professional product repair and servicing, contact your Ferno Distributor. Your distributor is the only agent authorised by Ferno to manage, service, and repair Ferno PXB.

7.3 PXB Replacement Parts List

No.	Part	Description	Qty
1	038245300	2 Headblocks & 1 Headstrap for PXB board	1 set
2	038245250	Head-strap for PXB board	1
3	038244500	PXB Restraint Straps (set of 5)	1 set
4	038245350	PXB Chest/Waist Restraint Strap, Green	1
5	038245400	PXB Chest/Waist Restraint Strap, Blue	1
6	038245450	PXB Leg Restraint Strap, Yellow	1
7	038245500	PXB Leg Restraint Strap, Black	1
8	038245550	PXB Ankle Restraint Strap, Red	1
9	0761-3001	PXB Neoprene Anti-slip Mat	1
10	0761-0119	PXB Board Wall-Mounted Fixing Bracket	1
11	0761-0102	PXB Anchor Mat	1

7.4 Parts Diagram



PXB TRAINING RECORD

Date	Printed Name	Signature	Training Method			Trainer Initials
			Read Manual	Video/Online	Hands-On	



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As our policy is one of continuous development Ferno (UK) Ltd. reserves the right to change the specifications without notice.