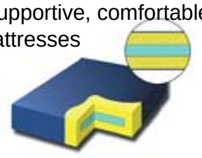
If you would like to help and information about Moving and Handling Issues, visit our website at www.helpinghand.co.uk.

You can also view the other products available in our range, some of which are illustrated below:

Meywalk–

Goes anywhere you can safely go in a wheelchair –standing up

Lowzone– Supportive, comfortable cushions and mattresses



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Helping adults and children to learn to lie straight.

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The Helping Hand company

SkyFrame Hoist

Operating and Maintenance Instruction Manual

For Gantry and Single Beam Hoists

CE

Contents

Unit 9L, Bromyard Road Trading Estate, Ledbury, Herefordshire. HR8 1NS
Tel : 01531 638046 Fax : 01531 638059

THE SKYFRAME OVERHEAD HOIST GUARANTEE

GUARANTEE

The Skyframe Overhead Hoist is guaranteed for a period of one year from the date of purchase against mechanical and electrical defects.

It is particularly important that the purchaser should carefully read the instructions provided in order to get maximum use from this product.

Any defects in the parts or materials used in the Skyframe Overhead Hoist occurring within 12 months of the date of purchase, will be rectified without charge if evidence of the said date of purchase is provided showing that the relevant Hoist was bought within this period.

The Turntable System (cont.)

Move the hoist control box off the turntable and continue your journey in the new track direction. (**fig.4**).

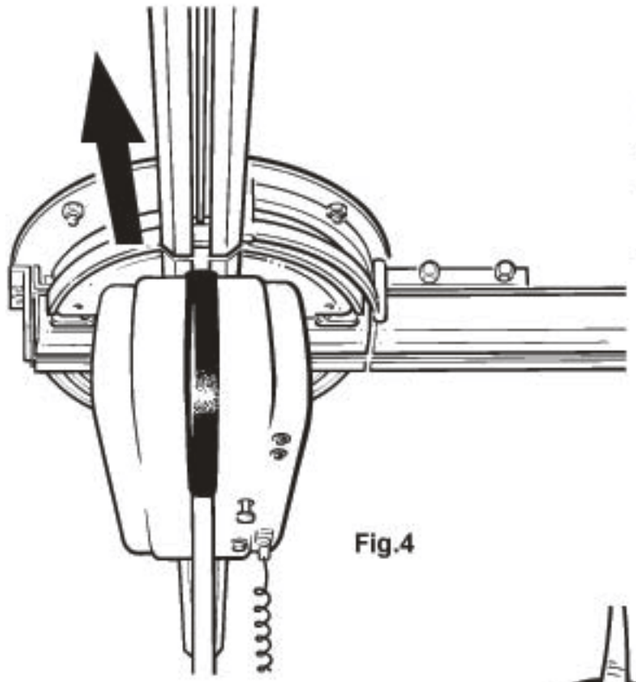

Fig.4

If the SkyFrame system consists of a single hoist control box, the turntable will always be left open to the track direction previously used, ready for the return journey

Fig.5

Please Note:
Only use the hoist control box tape to position the control box. Not the handset curly cable.

The Helping Hand Company
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Introduction

Before using your hoist, thoroughly read these operating instructions and familiarise yourself with this product.

IMPORTANT. Please keep these instructions available to all users at all times.

Safety Notes

Sling Type.
We recommend the use of The Helping Hand Company slings and hanger bars with this hoist.
Should you choose to use other manufacturers slings, they must be compatible with the type of hanger bar used. It is also important that they carry their own load test certification.

Moving the Hanger Bar.
When moving the hanger bar to the patient, always guide the hanger bar by hand. A loose hanger bar could swing and cause injury to the patient or user.

Maintenance

The Helping Hand Company offers, 6 monthly service inspections and load tests. To ensure compliance with hoist regulations, we strongly recommend that checks and tests are made at these intervals.

In accordance with the Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations (LOLER), which came into force on 5th December 1998, these checks and tests can be made by an appointed "competent person," designated by the user.

Service instructions, together with a service manual and appropriate training are all available from the Helping Hand Company.

In addition, please check the lifting tape for signs of wear before each lift and please contact The Helping Hand Company should any damage be apparent.

Should your batteries need replacement, please return the dead battreies to the Helping Hand Company for disposal. (**See page 12 for address**).

The SkyFrame Hoist

Your Skyframe hoist has been installed. Gantry or single track hoist, with either a manual or powered traverse control unit attached to the track.
(See fig.1).

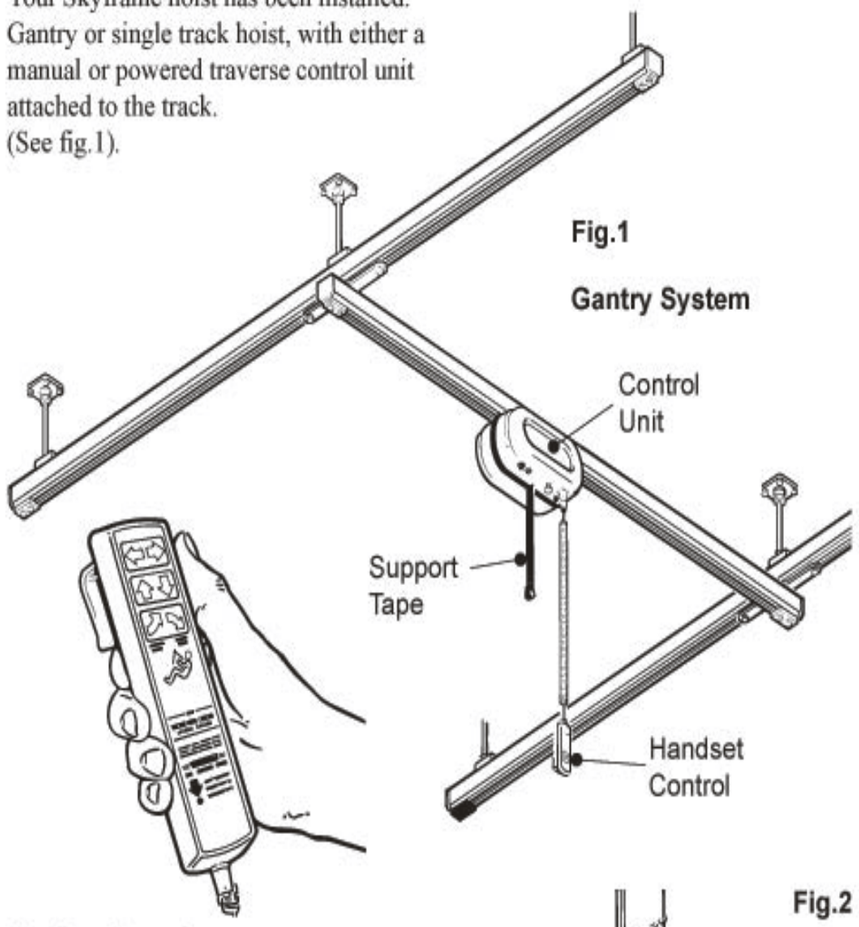


Fig.1

Gantry System

Handset Control.
Suspended from one side of the control unit is the handset control if fitted.
(If not see fig.4 page 3 for connection details). This operates the hoist travel for the powered traverse version, support tape up and down and the positioning of the powered hanger bar.

Hanger Bar Attachment.
Use the handset to lower the support tape to a good working height. Attach the hanger onto the support tape as shown.
(See fig.2).

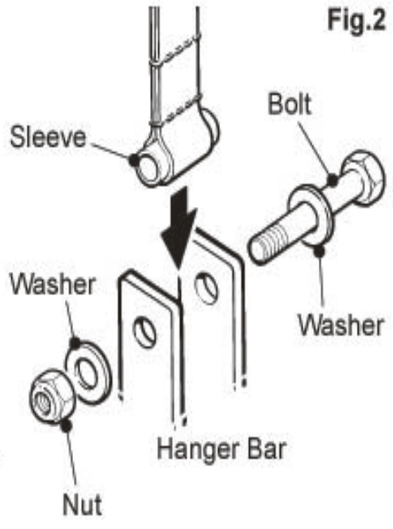


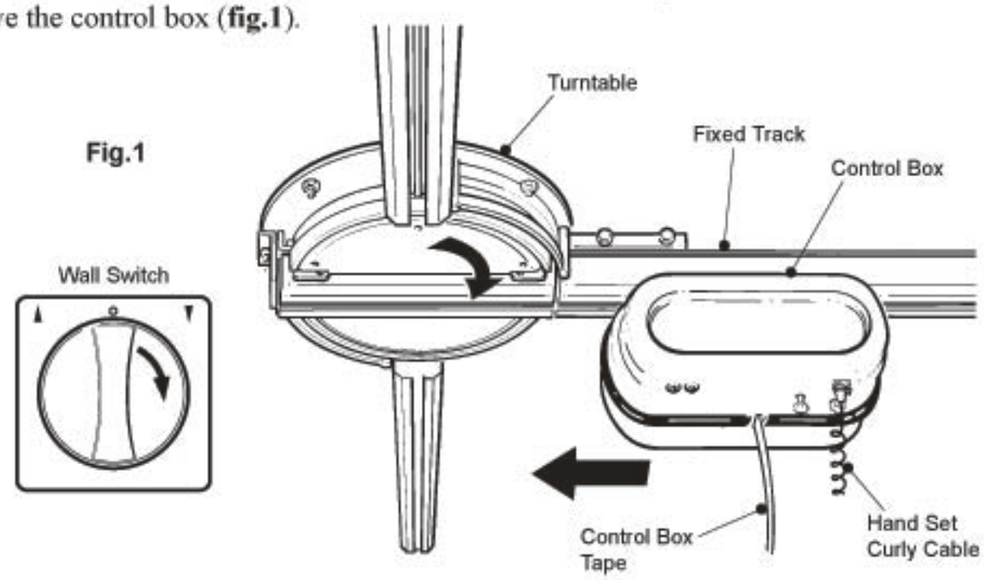
Fig.2

The Turntable System

The Turntable is used within the SkyFrame overhead hoist system. Enabling the operator to transfer the hoist control box at right angles, from one fixed track to another.

Turntable Operation.
To operate the turntable, firstly check to see that the turntable is aligned with the track on which the hoist control box is travelling.
If it is not, turn the wall switch and then release, this will align the the turntable to receive the control box (**fig.1**).

Fig.1

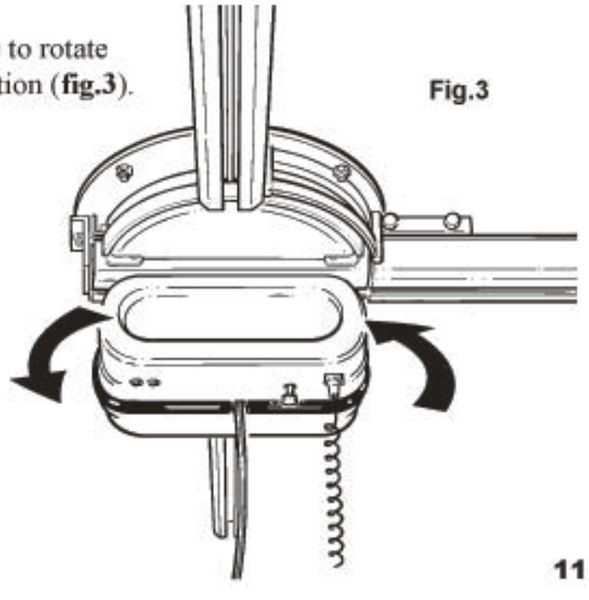


Move the hoist control box along the track and onto the turntable until it is positioned centrally. Be careful to control any swinging motion of the patient, to prevent the control box moving on the turntable.

Turn the wall switch (**fig.2**) and release to rotate the turntable for the desired track direction (**fig.3**).

Fig.2

Fig.3



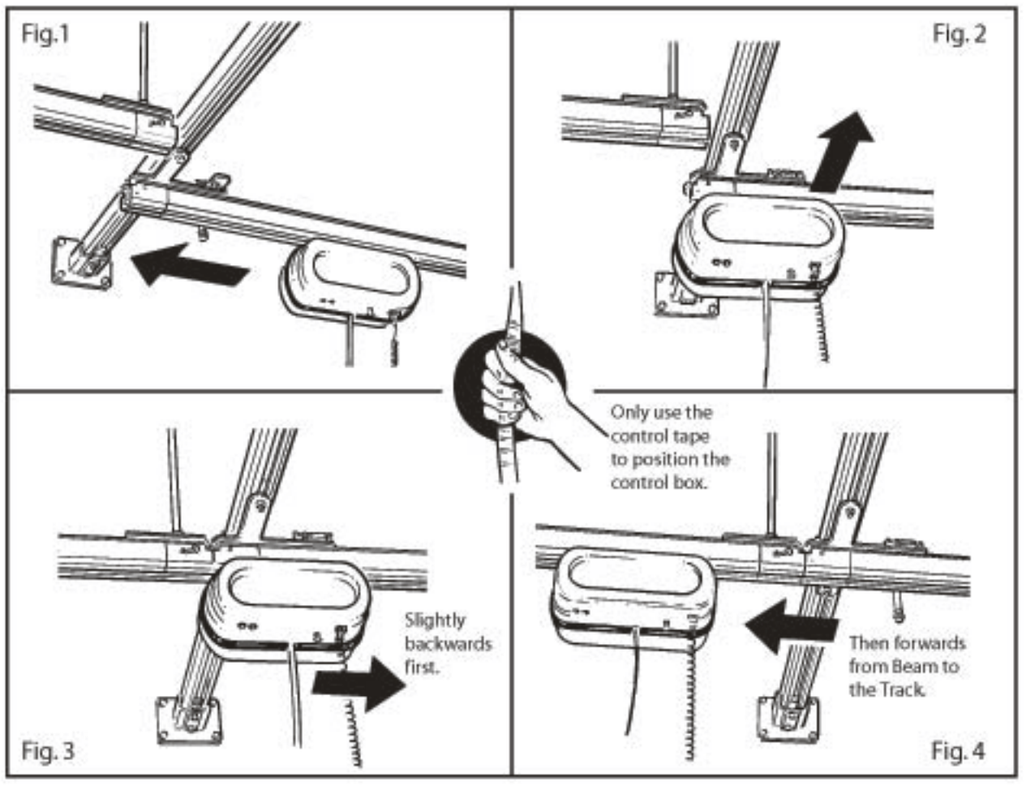
The Gate System

The SkyFrame gate system is used for transferring a SkyFrame hoist control box with or without a patient, from a gantry system to a fixed track.

Transferring from Gantry Beam to Fixed Track.
To operate the gate, the control box must firstly be moved to the gate end of the gantry beam to activate the latch mechanism (Fig.1). **Please remember to only use the control box tape, to position the control box. Not the handset cable.**

Keeping the control box at the gate end of the gantry beam, move the beam along to align with the track (fig.2). The latch mechanism will engage, locking the beam to the track (fig.3). Move the control box backwards slightly, to allow the end stop to open. Now you may pass the control box from the beam to the track (fig.4).

Transferring from Fixed Track to Gantry Beam.
The track and gantry beam should be locked together from the last transfer. The control box can be passed from the track to the beam. As the control box travels through the gate, the latch is automatically released, allowing the gantry beam to separate from the fixed track. When the track and beam separate, the end stops will close securing the ends of both.



Powered Hanger Bar

Powered Hanger Bar Attachment.
Use the handset to lower the support tape to a good working height.
Attach the powered hanger bar onto the support tape as shown in fig.2, page 2

Fig.3

Cable Attachment.
Push the black end of the extension cable into the control unit socket and twist. (See fig.4).
Then push the silver end into the powered hanger bar socket and screw together. (fig.5).
The powered hanger bar is now ready for use.

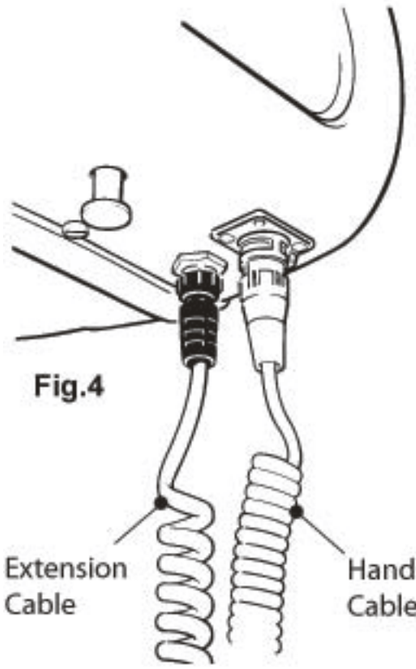


Fig.4

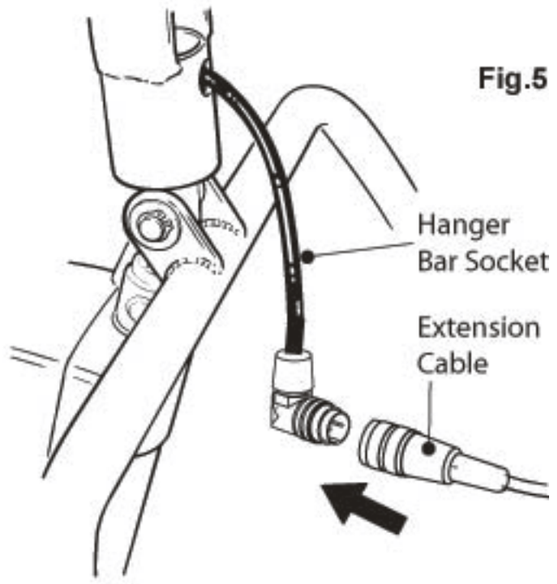
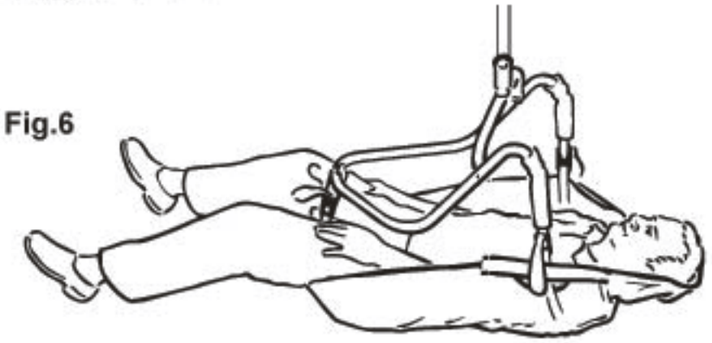


Fig.5

Using Your Hoist.

Position the patient in the sling. Lower the hanger bar to a convenient height in front of the patient and atttach the sling (fig.6). For details of sling fitting refer to pages 8 and 9.

Fig.6



IMPORTANT. Inspect the tape during operation of the hoist. Should the tape become twisted it may jam in the tape guide on the control unit. If a twist in the tape becomes evident, we recommend that you remove the twist before elevating the patient. If the tape twists and jams in the slot the hoist will shut off.
If the tape is checked for twists on each patient lifting operation, tape jamming should never be a problem.

Should you press the down button and the system fails to lower, the tape could be jammed in the guide slot. If the system does fail to lower, give a sharp tug on the tape to release the limit-switch. The system should then return to its normal operating mode.

Extreme vigilance must be maintained during the lowering operation to ensure that "freefall," dropping of the hanger bar, or of the patient never occurs. Should the hanger bar, tape or patient fail to lower immediately when the down button on the handset is depressed, **STOP THE OPERATION**. Check to ensure that the tape is not jammed before continuing the manoeuvre.

Should the problem remain, please call the service engineer, at the Helping Hand Company as soon as possible, on this telephone number. **01531 635388**, or contact the Helping Hand Company at the address on page 12.

Sling Use (cont.)

Lightweight Hanger Bar.
Where the lightweight hanger bar is fitted, (**see fig.12**) the same procedure for sling fixing applies.

Fig.13

IMPORTANT NOTE FOR USERS

Safe working loads (SWL) may differ between the hoist, the hanger bar and the sling. In this event the minimum figure quoted shall be the maximum load which the user shall be able to lift with the equipment.
Example : hoist 160 kg
hanger bar 200 kg
sling 175 kg
The maximum load which can be lifted using this combination is 160 kg.

Sling Use

Please familiarise yourself with this procedure before attempting any lifts.
It is ESSENTIAL that correct sling fixing is fully understood.
Always check slings for damage or wear before use.

1. Holding the rounded sling clip grip handle, pass the large diameter hole on the sling clip over the pick-up point on the hanger bar, making sure the straps are not twisted.

2. Grab the sling under the clip and pull down, forcing the pick-up peg to the top of the curved slot on the clip.

3. The pick-up must now be locked into the small diameter hole at the top of the sling clip.

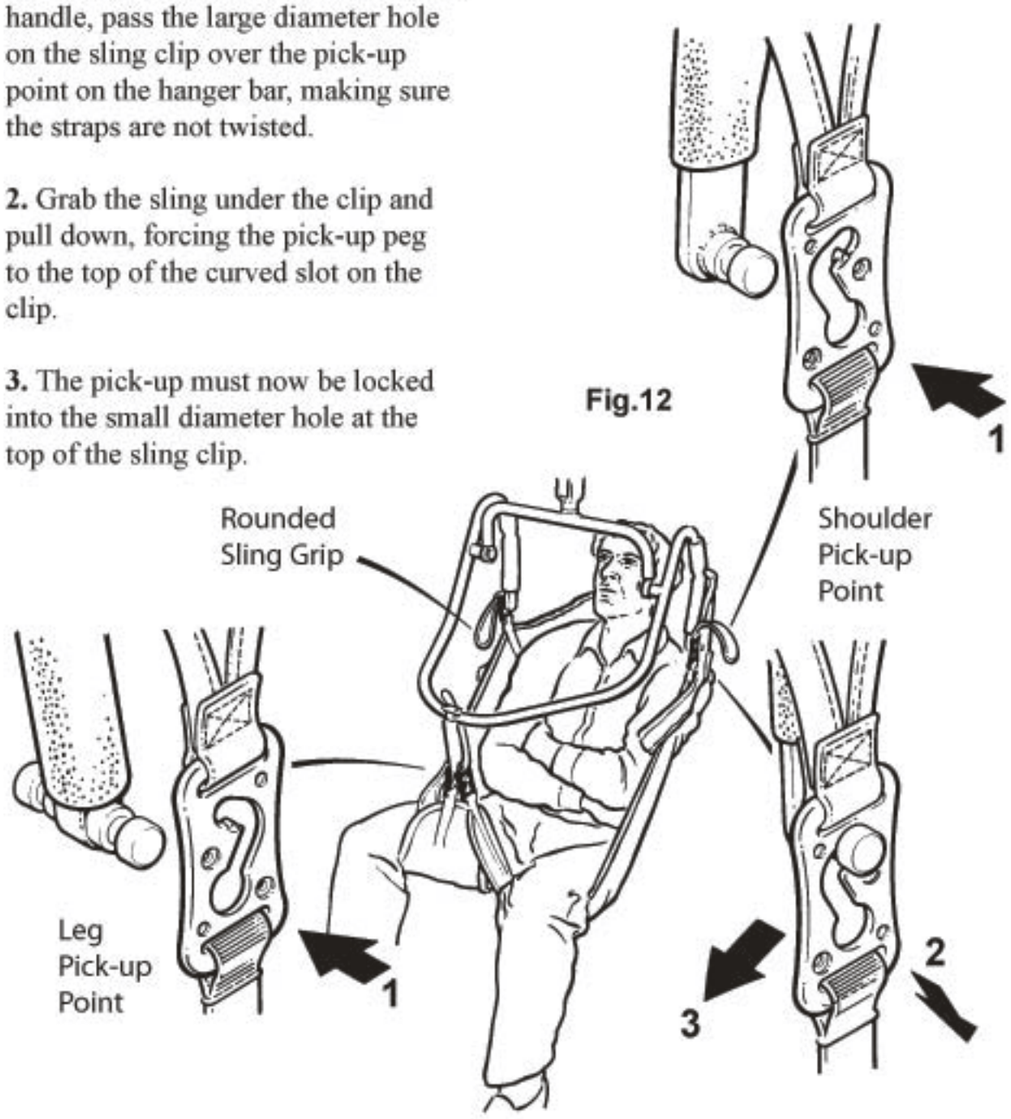


Fig.12

This procedure is the same for both leg and shoulder pick-up points, the only difference being, the clips attached to the sling at the shoulders are turned in the opposite direction.

Please ensure that each sling clip is under tension at the start of the lift and before hoisting the patient clear of their support, i.e. bed, chair, etc.

The Control Unit

Patient movement along the track length is a manual procedure on the manual traverse hoist or electrically powered from the handset on the power traverse hoist. Guide the patient by using their own body weight supported in the sling, or by using the hanger bar in the desired direction. **DO NOT** use the handset or the handset cable at any point to move the control unit.This will only result in damage to the handset or wiring disconnection.

The power supply of the control unit is constantly charged in any position along the length of the track, provided that the charger is switched on. This can be verified by checking the green charge indication light is **ON** (fig.7).

If the handset is not fitted to the control unit, simply push the handset connector into the handset socket on the control unit. (fig.7).

To release the handset connector push in the release tab on the handset socket and pull out.

If the charger for any reason is not operating, then the control unit will run off the battery. The battery level indication light will flash when the battery is at a level at which it requires charging after the current lift. When the indication light is permanently on, the control unit should be charged before any further use.

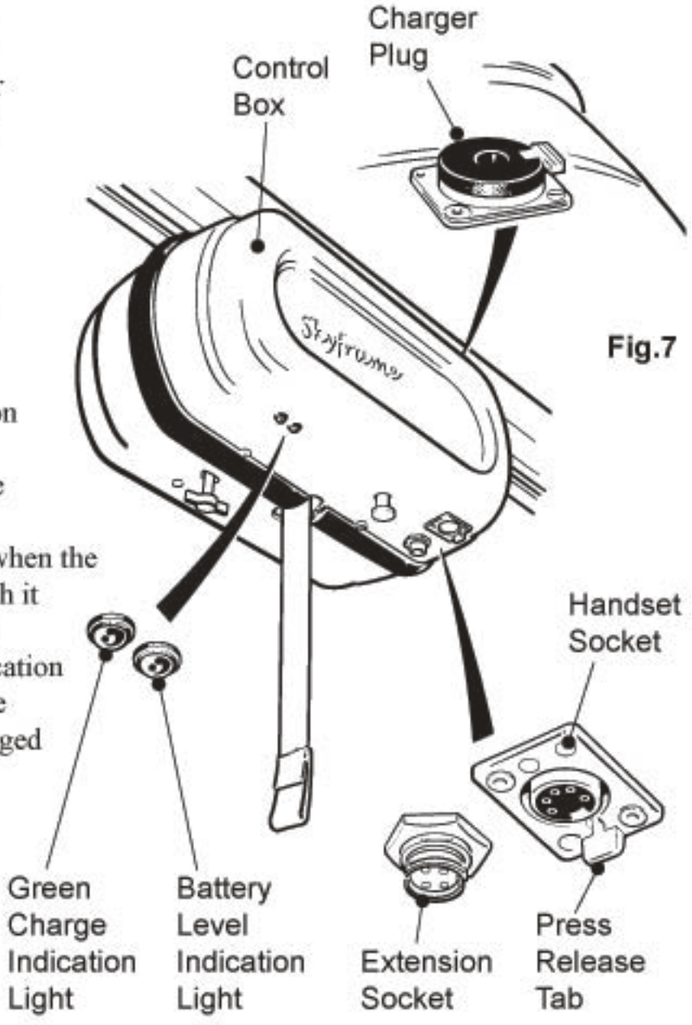
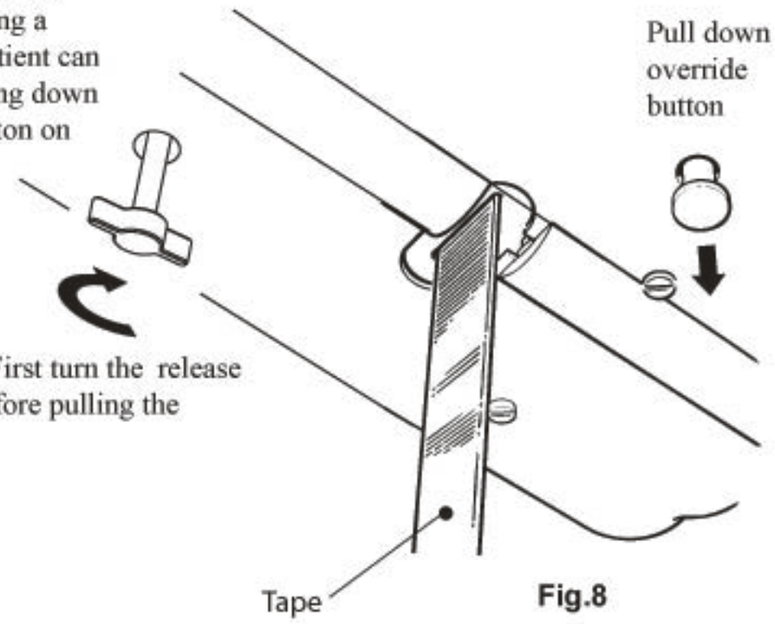


Fig.7

The Control Unit (cont.)

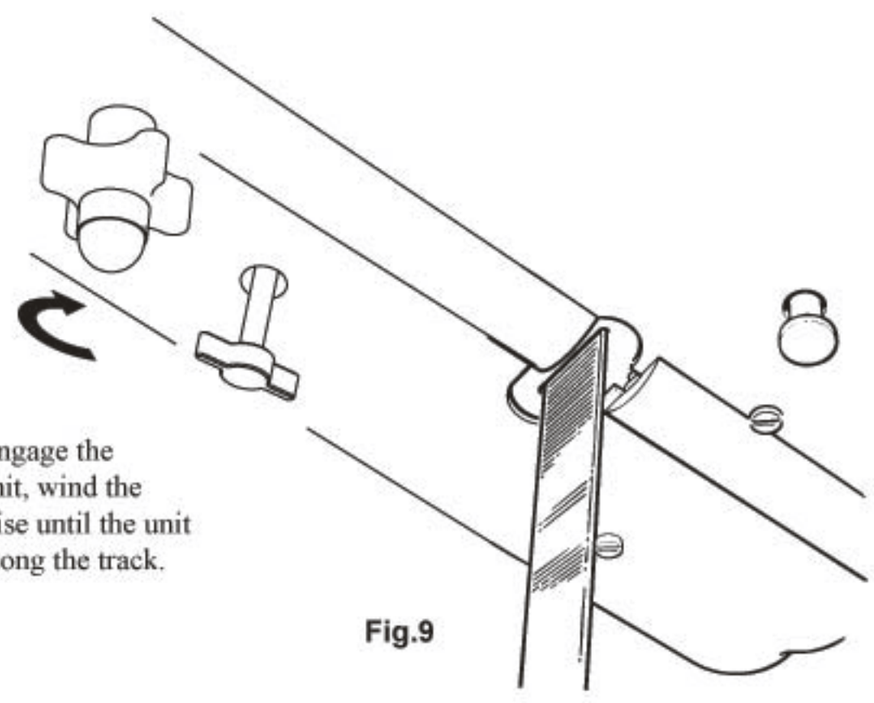
If the fuse should blow or the handset control fail during a lifting procedure, the patient can still be lowered by pulling down the manual override button on the unit base. (**fig.8**).



IMPORTANT - First turn the release screw fully in before pulling the override button.

Fig.8

Power Traverse Unit



To manually disengage the power traverse unit, wind the star knob clockwise until the unit is free to travel along the track.

Fig.9

Handset Operation.

For Manual Traverse Hoist

It is very important that handset operation is carried out in the correct manner.

With the handset in the operators hand, the up and down control buttons will be uppermost on the handset display. (**fig.10**).

When the down button is pressed the tape will momentarily travel up about 10mm before coming down.

The lower buttons are for operating the powered hanger bar where fitted.

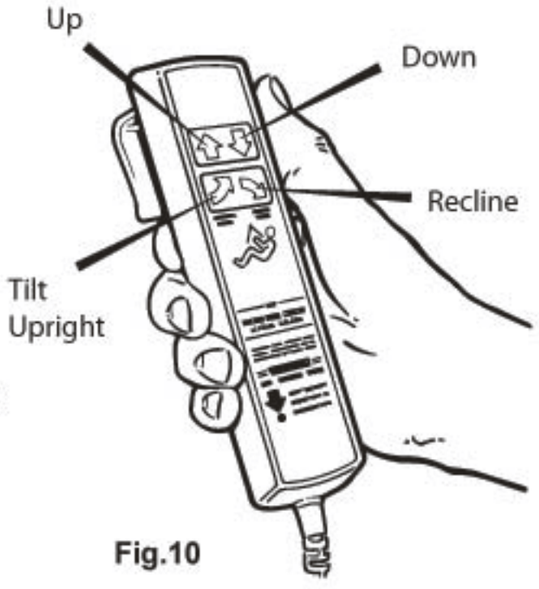


Fig.10

For Power Traverse Hoist

With the handset in the operators hand, the power traverse control buttons (left or right) will be uppermost on the handset display.

The second row of buttons are for the up and down control.

When the down button is pressed the tape will momentarily travel up about 10mm before coming down.

The lower buttons are for operating the powered hanger bar where fitted.

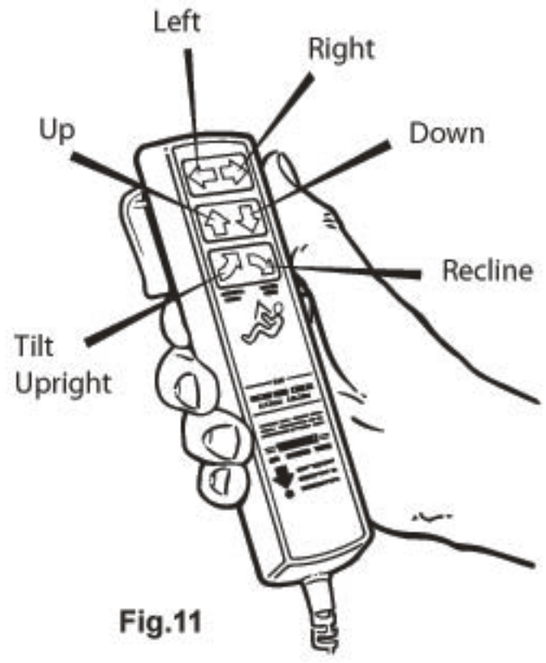


Fig.11