

## User's Manual

# NRT Neil Robertson type Rescue stretcher



**CE** This appliance conforms with the Directive 93/42/CEE "Medical Devices".

Guarantee of Quality system for the production and the final control of the products certified by the notifying body TÜV SÜD Product Service GmbH.

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## Thank you for choosing a Spencer product

### 1. GENERAL INFORMATION

#### 1.1 Aim and contents

The aim of this manual is to supply all the information necessary so that the client, will not only attain adequate use of the appliance, he will also be capable of using the instrument in the most autonomous and secure way possible. This includes information regarding technical aspects, functioning, maintenance, spare parts and safety.

#### 1.2 Conservation of the instruction manual

The instruction and maintenance manual must be kept together with the product, for the whole life of the device, inside the specially provided container and above all, away from any substances or liquids which could compromise perfect legibility.

#### 1.3 Symbols used

##### Symbol

##### Meaning



General or specific warning



See instructions for use



Lot number



Product code



The product is compliant with the specifications of the Directive 93/42/CEE

#### 1.4 Servicing request

For any information regarding the use, maintenance and installation, please contact the Spencer Customer Care Service on tel. 0039 0521 541111, fax 0039 0521 541222, e-mail info@spencer.it or write to Spencer Italia S.r.l. - Strada Cavi, 7 - 43044 Collecchio (Parma) - ITALY. In order to facilitate the assistance service, please always indicate or communicate the lot number (LOT) shown on the label applied on the box or on the device.

#### 1.5 Demolition

When the devices are no more suitable for being used, if they haven't been contaminated by any particular agents, they can be disposed of as normal solid waste, otherwise follow the current regulations about demolition.

#### 1.6 Labelling

Each device has got an identifying label, positioned on the device itself and/or on the box. This label includes information about the Manufacturer, the product, CE mark, lot number (LOT). It must never be removed or covered.

### 2. WARNINGS



#### 2.1 General warnings

- The product must be used by trained personnel only, having attended specific training for this device and not for similar products.
- Before carrying out any kind of operation on the appliance (training, installation, use), the operator must carefully read the enclosed instructions, paying particular attention to the correct safety precautions and to the procedures to be followed for installation and for correct use.
- If the instructions belong to another device and not the device received, inform the Manufacturer immediately and avoid use of the device.
- In the case of any doubts as to the correct interpretation of the instructions, please contact Spencer Italia S.r.l. for any necessary clarifications.
- Regularly check the appliance. Carry out the prescribed maintenance in order to keep the appliance in good condition and to guarantee correct functioning and a long life.
- In the case of any abnormalities or damage to the appliance, which could jeopardize the functioning and the safety, the appliance must be immediately removed from service.

- Do not alter or modify in any way the appliance; any such interference could cause malfunctions and injury to the patient and/or rescuer.
- The appliance must not in any way be tampered with (modification, adjustment, addition, replacement). In such cases all responsibility will be denied for any malfunctions or injuries caused by the appliance itself; moreover CE certification and product warranty will be considered void.
- Those who modify or have modified, prepare or have prepared medical appliances in such a way that they no longer serve the purpose for which they were intended, or no longer supply the intended service, must satisfy the valid conditions for the introduction onto the market.
- Register and store with these instructions: lot number, place and date of purchase, first date of use, date of checks, name of users, any comments.
- Attention: Laboratory testing, post production tests, instruction manuals cannot always consider every possible scenario for use. This means that in some cases the performance of the product could be notable different from results to date obtained. Instructions are continually being updated and are under tight surveillance of fully qualified staffs with adequate technical formation.
- Ensure that all the necessary precautions are taken in order to avoid the hazards that can arise as the result of contact with blood or body fluids.
- Use of the device in anyway other than described in this manual is forbidden.
- Handle with care.
- With reference to the D. Lgs. 24th February 1997, n. 46 emended by D. Lgs. 25/01/2010, n. 37 – Acknowledgement of Directive 93/42/CEE and 2007/47/CE, we remind both public and private operators that they are obliged to report any accident that involves any medical device to the Ministry of Health and to the Manufacture as specified and within time given by the European regulations. In addition, both public and private operators are obliged to inform the Manufacturer of any measures that should be adopted to make the steps necessary to guarantee the safety and the health of the patients and the users o any medical device.



## **2.2 Specific warnings**

- Training routines must be registered on a special register in which the names of those trained, of the trainers, date and place are indicated. This register which will certify the eligibility of the operators to use the Spencer device has to be kept for a period of 10 years after the disposal of the device itself. This register will be made available to the Competent Authorities and/or Manufacturer if requested.
- If any failure or incorrect functioning of the device is detected, it must be immediately substituted with a similar item so that the rescue procedures are guaranteed without any interruption.
- Before each use of device the perfect operating state of the device must be checked as specified in the Instruction manual. If any damage or abnormalities which could in any way influence the correct functioning and the safety of the device, of the patient and or of the user are detected, the device must be immediately removed from service and the Manufacturer must be contacted.
- When the device is being used, the assistance of qualified staff must be guaranteed.
- Never leave an unassisted patient. The presence of at least one operator is essential at all times when the medical device is in use.
- The device not be exposed to or come into contact with any source of combustion or inflammable agents.
- Store in a cool, dry, dark place and do not expose to direct sun.
- Do not store the device underneath any heavy objects which could cause structural damage.
- Store and transport device in its original packaging.
- Position and adjust the device taking care not to cause any obstruction to rescuers and or any other rescue equipment.
- Always immobilize the patient using the purpose made restraint belts, because incorrect immobilization may cause serious damages to him/her.
- For the best immobilization of the patient, we recommend to use a thorax belt system (ex. Spencer STX 499).
- Check that the belts are correctly attached to the structure of the device.
- Use of the NRT recovery stretcher requires at least two sensible operators who must be strong, have a good sense of balance and coordination and must have undergone a training routine about the correct functioning of the Spencer stretcher.

- Always respect the maximum load capacity of the device, as indicated in this user's manual.
- Follow all the procedures established by the EMS Service regarding the positioning and transport of the patient.

### 2.3 Contraindications and side effects

The use of this device, if used as described in this manual, does not present any contraindications or collateral effects.

### 2.4 Physical requirement of the operators

NRT Neil Robertson type stretcher is a device intended for professional use only. The rescue operators who use it must have the following minimum requirements:

- physical capacity for operating the device
- ability to seize firmly the device with both hands
- strong back, arms and legs for lifting and transporting
- good muscular coordination

⚠ Each operator must be trained for efficient and safe patient transport.

⚠ Patient loading procedures for extremely heavy patients, operations on rough terrains and in particular situations may need more operators (not only 2 as suggested for normal conditions).

⚠ **The capacities of each operator must be considered before determining his/her role in the employment of the stretcher.**

## 3. PRODUCT DESCRIPTION

### 3.1 Intended use

NRT Neil Robertson type is a rescue stretcher specifically designed for the recovery of victims in difficult conditions and cramped situations, especially where the patient has to be raised and carried to safety. Made with semi-rigid splints and high resistant cotton, it guarantees utmost safety for the patient also during lifting.

Thanks to the robust construction and a practical storage system it becomes indispensable for rescue in mines, industries, building sites, ships.

### 3.2 Main components

1. Band for the stabilization of the head
2. Handles covered in Santoprene®
3. Adjustable belts
4. Compact woven cotton canvas
5. Supporting cord
6. Transport bag

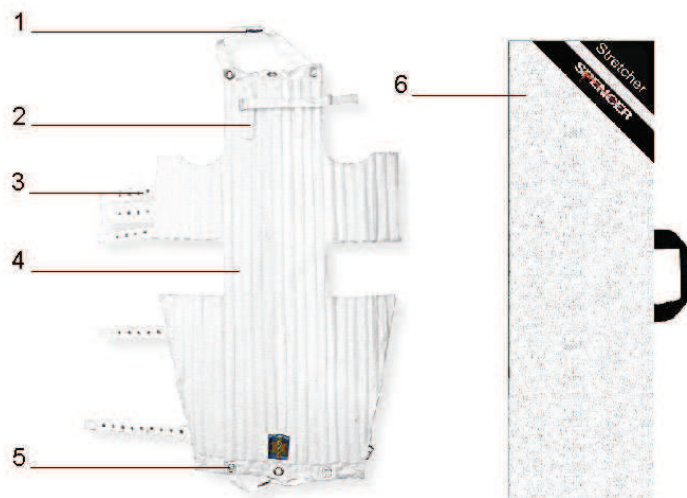


Fig. A

### 3.3 Models

ST30150A NRT Neil Robertson type white  
ST30152A NRT Neil Robertson type yellow

### 3.4 Technical data

Weight: 7 kg

Dimensions: 1080 x 20 x h1830 mm

Load capacity: 220 kg



**Load capacity is assured only if all the handles of the device are used at the same time.**

### 3.5 Environmental conditions

Functioning temperature: from 0 to +40 °C

Storage temperature: from -10 to +50 °C

Relative humidity: from 5 to 95 %

## 4. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

### 4.1 Transport and storage

Before transporting the appliance, make sure that it is correctly packaged ensuring also that there are no risks of shocks, bumps or falls during the transport itself.

Keep the original packaging for use in case of any further transport and for storage. Damage to the appliance caused during transport and handling is not covered by the guarantee. Repairs or replacement of the damaged parts are the responsibility of the client. The device must be stored in a dry, cool area away from direct sunlight. It must not be placed in contact with any substances or chemical agents which could cause damage and reduce safety characteristics.

### 4.2 Preparation

On receipt of the product:

- Remove the packaging and display the material so that all components are visible.
- Check that all the components/pieces on the accompanying list are present.

The appliance must be checked before every use so as to reveal any working abnormalities and/or damage caused by transport and/or storage.

Before using the device, always check:

- the cleanliness of the device (remember that the failure of cleaning may involve the risk of cross infections)
- absence of cuts, rips or scratches on the whole structure (including belts)
- correct fixation of the belts
- correct restraint of the belts
- the integrity of the seams

If everything is verified, the device can be considered ready for use.

### 4.3 Functioning

- 1 Unroll the NRT with the Spencer logo facing upwards and position it as close as possible to the patient.
- 2 Position the patient lying down on the recovery stretcher and position the top belt around the patient's head to offer more stability.
- 3 Using the adjustable belts on the central part of the stretcher, block the body. The upper limbs can be inserted in the space between the thoracic belt and the lower limb restraint belts.
- 4 Block the lower limbs using the two adjustable belts on the lower part of the NRT.
- 5 The feet should be positioned at the lower edge of the stretcher near to the metal rings.
- 6 Check that all parts are correctly fixed. Transport or lift the patient using the purpose made handles. Lift carefully and check that the straps are all supporting weight correctly. The wooden slats inside the stretcher offer excellent stability and protection for the patient.



Fig. B

#### 4.4 Troubleshooting

PROBLEM	CAUSE	REMEDY
The patient is able to move too much	Wrong immobilization	Undo and repeat the process of closing the straps so that the patient is more adequately stabilized
The wooden slats inside broken	Incorrect use	Remove the device immediately from service and contact the authorised service centre
Damage to the metal rings where the belts attach	Incorrect use	Remove the device immediately from service and contact the authorised service centre
Fraying or damage to straps or belts	Use	Remove the device immediately from service and contact the authorised service centre

### 5. MAINTENANCE AND CLEANING



#### 5.1 Cleaning

Failure to carry out cleaning operations may cause the risk of cross infections due to the presence of secretions and/or other organic materials.

During all checking, maintenance and cleaning procedures, the operator must wear adequate personal protection such as gloves, mask, glasses etc.

Clean with warm water and mild detergent and avoid use of solvents and stain removers.

In the presence of blood, let it dry before washing with water.

If disinfection is required, only products that have not corrosive or solvent action on the materials of the device.

Drying after washing or after use in wet environments must be natural and not forced, do not use flames or other sources of direct heat.

## 5.2 Maintenance

### 5.2.1 Precautionary Maintenance

The person who carries out the precautionary maintenance of the appliance has to guarantee the following basic requirements:

- Technical knowledge of the appliance and of the periodic maintenance procedures as described in these instructions.
- Specific qualifications and training in the maintenance operations of the appliance in question.
- The use of components/replacement parts/accessories that are either original or approved by the supplier, in such a way that each operation causes no alteration or modification to the appliance.
- Possession of the checklist of operations carried out on the appliance.
- Guarantee complete adherence to the instructions of the Directive 93/42/CEE which includes also the obligation towards the Manufacturer to maintain post sales records and traceability of the appliance if requested.



During all checking, maintenance and cleaning procedures, the operator must wear adequate personal protection such as gloves, mask, glasses etc.



Planned interventions are not required for periodic servicing by the Manufacturer or by an authorized centre, but we recommend to perform the following checks before and after each use and at least every **3 months**:

- the cleanliness of the device (remember that the failure of cleaning may involve the risk of cross infections)
- absence of cuts, rips or scratches on the whole structure (including belts)
- correct fixation of the belts
- correct restraint of the belts
- the integrity of the seams

**The inspection frequency is determined by factors such as legal requirements, the type of use, frequency of use, environmental conditions during use and storage.**

Please note that you must do the cleaning as described in paragraph 5.1 and verify functionality before and after each use.

Spencer Italia S.r.l. declines any responsibility for the proper functioning or damage caused by the use of devices that are not reviewed regularly.

### 5.2.2 Special servicing

**Only the Manufacturer or centres with written authorisation are authorised to complete any special servicing operations.**

For any operations that are not carried out directly by the Manufacturer but by an authorised centre, we have to underline that a report regarding all operations carried out must be requested. This will permit both Spencer Italia S.r.l. and the end user to keep a log book regarding the operations carried out on the device.

The device, if used as indicated in the following instruction manual, has an average life span of 2 years.

Spencer Italia S.r.l. will accept no responsibility for the incorrect functioning and /or damage caused by the use of any device which has not been repaired, or certified on expiry date by the Manufacturer or by one of the Manufacturer's Authorised Service centres.

## **6 ACCESSORIES AND SPARE PARTS**

### **6.1 ACCESSORIES**

ST30151B STX 51 Transport bag

### **6.2 SPARE PARTS**

ST30153B Kit prolonges for straps

### **Warning**

The information contained in this document could be modified without any warning and is not to be intended as a commitment on behalf of Spencer Italia S.r.l. Spencer products are exported to many countries and the same identical regulations are not always valid. For this reason there could be differences between the description here described and the product actually delivered. Spencer continually strives to reach the perfection of all items sold. We therefore hope you will understand if we reserve the right, at any time, to modify the shape, equipment, lay-out or technical aspects that are herein described.

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