

SECTION 4: AIR TRACK

INTRODUCTION

The '*Air Track*' is a portable inflatable rescue platform for use when working over ice, mud, shallow water or other unstable surfaces.

DESCRIPTION

Dimensions	Width	- 1.3m
	Length	- 10 m
	Centre Walkway	- 65 cms wide
	Outer Stabilisers	- 22.5 cms each

Weight 55 kg

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|---------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| Construction | • Centre Walkway | - 100 mm thick Polyurethane coated drophread |
| | • Stabilisers | - 100 mm thick Polyurethane coated drophread |
| | • Sidepanels | - Neopene coated nylon |
| | • Inflation Valve located at the ' Near End of '<i>Air track</i>' | |
| | • Pressure Relief Valve located at ' Both Ends ' | |

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|--------------|--------------------------------------------|
| Parts | • One 10 m section of ' <i>Air track</i> ' |
| | • One Series 3 Regulator |
| | • One Inflation Hose |
| | • Carrying Valise |

APPLICATIONS

The '*Air Track*' allows for the quick and effective deployment of a working platform over the following surfaces:

- Ice and snow
- Mud
- Water (see Note on Use)
- Peat Bogs
- Other Unstable Surfaces

It can also be used in conjunction with lines to tow a casualty across water or ice (safety of the casualty must be a prime consideration at all times)

LOCATION

The '*Air track*' is stowed on the Rescue Tender at Wellington Fire Station.

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

- Remove track from carrying valise.
- Connect Compressed Air cylinder to Regulator.
- Connect Regulator to 'Inflation Hose'.
- Connect Inflation Hose to '*Air track*'.
- Turn on cylinder.
- The '*Air track*' will automatically inflate and as it does so it will unroll.
- When the track is fully inflated a Pressure Relief Valve will operate (0.5 bar). Close the cylinder as the Relief Valve operates.

USE

Once the '*Air track*' is connected and ready for use, it should be positioned with one end anchored on a secure surface and facing the hazard so that it will unroll in the correct direction.

The stability of the '*Air track*' depends on:

- the surface on which it is laid;
- the weight applied to it.

It is recommended that no more than four people are to work on the track. (Two sections 4 people - 2 per section)

SAFETY

- All personnel working on the track must wear safety lines.
- If working over water and slurry pits life jackets to be worn.
- No more than four personnel to work on the track.
- Anchor base of track securely.
- Avoid laying the track over sharp objects.
- Due to the weight and shape of the '*Air track*' sections when packed, use should be made of the sack trolley carried on the Rescue Tender wherever possible.

AFTER USE

- Wash with clean water to remove stones, mud and other debris.
- Remove Inflation Valve to allow for complete deflation.
- Fold wings into centre of black pathway.
- Roll the track towards the Inflation Valve as tightly as possible.
- Replace Inflation Valve.
- Restow in valise.

TESTING

The '*Air track*' should be tested:

Monthly and After Use

- The track to be fully inflated until the Pressure Relief Valve operates.
- To be left inflated for 30 minutes to test for leaks.
- Carry out a visual inspection checking for signs of damage or wear.
- Check the fitting of and condition of connecting hose.
- Deflate and restow.
- When rolling up the '*Air track*' ensure that it is rolled from the Relief Valve, to the Inflation Valve.
- Record test result on standard test form FB77(M).