



Fig. A

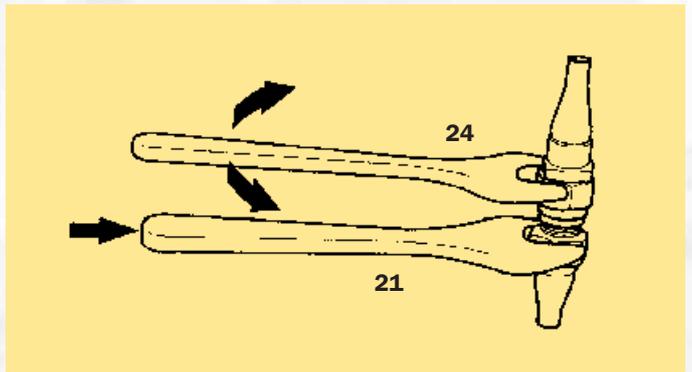


Fig. D



Fig. B

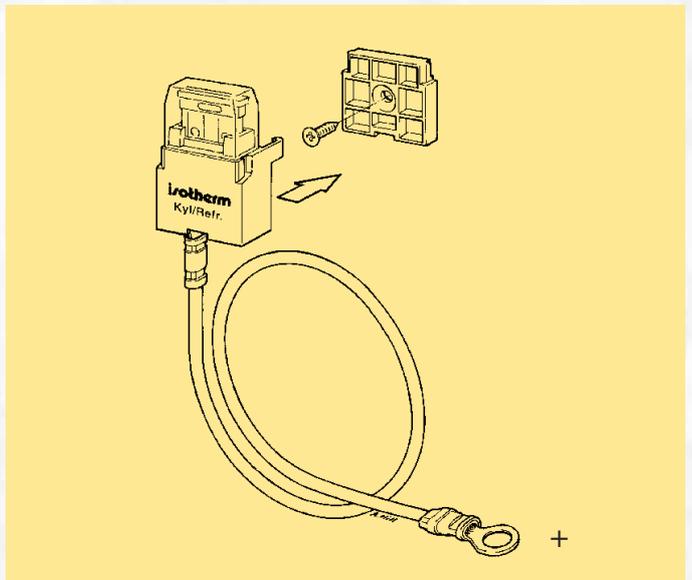


Fig. E



Fig. C

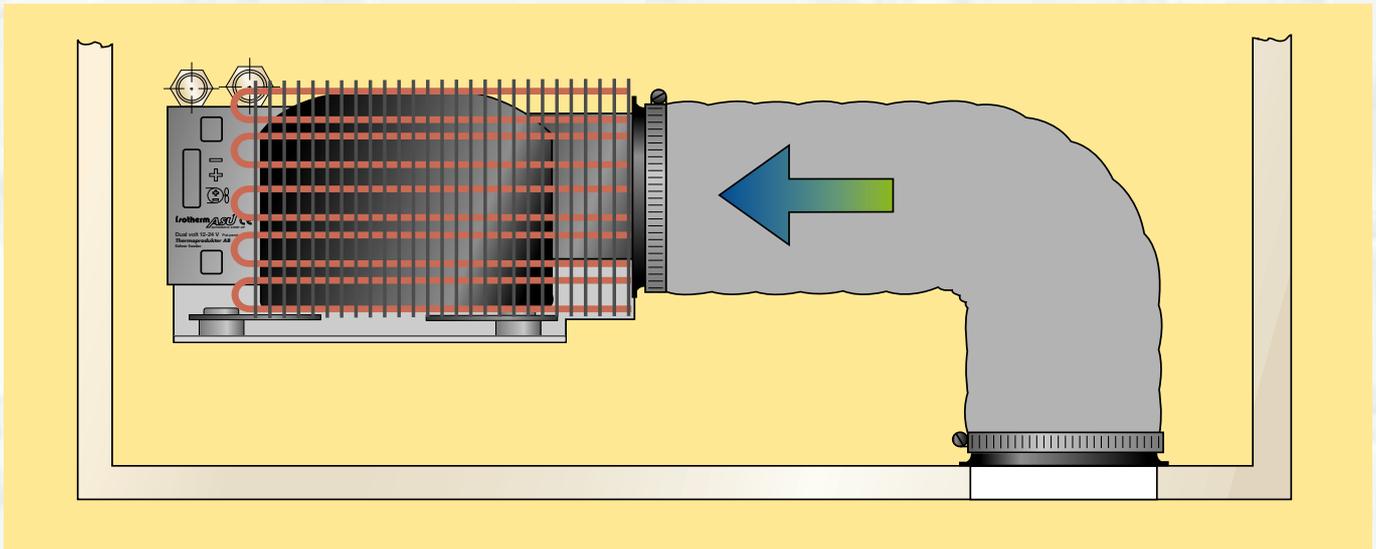


Fig. F

**1. Anslutning termistorkabel från kylmagasin**

Connection temperature sensor from holding plate  
Anschluß Temperatursensor an Kältespeicher  
Sonde de temperature de la plaque réfrigérante

**2. Säkring**

Fuse  
Sicherung  
Fusible

**3. Batterianslutning**

Battery connection  
Batterianschluß  
Branchement de la batterie

**4. Anslutning fläkt**

Fan connection  
Lüfteranschluß  
Branchement de la ventilateur

**5. Anslutning kabel från manöverpanel**

Connection cable from control panel  
Anschluß Kabel von Schalttafel  
Cable de branchement du tableau de commande

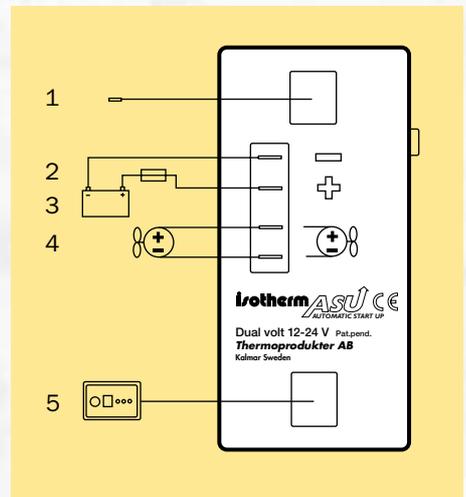


Fig. G



Fig. H

**"Click-on" monteringskonsol**

"Click-on" mounting bracket  
"Click-on" Schnappverschlußhalter  
"Click-on" consol

# ISOTHERM 3200/3700 ASU

## OPERATING AND INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

### GENERAL

ISOTHERM 3200/3700 "ASU - Automatic Start Up" is a modern refrigeration system for sailing yachts and motor cruisers. It is designed to generate low refrigeration temperatures even in hot conditions while at the same time consuming an absolute minimum of battery power. This is achieved by using a patented electronic control system which runs the refrigeration compressor at 75 % higher speed when the boat's engine is running. This, in combination with a holding plate inside the refrigerator, stores the refrigeration energy produced for long periods.

The easy do-it-yourself installation requires no connections to either the engine or its cooling system.

**The following points are important if good results are to be achieved.**

### Refrigerator box

To retain as much cold air as possible when opened, a top-loading box is usually preferable to a side opening one.

A most important factor in achieving good results is that the refrigeration box is well-insulated. Do not use polystyrene-type insulation material. Expanded or cross-linked PVC or polyurethane insulation material should be used.

Recommended minimum thickness (multiply by 3 for freezer boxes): 30 mm for a 50 litre box; 50 mm for a 100 litre box and 75 - 100 mm for larger boxes. If space is available use thicker insulation around the lower part of the box.

A moveable partition should be installed in the box to allow the frozen food section surrounding the cold plate to be reduced to the smallest space possible so that the correct temperature of 4 - 6° (39 - 43°F) can easier be maintained in the refrigeration section.

The lid must also be insulated but more important that it fits tightly into the opening.

If a water drain is fitted in the bottom of the box, this must always be closed during use to avoid cold air from running out and warm, damp air entering.

### Electrical system

An electrical system that is both correctly dimensioned and in good working order is required. This is especially important if the refrigeration system is to operate continuously for a few days during warm weather and not have to start the engine for charging.

Calculate the boat's total power requirements. The engine should always have a separate battery for starting. In addition to the battery capacity required by other electrical equipment onboard, one extra 75 Ah battery will be sufficient for the refrigeration power supply. In addition to increasing the amount of "standby power" available onboard, the extra service battery can also store surplus power when this is being generated by the engine. Two batteries can, of course, accept twice the amount of charge. The alternator is normally not a limiting factor.

All service batteries must have generously-dimensioned cables for both positive and negative circuits if they are to receive full charging voltage from alternator.

### Using the refrigerator

Power consumption is dependant to a large degree on how the refrigerator is used.

Let refrigerated food remain inside the fridge as far as possible and take them out only when required. Don't leave them out of the fridge longer than absolutely necessary when cooking or having your meal. Replace them as quickly as possible.

Avoid placing warm food in the fridge. If possible, use an insulated thermal bag when carrying frozen or chilled foodstuffs from home or the shops.

Let the engine run a few minutes extra when leaving and entering harbour. The engine alternator will then supply an extra boost of refrigeration energy just when needed, i.e. immediately before "no-power" periods of sailing and in harbour.

### Refrigeration temperatures

The correct temperatures for storing sensitive foodstuffs such as meat, fish, milk, etc. are as follows:

Internal temperature of refrigerated food.

10°C (50°F)

8°C (46°F)

6°C (43°F)

4°C (39°F)

3-1°C (37-34°F)

Duration after which food can become unfit for consumption.

1 day or less

1-2 days

2-3 days

5 days

5-7 days

The correct way to store refrigerated food is to never allow its temperature to exceed 6° (43°F). Switching off the refrigerator overnight is a false economy and from a hygienic point-of-view is not recommended.

### MAIN COMPONENTS

ISOTHERM refrigerator systems consist of three main components: the Compressor Unit, the Holding Plate and the Control Panel.

#### Compressor Unit - (Fig. A)

The Danfoss BD35F dual volt 12/24 type refrigeration compressor is of the very latest design. It produces extremely high refrigeration energy while consuming very little battery power.

As it is driven by 12 volt 3-phase alternating current, it has an unbeatable starting ability and its speed and capacity can be regulated. It is of the same totally-hermetic design as that of domestic refrigerators and has, therefore, a long operating life, low sound level, and is completely maintenance-free. The piston-type compressor operates on a mixture of cooling medium and oil. It is to be fitted horizontally with its feet downwards but it will operate at a continuous angle-of-heel of up to 30° in all directions. Should this angle be exceeded, the compressor will stop automatically. It will re-start automatically when the angle has been reduced.

The compressor is integral with the condenser which is equipped with a fan with variable speed that also can be equipped with a connection for an optional cooling-air house kit. (Part No. 10013)

The compressor unit is delivered pre-filled with cooling medium and has irreversible, quick-coupling connections on the ends of the flexible piping which connects it to the holding plate. These couplings can be disconnected and re-connected should either unit need re-positioning.

To simplify connecting up the system, the electronic control unit mounted on the left side of the compressor is fitted with tab-type terminals for the positive and negative main power cables; large modular (telephone type) connectors for the 4 metre cable to the control panel; and small modular connectors for the 3.5 metre cable for the temperature sensor on the rear of the holding plate. It contains a micro-processor with programmed functions for slow-running; speeding-up the compressor when the engine is running; battery monitoring for high and low voltage (cut-out at 10/21 volt, cut-in 12/24 volt); monitoring of low and high speed and power consumption; regulating the holding plate temperature and fan speed, as well as automatic defrosting; transmitting signals to the control panel such as flashing indicator lights should there be a malfunction. The compressor together with its electronic unit fulfils applicable radio interference regulations and is CE-marked.

When connected to shore power, a high-quality battery charger of minimum 10 Amp output should be used. This must **always** be connected to the boat's service batteries and **never** directly to the control unit. When using shore-power, the control panel switch can be in the "MAN.TEMP" position, for setting selected temperature.

#### Holding Plate - (Fig. B)

The holding plate is a hermetic, stainless-steel container holding a special freon-free cooling medium which freezes to ice when the engine is running. The freezing point of the liquid is normally -8°C (17°F). The holding plate is connected to the compressor unit by a pliable, 3 metre long tinned copper pipe of 6 mm diameter fitted with quick-coupling connections. The holding plate must be fitted as high as possible in the refrigerator. It may be installed in any vertical or horizontal position required and at any level above or below that of the compressor unit.

A temperature sensor is fitted to the rear of the holding plate. This is to be connected to the compressor unit by the 3.5 metre cable supplied and can suitably follow the same route as the 3 metre connecting pipe. This pipe (together with the compressor and holding plate) is pre-filled with exactly the correct amount of cooling medium and on no account should any attempt be made to either shorten or lengthen it. If the pipe is too long, the excess should be made into a coil at some suitable position. If

a longer pipe is required, a pre-filled 2.5 metre extension pipe (Part No. 39045) is available. A 2.5 metre extension for the temperature sensor cable (Part No. 39232) is also available.

#### Control Panel -(Fig. C)

The control panel is equipped with a three-way switch; green, yellow and red indicator lights; and a rheostat for manual temperature adjustment when running on shore-power or a solar panel.

Inside the control panel box is a modular connector for the 4 metre cable from the electronic control unit on the compressor. Should this require extending, use the 10 metre long accessory cable (Part No. 39230) instead.

### OPERATION

The ISOTHERM refrigeration system can be operated in two ways. When energy saving is needed, switch to "NORMAL.AUTO" position. Optimum refrigeration temperature is then automatically maintained while consuming the lowest amount of battery power possible. When there is no need of energy saving, switch to "MAN.TEMP" position. The automatic function is now partially blocked and refrigeration temperature can be manually adjusted (Fig. C). In its centre position, the ISOTHERM unit is switched off.

#### "NORMAL • AUTO" position:

The green light indicates that power is being supplied and the refrigeration programme is activated.

When the engine is running and the voltage supply (measured at the compressor's control unit) is over 13.2 (26.4) volt, the compressor starts to supply cooling energy to the holding plate. It starts within the first 30 seconds and operates first at low speed with the yellow "Economy" indicator lit.

After about half a minute, the speed of the compressor and cooling fan increases by 75% and the red "Freeze" indicator lights. This operating condition is maintained until the holding plate is completely frozen at approximately -14°(7°F). This can take between 45 minutes and 2 hours depending on the model, ambient temperature and box size. On reaching this temperature, the compressor stops and red light goes out. When the temperature of the holding plate rises to -10°C (14°F), the compressor re-starts to charge the holding plate and the red light comes on again. This process is repeated a couple of times every hour keeping the holding plate at its optimum efficiency level. When the engine is stopped, the compressor also stops shortly afterwards.

When the engine is stopped and the battery voltage is below 12.7 (25.4) volt, the surplus of refrigeration energy stored in the holding plate is used first.

Only when this has been consumed does the compressor start. The yellow light indicates that it is now running, in the first hand, at its low "Economy" speed to "top-up" the holding plate only. This condition starts when the temperature of the holding plate rises to -1°C (30°F) and stops when it reaches economy level of -6°C (21°F).

#### "MAN • TEMP" position:

This position can be used either when shore-power or solar panels are being used or when energy saving is not required and a higher or lower refrigerator temperature is desirable for some reason. The automatic function is blocked the temperature regulated by means of the rheostat - clockwise for colder and anti-clockwise for warmer. "A" indicates the holding plate temperature point for "Accumulation". In the "MAN • TEMP" position, the compressor starts and runs in the first hand in low speed to maintain the temperature chosen. It runs at low speed only and, as the engine is stopped, with a very nearly inaudible level of sound. If the difference between chosen and real temperature is above 6°C, the compressor will automatically speed up for faster cooling down. As soon as this extra power is not needed, the compressor speed will be reduced for lowest power consumption and keeping selected temperature.

### INDICATOR LIGHTS

<b>Green:</b>	Power and system on, but compressor at stand-still due to sufficiently low temperature of holding plate.
<b>Green+yellow:</b>	Compressor running within the higher temperature range.
<b>Green+red:</b>	Compressor running at high speed within the lower temperature range.
<b>Green+yellow+red:</b>	Compressor running at lowest possible speed to reach selected temperature in MAN. TEMP mode.
<b>Flashing yellow+red:</b>	Error signal from electronic unit. Automatic re-start after 1 minute.

**Flashing yellow:** Low battery voltage sensor has switched off the system.

Automatic re-start occurs when engine is started to charge batteries again.

There are also other safety functions included, not here explained.

**Note:** The compressor will start 30 seconds after switching on. When the engine is started,  $\frac{1}{2}$  -10 minutes is required (depending on the boats charging equipment and battery condition) before the system reacts. When the engine is stopped,  $\frac{1}{2}$  -5 minutes is required (depending on battery condition and level of charge) before the system reacts. Defrosting will take place automatically every tenth day of operation.

#### Maintenance

If the quick-coupling connections have been tightened correctly during installation, the totally-hermetic ISOTHERM system will never require refilling with cooling medium. Maintenance is limited to removing dust on the condenser radiator with a brush, cleaning the fan, defrosting the holding plate when required and keeping the inside of the refrigerator dry. It is of vital importance that the batteries and charging system are kept in good condition.

The complete system should remain in the boat during winter, but it may not always be able to be started at ambient temperatures below freezing.

### SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

- When connected to shore-power, ensure that the power supply is equipped with an accidental-ground automatic switch. **DANGER!**
- Never touch bare electric wiring connected to the mains supply. **DANGER!**
- Never open the cooling circuit except by the quick-couplings which are designed specifically for that purpose.
- Never connect a battery charger directly to the refrigeration system. It **must** always be connected to the battery. In addition to acid, a newly-charged battery contains explosive gas. **DANGER!**
- Never cover up the ventilation openings for the compressor unit.

### TECHNICAL DATA

<b>Type designations:</b>	3201 12/24 volt with 300x210x60 mm holding plate 3701 12/24 volt with 355x280x60 mm holding plate
<b>Capacity:</b>	Suitable for refrigeration boxes of 3201 125 litre (4.4 cu.ft.) 3701 175 litre (6 cu.ft.)
<b>Voltage:</b>	12/24 (10 - 17 / 21 - 31) volt
<b>Low voltage protection:</b>	Cut out at 10/21 volt. Automatic restart when voltage has been above 12/24 volt for more than 30 sec.
<b>Fan power output:</b>	Max. 0.5 A
<b>Power consumption:</b>	Low speed - approx. 2.5 - 3 A (half for 24 volt) High speed - approx. 5 - 6 A - " - Stand-by (green lamp on) - 25 mA - " - System switched off - 16 mA - " -
<b>Fuse:</b>	Separate holder for U-shaped fuses of car-type.
<b>Cooling medium:</b>	Freon-free R134a (quantity stated on model identification plate).
<b>Weight:</b>	12 kg for type 3201. 14 kg for type 3701.

Specifications are subject to change without prior notice.

### INSTALLATION

For Isotherm SP, see additional installation instruction.

#### Tools required

In addition to the usual basic hand tools such as screwdrivers, hammer, pliers, assortment of drills, saw, tape measure, etc., the following are required:

Small electric drilling machine; a 30mm hole-saw drill; a 12mm drill; a 21mm and a 24 mm fixed spanner; crimping pliers for electrical spade-type connectors. A sufficient length of electric cable of suitable diameter for connecting the compressor to the battery and an assortment of screws to attach the various components are also required.

#### General

First, decide where the various components are best situated. Choose a suitable place for the compressor unit at a pipe-run distance of less than 3 metre from the box. Try to find a position that requires only gentle, wide-radius bends on the pipework. The space intended for the compressor should preferably be cool and large and able to be reached by the cable from the battery.

If the space chosen is not well-ventilated, fit an air supply hose kit and run it to a point where ventilation air can be taken from the bilge (see Fig F.)

The compressor space chosen should also be within a cable-run distance of less than 4 metre from that of the control panel. The compressor unit, together with its electronics, is designed to withstand a normal marine environment. It can be fitted in a splash-free position but should preferably be placed in as dry surroundings as possible. Mount the compressor in a horizontal position to allow it to achieve its maximum permitted 30° angle of heel.

The holding plate position in the box should be planned with consideration being taken to the partition, routing of piping, etc. The unit may be fitted in any desired position but must be as high as possible in the box.

#### Fitting the holding plate

If the box to be used is already in place, inspect it to establish the quality of its insulation as this is an important thermal efficiency factor. The best insulation materials are polyurethane foam, Diniyocell, Bonocell or any other cross-linked expanded polyurethane plastic foam. A good rule-of-thumb is that the thickness of this material should be 0.5-1 mm per litre volume of the box. Polystyrene insulating materials of type Frigolit, Rockwool, etc., do not insulate sufficiently and should not be used.

The holding plate can be placed in any position. It can be fitted vertically, horizontally, upright or hanging.

Due to the fact that cold air always "falls" downward, the holding plate should be positioned as high up in the box as possible as good refrigeration cannot be achieved above this level.

The 6 mm copper pipe leading from the holding plate can be easily bent over the edge of the plate, thereby allowing it leave the box in any direction.

The best position for the pipe to exit the box is behind it in the space formed by the corner supports of the holding plate. The pipe should be handled with care and bent gradually to avoid creasing it. Form it around a suitable cylindrical object if sharp bends are required. Be particularly careful with the thin capillary pipe and its connection at the opposite end and do not loosen the two locking pipe turns around the thicker pipe.

The pipes are pre-filled with cooling medium and must not be cut. Start by unrolling the pipe to its full extent. Installation of the holding plate is easier if someone can assist. One person can hold the plate and direct the pipe through the side of the box while the other feeds the pipe together with the two connections through bulkheads, etc.

The holding plate can be screwed either onto the wall or on the underside of the top if space is available. If necessary, it may be easier to mount if openings are cut into the holes in the two supports under the holding plate to suit the diameter of the screws to be used. These screws may then be fitted into the box first and the holding plate "slotted" into place.

Drill the 30 mm hole for the pipe and connections as high as possible under where the holding plate is to be fitted. This is where it is warmest should any leakage of air occur. Fill the hole surrounding the pipe with insulation material. Any excess piping should be coiled in a suitable position outside the box and securely fastened to avoid vibrating.

#### Partition for adjusting box temperatures (Fig. I)

Cold air from the holding plate sinks down to the bottom of the box. The box, therefore, needs a separate space to enable part of it to be used as a freezer compartment. To achieve best results, this compartment should be no larger than absolutely necessary. The partition should be a tight fit against the box sides and reach a height of approximately 5 cm (2 in.) below the top edge of the holding plate.

It should be able to be adjusted vertically from 0-2 mm to create a gap at the bottom to allow a suitable amount of cold air to flow from the freezer section into the refrigeration section to maintain a temperature of +4-6°C (39-43°F). The partition should not be insulated, be easy to clean and preferably made of transparent plexiglass.

#### Compressor unit

The compressor unit should be fitted on its supports in a horizontal position in a suitable place such as a cupboard, wardrobe, stowage compart-

ment, etc. Using two strong 90° angle brackets (Part No. 30012), the unit can also be mounted onto a suitable bulkhead, under the side decks or any other place where no valuable stowage space will be lost. If it is positioned in a stowage place, a guard may be required for protection.

The unit will operate continuously at angles of up to approx. 30° and should therefore be fitted horizontally across the beam of sailing boats so as not to exceed this at full angle of heel. Screw the bracket carefully to the bedding, either horizontal or vertical. Open the lockings by pulling them aside and lift them up slightly. They will then stay in open position. Lower the compressor to the bracket. The rubber feet shall enter the pins. Push the compressor down a little and the lockings will enter locked position. Check that the compressor is safely locked. Move and bend – carefully – the pipes on the compressor to a suitable position where connection to the other coupling halves easily can be done. Do not remove the protective caps until immediately before this is about to be done and save them for possible future use. The quick-coupling connections can be turned by hand for the first few threads before continuing tightening steadily and quickly with a spanner so that the connections enters its sealing position and the valves open. While doing this, it is important that the male part of the connection stationary is held with a 21 mm spanner so that it does not rotate and damage the thin capillary tube (see Fig. D). Tighten the couplings up well. Use fixed spanners 21 and 24 mm for the pipe fittings.

#### Control panel

The control panel should be positioned where it can be seen easily and within reach of the 4 meter cable from the electronic control box on the compressor. The housing can be mounted using the accompanying long screws. A 12 mm Ø hole should be drilled for the cable. The panel can also be let into its surrounding by removing the plastic housing and attaching it with the accompanying screws.

#### Electrical wiring

Run a positive lead from the plus (+) terminal of the battery or the battery main switch across the accompanying fuse holder (Fig. E) and a negative lead from the negative (-) battery terminal.

**For a 12 Volt system, the minimum area of the cable from the battery to compressor must be: 2.5 mm<sup>2</sup> if the length is less than 2.5 meter; 4 mm<sup>2</sup> if up to 4 meter; and 6 mm<sup>2</sup> if up to 6 meter.** These areas can be halved for a 24 volt system.

Connect these cables to their *correct tab-type terminals* on the control unit. Reversed polarity will not damage the electronic unit. The system is just "dead". A battery charger must **never** be connected directly to the refrigeration system without having a battery connected in parallel.

A spark occurs when the power leads are connected. This is because the control unit (which consumes only 16 mA in its closed circuit condition) contains a capacitor which is then charged.

Connect the two modular plugs on the side of the control unit with the control panel cable plug connected to the larger one (See Fig. G)

#### Test run

Set the switch to "NORMAL.AUTO". The green light goes on immediately and the yellow one shortly after indicating that the compressor is running at low speed. Shortly after, a slight hissing sound can be heard from the freezer unit which after 15-30 minutes will show signs of moisture or frost.

Start the engine. Within 2-10 minutes (depending on condition of the batteries and alternator) the yellow light will go out, the red one lights and the compressor and its fan start running at high speed.

When the engine is stopped, the voltage in the electrical system drops. Within a few minutes, the yellow light comes on, the red goes out and the speed of the compressor and fan is reduced. If the holding plate has reached its full refrigeration capacity, however, the compressor will stop instead. There is always a 30 second delay before the electronic monitoring system takes over.

Finally, check that the electrical wiring and pipework are safe and securely fastened.

## FAULT-FINDING CHART

Fault	Possible cause	Action
Nothing happens when switched on. All lights off.	No power supply. Reversed polarity. Connected to a converter and voltage between 17 and 21 volt.	Is main power switched on? Check fuse. Set voltage to below 17 or above 21 volt.
Green light on. Compressor does not start.	Holding plate cold enough. Temperature sensor not connected. Fault in control unit.	No action required. Check cable. Replace*.
Yellow light flashing. Low voltage cut-out activated.	Battery in poor condition. Voltage drop due to thin cables.	Inspect charging circuit. Measure voltage drop when running and replace cables if required. Switch off, wait 5 sec.
Yellow and red light flashing. Overload cut-out activated.	Oil in compressor too thick at temp < 5°C. Faulty fan.	Restarts after 1 minute.  Check fan.
Green light on. Red light switching on-off.	Shore power driven charger that cannot compensate when compressor speeds up.	After three attempts, compressor automatically locks on low speed.
Compressor runs but no refrigeration generated.	Loss of cooling medium. Connections not tight enough.	Inspect and tighten. Contact specialist to fill cooling medium*.
Compressor runs <b>often</b> but temp. in box not cold enough.	Poor insulation. Fan not running or too warm in compressor compartment. Too much gas in system. (Frost on pipe).	Re-insulate. Repair fan or ventilate the space using air hose kit. (Part no. 10013). Refrigeration specialist to check gas pressure and adjust quantity*.
Compressor running and too cold in the box.	Shore power or solar panel charges to a high voltage level, above 13.2V.	Switch over to "MAN.TEMP".
Compressor <b>never</b> stops running: -Not sufficiently cold. -Too cold. -Temp. cannot be reduced manually.	See above. Temp. sensor faulty. Temp. sensor touching box wall or ice build-up.	See above. Renew. Adjust sensor or defrost by switching off system.
Compressor keeps running when engine is stopped.	Batteries in excellent condition, or extra power source (solar panel, wind generator, etc.)	Normal operation. If temp. becomes too cold switch to "MAN.TEMP".
Compressor will not run at full speed and red light not on when engine is running.	Poor charging. Plus or minus cables too thin. Connections affected by verdigris, loose fuse.	Check charging, cables etc. and rectify. Clean and grease. (Correct voltage > 13.2 V measured at control unit with compressor and engine running).
Radio interference when running.	System is suppressed and fulfils present regulations.	Fit additional suppressor. (Min. 15A) Part no. 39035
Fuse blows.	Fault in control box or cables.	Renew 15 A fuse or control box*.

If a complicated fault does occur, such as those requiring specialist assistance (marked \*), please contact Thermoprodukter AB in Kalmar, Sweden, or your local marine distributor for advice.

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