



User's Guide

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Pro Model – *Generation III*



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First Things First

1. If your Firstmate™ PRO remote has been packaged with a lift purchase, your Firstmate® may not be programmed. Please contact the factory if the "Lift Monitor" button is not flashing.
2. **MOST IMPORTANT:** If the "Lift Moitor" button IS NOT flashing, it is not detecting your lift. Be sure the last button pushed is the "UP" button. This should activate the "Lift Monitor".

Warning

No user serviceable parts are located inside your **Firstmate™** unit. Installation and service should be performed by a qualified electrician only.

Only use a GFI (Ground Fault Interrupt) outlet for powering your **Firstmate™** controller or the Auxiliary module.

To avoid the risk of electric shock, always disconnect power to your dock before installing the Firstmate™ or any of its components. Use only cordless tools for installation. Failure to follow these instructions may result in injury or death.

Always tie your boat up to your dock, Firstmate, Inc. assumes no liability for damages resulting from the user's failure to securely restrain their watercraft.

Verify that the boat's plugs have not been removed before operating the Firstmate.

Never use your remote control without being present at the lift. If your lift is not raising or lowering in a level position, stop the lift and correct the problem.

Stay clear of the lift while it is in operation.

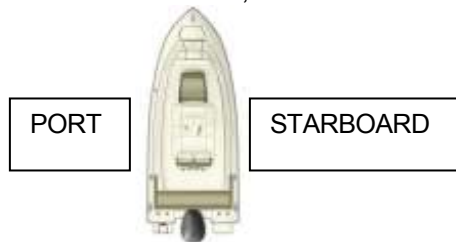
Caution must be used when storing your vessel in the board position as rough water conditions may lift the boat off the lift.

Power requirements: 20 Amp per blower motor.

User's Guide

1.0 Before you begin:

- 1.1 Read all warnings prior to programming or using your **Firstmate™** lift controller.
- 1.2 Read this entire manual before programming your unit.
- 1.3 Know which hoses control the Port, Starboard & Center tanks on your lift.



2.0 Programming (Quick Chart):

PROGRAM FUNCTIONS:

Step 1:

LIFT OPERATION:

1) Press AUTO/MANUAL for:
 Manual Light = Sensor off
 Auto Light = PRO/Sensor on

Step 2:

PROGRAM: (will show on display)

1) Press Enter to Program ("SE")
 2) Press Arrow to select (Step 3)
 3) Press Enter to Save ("SA")

Step 3: (program options)

P5 = Displays on Boot Up Only.

DN = Down
 *have lift in down position

BD = Board
 * have lift in boarding position

EA = Extra Air (bubble tanks)
 EU = Extra Up (Enter to program)*
 *once lift is up ea. digit = add'l 10 seconds to blow air
 (e.g. Press arrow to 4 = 40 seconds add'l air)

ED = Extra Down (factory setting)*
 * if chains are tight on back of lift, it is down.

SR = Strobe
 * can turn strobe on/off at control box.
 (will always flash when using key fob)

LS = Lift Sensor (factory setting - always on)

AU = Optional Auxiliary Lighting Timer
 * ea. digit = 1 minute (e.g. 30 = 30 minutes ambient/decorative or dock lights will stay on before shutting off automatically. (factory setting = 00 / always on/off)

3.0 Programming your Firstmate (step by step):

Programming Down

1. Put unit in manual mode by pressing the Auto/Manual button. The light above manual should be on.
2. Press Down to lower your lift. The exhaust hoses should choke and spit water and the lift chains should be tight.
3. Press Stop.
4. Start Set Up by pressing the Enter/Save button. SE will appear on the display followed by DN for Down.
5. While on DN press the Enter/Save button to save the down position. SA should appear on the display to confirm the setting has saved.
Programming Complete.

Programming Board

1. Use the Up and Down buttons to raise and lower the lift.
2. Once you have found the desired board level press Stop.
3. Start Set Up by pressing the Enter/Save button. SE will appear on the display followed by DN for Down.
4. Use the left and right Arrows to find BD for Board.
5. While on BD press Enter/Save button to save the board position.
SA should appear on the display to confirm the setting has saved.
Programming Complete.

Programming Extra Air (This is used to set the up position)

1. Put unit in auto mode by pressing the Auto/Manual button. The light above auto should be on.
2. From either the down or board level press UP. (The lift should stop on its on.)
3. Put unit in manual mode by pressing the Auto/Manual button. The light above manual should be on.
4. Press Up and time how long it takes for the tanks to begin bubbling.
5. Press Stop.
6. Start Set Up by pressing the Enter/Save button. SE will appear on the display followed by DN for Down.
7. Use the left and right Arrows to find EA for Extra Air.
8. Press Enter/Save the display should read EU for extra up.
9. While on EU press Enter/Save to enter the extra up setting. The display should read a number. This number is in increments of 10 seconds. i.e. 3 is 30 seconds of extra air.
10. Add your additional time using the left and right Arrows. For example if the setting is already set at 3 and it took 25 seconds for the tanks to start bubbling and you want the tanks to bubble for at least 10 seconds then we will round up and add 40 seconds so our final setting should be 7 for a total of 70 seconds.
11. Press Enter/Save once you have your number set. SA will appear on the display to confirm the setting has saved.
Programming Complete.

Programming Auxiliary Lighting Timer

This feature will set an amount of time for your lights to run if they are tied into the auxiliary light feature on the Firstmate Remote system.

1. Start Set Up by pressing the Enter/Save button. SE will appear on the display followed by DN for Down.
2. Use the left and right Arrows to find AU for auxiliary lighting.
3. While on AU press Enter/Save. The display should read a number. This number is in minutes i.e 3 is 3 minutes.
4. Use the left and right Arrows to select your desired time for the lights to run.
00 is always on and 1-30 is in minutes.
5. . Press Enter/Save once you have your number set. SA will appear on the display to confirm the setting has saved.
Programming Complete.

Programming Extra Down

This setting can be used if the lift pops up when pulling off the lift or if the tanks aren't letting all the air out. Typically this problem is caused by the chain lengths on the lift being too short. If the chains are tight before the lift reaches the full down position then the chains need adjusted. Call an authorized lift dealer.

The extra down setting is not the proper solution to short chains.

1. Start Set Up by pressing the Enter/Save button. SE will appear on the display followed by DN for Down.
2. Use the left and right Arrows to find EA for extra air.
3. While on EA press Enter/Save. The display should read EU.
5. Use the left and right Arrows to find ED for extra down.
6. While on ED press Enter/Save. The display will read a number. This number is in increments of 10 seconds. i.e. 2 is 20 seconds.
4. Use the left and right Arrows to select the desired amount of time for the lift run in the down position.
5. . Press Enter/Save once you have your number set. SA will appear on the display to confirm the setting has saved.
Programming Complete.

4.0 When done programming:

Put the system back in Auto Mode (see Step 1 (Quick Chart) above).

5.0 Using the Keyfob:

- 5.1 Note that the Keyfob is not capable of programming any functions. All settings are programmed using the switches on the control module.
- 5.2 To prevent the accidental activation of a button on the keyfob, you must press and hold down the buttons for approximately one second for the **Firstmate™** to accept the command.
- 5.3 The keyfob buttons correspond to the following functions:
 - UP** switch
 - BD = BOARD** switch
 - DOWN** switch
 - Both "**UP**" and "**DN**" = AUXILIARY LIGHTS On/Off if optionally equipped.

6.0 Using your Firstmate™.

- 6.1 Read all warnings prior to operating your **FIRSTMATE™**.
- 6.2 Always secure your boat to your dock when not in use, Firstmate assumes no liability for resulting damage.**
- 6.3 Anytime the lift is in operation; the strobe light will: 1) Always turn on when activated with the key fob; or 2) turn on unless programmed not to (See 2.0 (Step 3) on Programming)
- 6.4 While the Firstmate® is in operation you can stop the lift by pressing any other key on the keyfob or by pressing the STOP switch on the controller.
- 6.5 Pressing the UP & DOWN buttons, will toggle the optional light module on/off.
- 6.6 While the **FIRSTMATE®** is trying to raise your lift to either the BOARD or UP position but does not detect movement of the lift within thirty (30) minutes, the blowers will turn off and the display will read "**JA**" (Jammed lift). This prevents the blowers from running for extended periods of time in the event of a catastrophic leak.
- 6.7 While the **FIRSTMATE®** is trying to lower the lift to the BOARD or DOWN position but does not detect movement of the lift within thirty (30) minutes, the valves will be closed and the display will read "**JA**" (Jammed lift).
- 6.8 If the **FIRSTMATE®** detects a leak condition, it will automatically raise the lift. The display will alternately read "**AL**" and "**01**". The number will increase each time air is added to your lift. To reset the Alarm indication, press the **STOP** switch.

Note: The leak detection is operable only when the lift has been raised to the up position and the UP switch is the last switch used. The lift monitor LED (lower left corner) will flash when the Firstmate® controller is in the lift monitoring mode.

6.9 Auto Mode (Auto light is lit):

- To switch from the auto mode of operation (level sensor active) to the manual mode, press and hold the Auto/Manual key (Manual light will come on).
- After the lift reaches the desired level, it will shut off automatically.
- The keyfob is also in the auto mode .
- "Lift Monitor" light (lower left) will blink (Firstmate is now watching the lift)
(**Not blinking? Not watching!**)

6.10 Manual Mode (Manual light is lit):

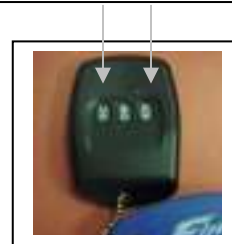
- To switch from the auto mode to the manual mode (level sensor is off), press and hold the Auto/Manual key (Manual light will come on).
- When in the manual mode, the controller will stay active until the STOP switch is pressed; or the UP or DN button on the key fob is pushed (strobe light will turn off).
- The keyfob is also in the manual mode (press UP or DN button on fob to activate lift & another button to stop it)

Using Auxiliary Lighting Module: Your Generation III Pro Remote (s/n: 30242 or after) comes standard with an auxiliary lighting feature.

UP & DN together – toggles lights on & off

7.0 Use Auxiliary Lighting Module:

- 7.1 Remove outer enclosure to expose the Female cord plug. This will accommodate any rope or decorative lighting. Plug it in and use the key fob to operate lighting.



- 7.2 **Use Auxiliary Timer (up to 30 minutes):** Turn lights on when docking with UP&DN buttons on the key fob. Auxiliary lights will turn off automatically. Can be programmed up to 30 minutes.

7.2.1 To program lights: Program; Enter (will get SE); arrow ← to "AU" ; Enter; arrow forward or back to set timer (each digit is one minute); Enter to save.

7.3 **Use Key Fob for dock lights.** It is possible to have your auxiliary module turn your dock lights on and off with your key fob. Consult an electrician for wiring.

What are the handles for? The handles are to be used in the event of a power outage. You can manually move the handles to the "UP" position to manually turn on the unit or "DOWN" to get the boat off the lift. **** TURN ALL HANDLES AT THE SAME TIME.**

7.0 Using the Manual Override handles:

7.1 The manual override handles may be used to raise or lower the lift. Turn to the desired function. **Caution: Do not control the valves independent of one another in opposite functions (one valve up, other valves down) as you may roll the lift.**

Programming Tips:

- 1.0 When programming the "EA" (Extra Air), start with 30 seconds (#3 on display – factory setting), and then check the lift height. Add extra air as required to achieve the desired lift height.
- 2.0 To change the **Firstmate™** from the auto mode to the manual mode (and vice versa), press the **Auto/Manual** switch to toggle between Auto & Manual (see 5.9 & 5.10 for clarification).
- 3.0 After launching your boat, press the board button. The lift will be raised to the up position with minimum air in the tanks and take less time to lower the lift when you return.

Lift Dynamics:

When your boat and lift combination is in a transition state (i.e. rapid movement between the UP and Board positions, or the BOARD and DOWN positions) it is not possible to stop the lift from continuing the upward/downward movement until it has reached a neutral buoyancy position.

The weight of your boat will affect the location of your UP and BOARD positions. A heavily laden boat with full gas tanks will stop at lower levels than the same boat with nearly empty tanks.

Troubleshooting

Firstmate not blowing itself back up:

1. Be sure sensor is activated. Last button **must** be "UP" button.
Red LED "Lift Monitor" (lower left on control panel) should be flashing.
2. Is sensor hose attached from the lift to Firstmate?
3. Is sensor tube (white tube on lift) out of water? May need to adjust up or down.
4. To test Lift Monitor: With "Lift Monitor" light flashing, turn handle(s) **at the same time** to DOWN. Once sensor tube gets down in water before boat is floating, Firstmate should activate auto blow up & shut itself off and read "AL01". Press Hold button to clear alarm. Press UP button to turn "Lift Monitor" light back on.

Lift is down and nothing happens when the “UP” button is pushed:

CAUSE:

Firstmate was turned off by operator prior to completing cycle & thinks it is still in the “UP” position.

Hit BOARD or DOWN button on remote or control box & let the Firstmate cycle through & shut itself off. Then hit UP button (blower should turn on)

or

CAUSE:

There may be water in the sensor hose.

1. Turn the handles inside the blower box to “UP” (if two handles, TURN AT THE SAME TIME). Get the lift back in the UP position. Turn Handles to HOLD or press the STOP button on control box.
2. Remove blower box cover, disconnect sensor tube from under control box. Blow air through sensor tubing to remove water. Send the lift back down. If the same thing happens, there is probably a leak in the sensor hosing and will need to be replaced.

Lift will not go down (no air coming from back of Firstmate):

1. Lift may have air lock.
2. Turn override handle (with red pointer) to “UP” until lift tanks bubble. Then turn back to “HOLD”
IF TWO HANDLES – BE SURE AND TURN AT THE SAME TIME.
This will blow the air from the hoses back into the lift tanks.
3. Hit “DOWN” on control box (inside lid), or hit “DOWN” on key fob, or turn handle(s) to “DOWN”. Should now hear air from back of Firstmate.

Blower will not shut off or seems to run way too long:

1. Re-adjust the “Extra Air” setting (see 2.0 Programming diagram). Lift may have been programmed without boat on lift.
2. Is Firstmate in Auto or Manual Mode? See 5.9 or 5.10 above.

No range - remote will only work at very close range:

1. Replace battery. Even if light is still showing, range is affected when battery gets low.
2. Be sure to check both key fobs. On key fob: does a light come on? If not, key fob may have water damage or may be the battery. Remove screw from back of fob & replace with A23 battery (see parts description below).
3. Check if receiver is mounted to dock upright

4. Is there an antenna attached to the receiver? If so, push antenna & cable into receiver to make sure there is a tight connection.
5. Open key fob case to see if water has gotten on electronics (will show rust) If rust is showing, contact customer service to mail back to factory.

Firstmate™ comes on by itself & lift is up:

1. One of two things: Mother Nature or electrical current.
Mother Nature: Unplug cable (running up dock post) to the receiver & check to see if contacts are clean (no green from mildew or rust from moisture). Plug back in.
Electrical: Voltage to dock may be low or electric surge.
 If problem persists, call for service.

Parts Description:



Remote
Key Fob

Remote
Key Fob
A23 Battery



(remove screw from back to replace)

FIRSTMATE OPTIONS:

- Single Valve – upgradable to Dual, Three & Four-Valve
- Standard remote control – upgradable to PRO remote
- Key Fobs – Additional key fobs available
- Antenna – Expanded Range
- Strobe – External dock post strobe mounts (above or to end of dock)
- Auxiliary Lighting – turn on decorative, slip or dock lights from your key fob
- Solar

See web site or call for pricing

Warranty Statement:

Thank you for purchasing your **Firstmate®** system. Your system is covered by a two-year Parts and Labor warranty** as follows:

The warranty period starts on the date of the sale. In the case of equipment installed by an authorized commercial contractor, the warranty begins on the date of site acceptance.

This warranty is provided for the sole benefit of the original consumer and is not transferable.

This warranty is applicable for product purchased and used in the fifty states of the USA and the District of Columbia only. It is not applicable in the possessions or territories of the USA or in any other country.

This is the only express warranty, which Firstmate, Inc. makes in connection with the **Firstmate®** system, and its accessories. Any implied warranty applicable to this product including the warranty of merchantability is limited to the duration of the express warranty.

Firstmate, Inc. excludes and shall not be liable in any event for incidental or consequential damages. Some states do not allow limitations on how long an implied warranty may last. Therefore, these limitations and exclusions may not apply to you.

This warranty gives you specific legal rights. You may also have other rights, which vary, from state to state. In the event any of the provisions of this warranty are bound by statute or by applicable administrative or judicial entities to be unenforceable, all remaining provisions shall remain in full force.

Owner's Responsibilities:

1. Please read the Owner's Manual completely. The information provided in the manual covers operation, safety precautions and, where applicable, routine maintenance.
2. Should warranty service be required you will need to be able to produce reasonable proof of purchase. Please save your sales receipt or other similar document. In the case of contractor installed equipment, a photocopy of the site acceptance document would be considered acceptable.
3. Notify Aqualogic Marine, Inc. of any alleged defect promptly upon discovery.
4. Return the product to an authorized dealer, service center or to Firstmate, Inc. All shipments must be PREPAID. No Collect shipments will be accepted. Products repaired under warranty by Aqualogic Marine, Inc. or designated service center will be returned to the sender PREPAID.
5. Product returned for service (in or out of warranty) MUST have a Return Authorization that may be obtained from Firstmate, Inc..
6. At Firstmate Inc.'s sole discretion, warranted materials may be repaired or replaced.

Exclusions:

1. Product sold by retailers or contractors NOT authorized by Firstmate, Inc. and product whose trademark, name or identification numbers have been altered or removed are not covered by this warranty.
2. Product not specifically marketed for installation in areas exposed to the elements (sun, wind, rain, etc.) is not covered for defects that are attributable to this type of installation.
3. Product failures that are the result of abnormal strain, negligence, misuse, improper installation or operation, or failure to follow instructions contained in the owner's manual. Abuse, modification, or accidental damage is not covered by this warranty, nor is damage resulting from floods, lighting, earthquakes, hail, etc.
4. RFI/EMI (interference/noise) caused by improper grounding or the improper use of either certified or uncertified equipment is not covered by this warranty.
5. Product that has been, or has attempted to have been, repaired by anyone other than Firstmate, Inc. or a party authorized by Firstmate.

** The General Ground Fault Interrupter (GFCI) comes standard on our product for liability purposes. It is not an integral part of the Firstmate system. Therefore, **the GFCI only carries a 60-day warranty.**