



Firstmate® Features and Specifications

September, 2008



Pro System Controller



Basic System Controller

The Firstmate® remote boatlift controller offers boating enthusiasts safety and convenience. The remote control allows the boat operator the ability to raise and lower their lift without having to drop off a passenger on the dock. The Firstmate® system saves the operator time because they no longer have to wait to turn their system off.

1.0 FUNCTIONS:

- 1.1 UP Position** - The "UP" position is designed to allow the user the ability to push a single button to raise the lift to a desired level and shut the system off automatically when the lift reaches this position. The "UP" position is programmed by the user to any level they desire. (Reference the user's manual.)

To raise the lift to the "UP" position, press the "**UP**" key on the controller or press the "**1**" key on the Keyfob. The system will shut off automatically after the lift has reached the "UP" position.

- 1.2 Extra Air** - This feature is used in conjunction with the setting of the "UP" position. After the system has detected that the lift is in the "UP" position, Extra Air is added to the lift's tanks until the boat is stored in the user's preferred position. It is also used to bubble the tanks and lock the lift against an installed rough water stop kit.

- 1.3 Board Position** - The Board position is designed to allow the user the ability to push a single button to raise or lower their lift to an intermediate position (between the "UP" and "DOWN") and shut the system off automatically when the lift reaches this position. Typically, the boat will still be on the lift's bunks at this level, allowing engines to be started, and passengers are able to load or unload safely and easily.

To raise or lower the lift to the board position, press the "**Board**" key on the controller or press the "**2**" key on the Keyfob. If the lift is in the "UP" position, the valve(s) will open and the lift will vent through the exhaust port(s). If the lift is in the "DOWN" position, the valve(s) will turn and the blower will run. The system will shut off automatically after the lift has reached the "BOARD" position.

- 1.4 Down Position** - The "DOWN" position is designed to allow the user the ability to push a single button to lower the lift to a desired level and shut the system off automatically when the lift reaches this position. The "DOWN" position is programmed by the user to any desired level lower than the "UP" position. (Reference the user's manual.) Typically, the boat will be off the lift at this position and can be backed out of, or pulled into the slip. In rough water areas, users may set the "DOWN" position such that the boat is slightly touching the lift's bunks.

To lower the lift to the "**DOWN**" position, press the "Down" key on the controller or press and hold (for approximately 1 second) the "**3**" key on the keyfob. The Valve(s) will open and the tanks will vent through the exhaust port(s). The system will shut off automatically after the lift has reached the "DOWN" position.

Note: When using the keyfob, it is necessary to hold the desired key for approximately 1 second before the unit will recognize the command. This is an intentional feature built into the Firstmate® to eliminate accidental actuation of the buttons. The strobe will turn on any time the lift has been activated. Pressing any key while the lift is in motion will stop the lift. The keyfob cannot be used to program the Up, Board, or Down position.

- 1.5 Manual Override** - This feature allows the user the ability to raise or lower their lift manually. The Firstmate® system will not automatically stop at programmed positions when the manual override is used. When using the override feature, the strobe will not turn on.

To lower the lift, press down on the manual override handle(s) and turn to the "DOWN" position. The user will hear air begin to vent out the exhaust port(s). After the lift is in the desired position, press down on the manual override handle(s) and turn to the "HOLD" position.

To raise the lift, press down on the manual override handle(s) and turn to the "UP" position. The user will hear the blower turn on. After the lift is in the desired position, press down on the manual override handle(s) and turn to the "HOLD" position.

2.0 FEATURES:

- 2.1 Optional Auxiliary Module** - This module allows the user the ability to control their dock lighting thru their Firstmate® system. To turn lights on/off, the user pushes both the "UP" switch and the "DOWN" switch at the same time. It has a programmable timer that will shut off the lights.
- 2.2 Three-way brass ball valve** - The Firstmate® uses three way ball valve(s). Eliminates nuisance ground fault trips that result from corroding motor windings. The full port valves also yield the fastest lift up and down times available.
- 2.3 Actuated Valve** - Obstructions such as small twigs nor mineral deposits in the valve(s) will prevent valve operation. The valve(s) motor is current protected.
- 2.4 Leak Detection** - If the lift has been placed in the "UP" position and is subsequently lowered as the result of a leak in the tanks or hoses, or from the air condensing in cold temperatures, the Firstmate® controller will automatically raise the lift back to the "UP" position. The display will alternately read "AL" (alarm) and then a two-digit number (representing the number of times this has occurred).
- 2.5 Lift Jam** - In the event that a large leak is developed the Firstmate® will shut off after 15 minutes if it does not detect upward movement of the lift. The display will read "JA" (JAM) under this condition. Likewise, the Firstmate® will shut off after 15 minutes if it does not detect downward movement of the lift while it is going down to the either the "BOARD" or "DOWN" board position. The display will read "JA". Pressing any key will clear the jam message.
- 2.6 Position Sensor** - Unique sensor design detects the position of the lift allowing precise location of the UP, BOARD, and DOWN positions.
- 2.7 Corrosion protection** - All circuit board assemblies are conformally coated and all connectors are coated with lithium grease to prevent corrosion.
- 2.8 GFI Protection** - The Firstmate® uses an auto-resetting Ground Fault Interrupt line cord to prevent injury resulting from electric shock.
- 2.9 Heavy gauge steel frame** - for long life operation.
- 2.11 Encoded Keyfobs** - Digitally encoded serialization prevents unauthorized use.
- 2.12 Lock Hasp** - Prevents unwanted access to the control pad.
- 2.13 Easy Installation** - Mount receiver antenna, frame, enclosure, sensor pickup tube, and hose(s).

2.14 Connectivity - The system is designed for expansion by plugging in a single cable. The system can be configured to accommodate any size lift. The system can be configured to control as many valves and blowers as desired. It is completely upgradable from single valve and up. It can grow as your boat & lift size grows!

2.15 Low voltage operation - Operates at voltages as low as 90VAC.

2.16 Strobe Light - The blue strobe light is activated any time the lift is in operation. It is located inside the translucent lid. May also be mounted externally.

QUALITY YOU CAN COUNT ON:

3.0 Specifications:

Weight:	Single Valve (40 lbs.), Dual Valve (50 lbs.)
Power:	120 VAC
GFCI Protected line cord:	15 Amp grounded line cord, auto resetting.
RF Frequencies:	303MHz, 315 MHz, 418 MHz, or 433 MHz
RF Frequency Range:	Greater than 500 feet
Auxiliary power:	300-Watts current limited.
Blower:	120VAC 2 and 3 stage tangential discharge
Check Valve:	Full port, brass
Valve(s):	3-way, Full port, brass

Most common systems:

Single blower, Single Valve

Single blower, Dual Valve

Single blower, Dual Split Valve (can work two lifts with only one blower box)

Specialty systems:



Dual Valve, Dual Blower



Four Valve, Four Blower

Manual systems manufactured by Firstmate®:



North American Marine
Manual Blower System



Precision Fibersteel
Manual Blower System

PHOTO GALLERY:



Lake Rescue Fire Boat
Firstmate® Systems



Firstmate® 7500 Sq Ft facility – Washington, MO

