

# TRAVEL-PAK

**BW-7630**



# USER GUIDE

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Travel-Pak	BW-7630	
Weight	4.1kg including bag and strap.	
Length	180mm	
Width	120mm	
Height	130mm	175mm including handle
Typical Charge Time	2A charger - 3 hours approx.	
Circuit Protection	Non-user replaceable 20A Fuse.	
Charge Capacity	7AH 12V Sealed Lead Acid. Maintenance Free.	
Typical Flash Rate	50 @ Max rate before thermal cut-out.	
Typical Flashes	<u>One Flash Unit</u>	
	400 @ 250Ws	
	300 @ 375Ws	
	200 @ 500Ws	
	150 @ 750Ws	
Typical Flashes	<u>Two Flash Units</u>	
	200 @ 2 x 250Ws	
	150 @ 2 x 375Ws	
	100 @ 2 x 500Ws	
	75 @ 2 x 750Ws	
Water Resistance	3 Inches from base	
Due to our policy of constant product improvement, Bowens International reserve the right to change equipment specification at any time and without notice.		



Travel-Pak Battery Booster  
BW-7635



12V Universal 2A Charger  
BW-1227



Flash Head Connector Lead  
BW-7632

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## Typical Flashes

Number of Flashes 500Ws @ 30sec	Battery Voltage (V)	Battery Condition Monitor	Charge Time (Seconds)
0	>12.2 Good	Green	4.5
100	>11.6 Medium	Yellow	4.9
150	>11.2 Low	Amber	5.0
180	<9.0 Flat	Red	13.4 (Fast Disabled)
200	<9.0 Flat	Red	13.9 (Fast Disabled)

Your Travel-Pak unit should not be allowed to fully discharge as this may significantly reduce future operating times of the battery and the Travel-Pak, this is why your unit will automatically disable the fast charge feature at the low end of the batteries charge. It is also not recommended to keep using your unit when the red battery indicator is showing. The Travel-Pak will keep going into low battery mode, this can be temporarily removed by switching off and back on, before the 10min recovery time has elapsed.

The Travel-Pak is also equipped with an internal thermal cut-out, the cut-out will only engage in extreme use. Your Travel-Pak will safely do 100 flashes at moderate rate without ever overheating.

The following table should be used as a guide only.

Flash Rate in Seconds	Max number of flashes before overheat
10	56
20	115
30	200

The sleep feature of the unit is not optional if your unit is left without use for longer than 10 minutes, it will enter power saving mode, this is indicated by the charge A & B socket indicators (see display indication section Page 7.)

To recover from power save mode change the position of the fast/slow switch.

## Contents of Carton

- Travel-Pak in fabric shoulder bag including water resistant moulded insert.
- 1 x 2A Battery Charger
- 1 x Esprit Gemini connection cable with attached dummy plug.
- 1 x Travel-Pak User Guide
- 1 x Safety Leaflet
- 1 x Registration Card.

Additional items may be supplied for use in specific regions.

## Introduction

Dear Valued Customer,

Thank you for choosing the Bowens 'Travel-Pak' Battery Power Unit.

The Travel-Pak has been designed using the latest technology to produce a unit that is simple to operate, yet has a powerful, highly controllable and accurate output.

There are many accessories for the Travel-Pak and Esprit Gemini. For details of all related products, please contact your local distributor, a list of which can be found at [www.bowens.co.uk](http://www.bowens.co.uk).

In order to obtain the full benefit from your purchase, please take a few moments to familiarise yourself with this user manual.

Thank you.

Bowens International Ltd.

## Safety Notes

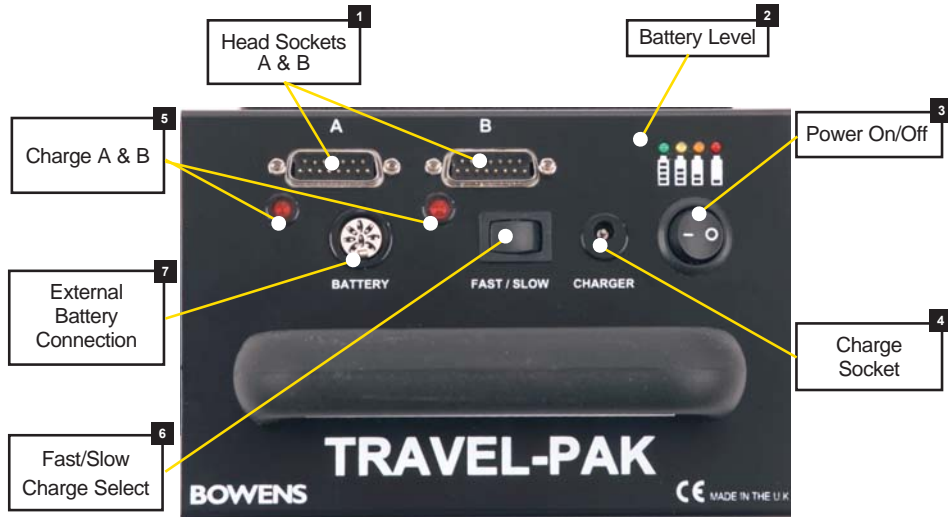
**NEVER - Plug an Esprit Gemini into a mains supply and a Travel-Pak at the same time.**

### DO NOT:

- Use in an environment where moisture or flammable vapor is likely to come in contact with the unit.
- Charge a Travel-Pak in a gas tight container.
- Use a unit with damaged housing, mouldings, flash tube or modelling lamp.
- Attempt to replace the internal 20A fuse. This should only be carried out by an authorised Bowens service centre.

### ALWAYS:

- Switch power off and disconnect from any flash unit before changing modelling bulbs or flash tubes.
- Only fit Bowens approved equipment to the Travel-Pak.
- Allow at least one hour for the Travel-Pak to stabilise at room temperature, especially when moving the unit from extremes of temperature and humidity.
- Avoid placing cables where they can be tripped over. Protect from heavy, sharp or hot objects, which may cause damage and replace damaged cables immediately.
- Due to the high voltage / high energy used in Travel-Pak units, all servicing must be carried out by an authorised Service Centre.
- If the unit is dropped or damaged in any way, always have it checked out before using.



**1. Head Socket**

The Travel-Pak can power one or two Esprit Gemini Flash Heads.

**2. Battery Level Indicator**

Shows from maximum to low charge.

**3. Power Switch**

To turn the unit on or off.

**4. Charge Socket**

Use supplied 2A charger for approx 3 Hours charge. Use only Bowens approved chargers or permanent damage to your unit may result. For best results keep your battery fully charged and do not fully discharge it.

**5. Charge A & B**

Indicates power being supplied to channel A or B in normal use, also indicates charge errors (Page 7). It is normal for the unit to supply a long period of charge then very small amounts of top up charge.

If two units require charge at the same time one may be charged fully before the other.

**6. Fast/Slow Select**

If Fast charge is selected a 500Ws unit will charge to full power in approximately 4.5 Seconds

If Slow charge is selected it will charge a 500Ws unit in approximately 9 Seconds.

The use of the fast mode will reduce the life of the internal battery. It is recommended to use the Slow charge select whenever possible.

**Note:** The fast charge feature is disabled when the battery is low on charge. When the red battery indicator starts to show, the unit will take longer to come to ready. If fast charge is still required, recharge the battery or connect an approved external battery source.

**7. External 12V**

Gives a direct connection to the internal battery, not current limited or regulated. (See Battery Booster page 11)

**Q** My Flash Unit is not coming to ready.

1. Check errors by red charge indicators. See page 7.
2. Make sure when using one Flash Head the dummy socket is fitted.
3. Make sure Flash Head power switch is set to position II for battery operation.
4. Check Travel-Pak is switched on and Green Power indicator is showing.
5. Power save mode activated. Change Fast/Slow switch to wake-up unit.
6. Travel-Pak maybe overheated, allow unit to cool.
7. Check connection cables and plugs are not damaged.

**Q** My Travel-Pak appears to not be charging its internal battery

1. Turning the unit off will allow the Travel-Pak to reach full charge faster.
2. Check charger is located securely in charger and red lamp on charger is lit.

**Q** My Flash Unit makes multiple beeps when Travel-Pak goes into sleep mode.

1. You should always turn off Travel-Pak when left without being used, this will also improve the battery life.
2. Turn off Esprit Gemini ready sounder.

**Q** Fuse blows or supply trips when connecting mains socket and Travel-Pak cable.

1. This is a safety requirement to protect from potentially unsafe conditions. If the Travel-Pak cable is connected and the mains supply at the same time an external circuit breaker may be tripped.  
**DO NOT OPERATE IN THIS MANNER.**



## General Questions

- Q** My modelling lamp does not work when powered by Travel-Pak?  
**A** The Travel-Pak is not intended to run the modelling lamp.
- Q** Can I leave Mains connected to monoblock while operating with Travel-Pak?  
**A** No, DO NOT plug a mains lead in at the same time as a travel-Pak.
- Q** My old Esprit or Travelite does not have a 15-way battery connector, can I have one?  
**A** The new Esprit Gemini range include new circuitry so it is not possible to upgrade older units.
- Q** I want to take my Travel-Pak out of its fabric bag is this ok?  
**A** Yes its fine, be sure to replace the plastic water resistant insert when refitting (see page 9).
- Q** Can I change the rechargeable battery inside Travel-Pak myself?  
**A** No. Due to the high voltage/energy used this should only be carried out by a Bowens authorised service centre.
- Q** I have two Gemini units connected to a single Travel-Pak; can I shorten their recycle times?  
**A** You can lower their flash power settings or could buy another Travel-Pak for the second head. Fast charge will not be available at the low end of battery charge, therefore longer recycle times.
- Q** How can I maximise the number of flashes obtained?  
**A** Try the following. Turn down the flash power, make the time between flashes longer, add the optional external battery booster. Use a second Travel-Pak to power a second unit. Use the slow charge option.
- Q** I hear a whistling noise when the unit is charging is my Travel-Pak developing a fault?  
**A** No, the harder the Travel-Pak has to work the more obvious this will become. This will be more apparent when set to fast charge and the battery has low charge.
- Q** My unit will only do about 50 shots before cutting out, what is wrong?  
**A** Your Travel-Pak has a thermal cut out to protect from very extreme operation.
- Q** I'm not going to use my Travel-Pak for a long while should I do anything ?  
**A** You should charge the battery then ideally re-charge every 3 months.
- Q** I have an Esprit Gemini and one Travelite III can I use them at the same time on Travel-Pak ?  
**A** Yes. Even though they require different mains voltage its fine.
- Q** Can I leave the battery charger connected to a Travel-Pak while using it?  
**A** Yes you could. Although, if you have access to mains power use it to power your Flash head directly as recycle times will be improved. The green indicator on the charger may never show indicating full charge while switched on.
- Q** Can I charge my Travel-Pak in a foreign country ?  
**A** Yes, The supplied battery charger has many standard plugs included and it will automatically adjust to the country voltage as required. 100V-240V, 50 or 60Hz.

## Connecting Compatible Flash Heads

### Single Esprit Gemini Connection.

A single Esprit Gemini unit can be fitted to either channel A or B with the Travel-Pak cable. Please ensure that the dummy socket is fitted to the unused socket.



Single Esprit Gemini Connection

### Dual Esprit Gemini Connection.

Two Esprit Gemini units can be fitted to the A and B sockets with the Travel-Pak cable. In this set-up the dummy sockets are not used.



Dual Esprit Gemini Connection

1



Switch off the Travel-Pak.

2



Connect Esprit Gemini(s).

3



Fit Dummy Socket if required.

4



Switch the Esprit Gemini to Position II.

5



Switch on the Travel-Pak.

The indicators flashing usually indicates normal charging.  
The following are only displayed in fault conditions.

**STEADY INDICATOR LONGER THAN 20 SECONDS**  
[Condition: Travel-Pak unable to supply charge]

*Reason*  
Dummy plug not fitted in unused socket.  
Thermal cut-out initiated

*Suggested action*  
Fit plug or connect a second Flash Head.  
Wait for Travel-Pak to cool.



**ALTERNATE FLASHING INDICATORS**

[Condition: - Battery Voltage Too Low Wait 5mins for Auto Recovery]

*Reason*  
Battery too low for operation

*Suggested action*  
1. Wait for battery voltage to recover slightly  
2. Charge Battery (See Instructions).  
3. Fit Ext Battery (See Instructions).



The unit may be brought back sooner than 5mins by cycling the power switch, Travel-Pak should not be operated in this condition for longer than necessary.

**FAST DOUBLE BLINK BOTH INDICATORS**

[Condition: - Power Saving Mode]

*Reason*  
Power Save after approx 10mins of low activity

*Suggested action*  
1. Change Either Head Selector Switch.  
2. Change Charge Mode Fast/Slow.  
3. Turn off then back on to reset Travel-Pak.



It is recommended not to leave your Travel-Pak for long periods of time, to wake up the unit change one of the monoblock power switched on either connected head or change the charge rate Fast/Slow switch. The Travel-Pak will recheck connected heads and resume charging again.