

ST. LOUIS 82 VACUUM INVESTMENT MIXER



INSTRUCTION MANUAL



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INTRODUCTION

These notes are provided to our Customer in order to offer the information's necessary for the correct installation, operation use and maintenance of the unit purchased. Only technical staff, previously authorized by the Producer, will guarantee a correct service of the machine and its components.

Any modification or repair made without prior CIMO authorization and agreement, will immediately cancel warrenty conditions and this circumstance will save the producer from any kind of responsibility forward any person and things suffering damages that might occur. Please carefully read the instructions notes before operating the machine. CIMO is reserving the right to modify its products without previous notice.

WARRANTY

CIMO PRODUCTS ARE COVERED BY **TWELVE MONTHS WARRANTY** STARTING FROM THE DELIVERY DATE TO CUSTOMER EXCEPT ELECTRIC AND ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS THAT ARE COVERED SIX MONTHS ONLY. WARRANTY IS LIMITED TO REPAIR OR CHANGE OF THE FAULT PARTS UPON A PREVIOUS AUTHORIZATION AND INSPECTION BY OUR STAFF OR CIMO DELEGATE. LABOUR, TRANSPORT, CUSTOMS AND OTHER COSTS WILL BE AT TOTAL CUSTOMER CHARGE. THE TOTAL CHANGE OF THE COMPLETE MACHINE IS ALWAYS TO BE ESCLUDED FROM WARRANTY CONDITIONS. PARTS REPAIRED OR CHANGED WILL NOT EXTEND THE WARRANTY PERIOD.

GENERAL NOTES

St. Louis vacuum mixers are machines studied and designed for the investment mixing and flask mold filling for the lost wax casting of the jewelry making process. The main concept of the St.Louis mixing units is the total operativity under vacuum situation.

Traditionally investment was mixed with water in open air and with this process the final blend result was not really homogeneous and precise so the surface of the precious metal casted was not so smooth and complete. More, the large quantity of gases incorporated in the mixing was giving such a huge percentage of porosity. St.Louis mixer, with the vacuum total process and the timing, quantity and water dosing very precise, assures the best quality performing results in one of the most delicate process-step by step of the lost wax casting system.

MACHINE FEATURES

WATER DEGASIFICATION IN THE WATER DOSING-TANK
TOTAL INVESTMENT POWDER DEGASIFICATION INTO THE MIXING CONTAINER
EXACT AND PRECISE WATER QUANTITY IN THE RATIO 1:40 TO BE ADDED TO POWDER
ADJUSTABLE MIXING SPEED AND ROTATION DIRECTION IN MIXING STEP
CORRECT AND PRESETTED MIXING TIMING
ADJUSTABLE INTENSITY VIBRATION FOR THE INVESTED FLASKS

OPERATOR SAFETY

PROTECTION MASK FOR OPERATOR IS COMPULSORY REQUESTED PROTECTION HAND GLOVES FOR OPERATOR ARE SUGGESTED THIS UNIT MUST BE OPERATED BY PROFESSIONAL STAFF AND FOR ITS CONCEPT PURPOSE BUILT ONLY !



TRANSPORT

THE MACHINE SHOULD BE ALWAYS TRANSPORTED IN VERTICAL POSITION AND HAS TO BE LIFTED FROM THE BOTTOM CHASSIS BASEMENT ONLY.

ATTENTION

PLEASE AVOID TO HOLD, LIFT OR PULLING AND PUSHING THE MACHINE FROM ITS CENTRAL CONSTRUCTION PART (PLEXIGLASS MIXING BOWL, FLASK CHAMBER OR MAIN MOTOR SHAFT).

TECHNICAL DATA

VOLTAGE: 220 VOLTS - 50/60 HZ. SINGLEPHASE – CONSUMPTION: KW. 3.5 PROTECTION FUSE: 2 fuses x 16 AMP. The fuses are located on the circuit board MAX INVESTMENT DRY POWDER CAPACITY : kg. 6

ELECTRICAL POWER CONNECTION:

ATTENTION! THE UNIT MUST BE CONNECTED AND PLUGGED TO AN ELECTRICAL PLANTWITH GROUND AND EARTH UNDER SAFETY SWITCH.MACHINE ELECTRICAL COLOUR WIRING IDENTIFICATION:YELLOW/GREEN:EARTH – GROUNDBLUE: NEUTRALBROWN: PHASE

VACUUM PUMP CONNECTION:

MIXER S. LOUIS 82 MUST OPERATE WITH A VACUUM PUMP CAPACITY 18 CBM/HOUR. THE VACUUM PUMP IS SUPPLIED SEPARATELY AS INTEGRATED PART OF THE UNIT. ON THE REAR PART OF THE MACHINE BASEMENT FIND THE VACUUM PIPE HOSE CONNECTOR AND THE 220VOLTS PLUG ONLY FOR THE VACUUM PUMP. THE VACUUM POWER IS SUPPLIED DIRECTLY FROM THE MIXER. DO NOT USE THIS PLUG FOR DIFFERENT PURPOSES.

WATER SUPPLY CONNECTION: FROM THE MAIN FACTORY WATER PLANT

MIXER S. LOUIS IS PROVIDED BY A SPECIAL WATER PIPE WITH RELATIVE JOINTERS TO BE CONNECTED TO STANDARD FACTORY-WORKSHOP TAPS. WE PROVIDE THE JOINTER SEALS TOO. TO FILL THE MACHINE WATER DOSING TANK PROCEED AS FOLLOWS: OPEN AIR RELEASE VALVE (**SEE PICTURE REF. 1**) LOCATED ON WATER DOSING TANK (**REF. 2**) CLOSE THE TAP (**SEE PICTURE REF. 3**) NEARBY THE VALVE (**REF 1**). OPEN THE MAIN WATER SUPPLY TAP OF THE FACTORY AND THE MACHINE WATER TAP (**REF. 4**) FILL THE DOSING TANK UNTIL WATER LEVEL WILL REACH THE TOP LINE (**REF. 4**) EXACTLY. WHEN TOP LEVEL HAS BEEN REACHED, CLOSE AGAIN THE RELEASE VALVE (**REF. 1**.)







OPTION: WATER SUPPLY CONNECTION: FROM AN EXTERNAL WATER TANK

SWITCH ON THE MIXER BY THE REAR MAIN SWITCH. SWITCH ON THE VACUUM PUMP (VAC BUTTON ON FRONT CONTROL PANEL). THE VACUUM RELEASE TAP (**REF. 5**) IS CLOSED AS TAP (**REF. 6**). HOLD PUSHED DOWN THE ROUND CAP WHERE TAP (REF. 6) IS LOCATED UNTIL VACUUM WILL KEEP IT CLOSED. THE UNIT IS NOW TOTALLY UNDER VACUUM SITUATION: **PROCEED NOW AS DESCRIBED IN THE PREVIOUS PARAGRAPH**

Mixer S.LOUIS 82 - REFERENCE CHART



Mixer S.LOUIS 82 - CONTROL PANEL

WATER DOSING TANK AND STICKER SPECIFICATIONS:

The sticker on the dosing water tank is indicating kg. and pounds with numbers from 0 to 9 (kg.) IT IS PRINTED CONSIDERING THE STANDARD RATIO: 1 KG. DRY INVESTMENT POWDER = 400 CC. WATER

THE STICKER LINES AND NUMBERS ARE INDICATING THE DRY POWDER GRAMS (or POUNDS) FROM TOP LINE WATER LEVEL (under KG printed) THE QUANTITY OF WATER CORRESPONDING TO EACH KILOGRAM IS 400 CC

Practical example:

IF WE HAVE LOADED kg. 1,700 INVESTMENT DRY POWDER INTO THE MIXING CONTAINER, WE HAVE TO TRANSFER INTO THE MIXING CONTAINER A QUANTITY OF WATER AS MUCH AS WE SEE MARKED ON THE LEVEL LINE VALUE KG 1,7 ON THE DOSING COLUMN STICKER IN ORDER TO HAVE THE EXACT 40% PROPORTION OF WATER FOR THE INVESTMENT LOADED IN THE MIXING CONTAINER.





MIXER USE: PRELIMINARY OPERATIONS

- SWITCH ON THE MACHINE WITH THE MAIN REAR GENERAL SWITCH.
- LIFT UP THE TOP MOTOR (M) WITH KNOB (A) AND TURN IT TO THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE UNIT.
- REMOVE THE CAP (REF 7) FROM THE BLADE COVER (B)
- REMOVE THE TOP MIXING COVER WITH ITS BLADE (**B**) FROM THE MIXING CHAMBER (**C**)
- LIFT UP THE COMPLETE MIXING CHAMBER (C) AND PLACE IT READY FOR THE INVESTMENT POWDER LOADING. (MIXING CONTAINER ALWAYS DRY PLEASE)
- PLACE THE FLASKS TO BE PROCESSED ON THE ROUND FLASK PLATE (**D**): YOU COULD TAKE OUT THE FLASK PLATE FROM ITS LOCATION FOR EASY PREPARATION OF FLASKS DISPOSITION. BE SURE TO MATCH THE EXAGONAL PIN WHEN REPLACING THE FLASK PLATE ON ITS ORIGINAL POSITION.

INVESTMENT POWDER LOADING AND MIXER PREPARATION:

BE SURE THAT BOTTOM POURING VALVE TAP (REF 8) IS CLOSED. WE SUGGEST TO PLACE THE MIXING CONTAINER ON A DIGITAL SCALE AND MAKE THE TARE BEFORE LOADING THE INVESTMENT POWDER IN THE QUANTITY NEEDED. OTHERWISE MAKE THE EXACT WEIGHT OF THE POWDER AND POUR IT INTO THE CHAMBER AVOIDING BREATHING THE INVESTMENT DUST. USE ALWAYS MASK AND GLOVES PROTECTION !

ONCE LOADED, PLACE THE MIXING CONTAINER ON ITS LOCATION CARING:

- A) CORRECT MATCHING FOR THE MIXING CONTAINER ON THE FLASK CHAMBER (REF. F)
- B) CORRECT MATCHING OF THE STICKER LINE REFERENCE BETWEEN THE LOWER MIXING CONTAINER BASE AND THE FLASK PLEXIGLASS CHAMBER. (**REF. E**) *TWO VERTICAL REFERENCES LINES*
- INSERT THE MIXING BLADE (**REF. G**) INTO THE MIXING CHAMBER CARING THAT COVER WILL SEAL PERFECTLY THE CHAMBER TOP.
- LOCATE THE TOP MOTOR IN THE ORIGINAL POSITION CARING TO INSERT THE TRANSMISSION SHAFT CORRECTLY. (if the operation get DIFFICULT and not matching: SIMPLY START AND STOP THE MIX BUTTON ON THE CONTROL PANEL.
- PLACE AGAIN THE CAP (REF. 7) IN THE ORIGINAL POSITION
- VERIFY THAT ITS TAP (REF. 6) IS CLOSED (CROSSING PERPENDICULARLY THE PIPE DIRECTION)



PROCESS START:

BEFORE PROCEEDING THR MIXING OPERATION PLEASE VERIFY:

- a) PRESETTED MIXING TIME (SECONDS ON EXTREME RIGHT SIDE OF THE LED DISPLAY) To set the value that will be kept always in memory until an eventual change: push + or - (TIMER) ATTENTION: ONCE TIME HAS BEEN SETTED, IT WILL WORKS AUTOMATICALLY AND WHEN
 MIXER WILL START UNTIL THE MIXING END. AT THE END OF MIXING, THE VALUE WILL COME BACK TO THE ORIGINAL SETTED TIME FOR THE NEXT OPERATION.
 AT THE END OF THE MIXING TIME ONE BUZZER WILL SOUND TO INFORM THE OPERATOR THAT THE MIXTURE IS NOW READY FOR THE POURING STEP.
 DURING THE MIXING PROCESS, IF EVENTUALLY THE MACHINE WILL BE STOPPED, THE TIMER
 WILL START AGAIN FROM THE INITIAL PRESETTED TOTAL TIME.
 - b) BLADE ROTATION DIRECTION : (LEFT TOP PART ARROW ON LED DISPLAY) WE SUGGEST TO START MIXING ALWAYS FROM LEFT TO RIGHT SIDE. BY PUSHING INV. MOT BUTTON IT IS POSSIBLE TO CHANGE THE BLADE DIRECTION (AN OPTION THAT OCCASIONALLY COULD BE USEFUL). BY PUSHING + OR - UNDER MIX BUTTON LOCATION, IT IS POSSIBLE TO ADJUST THE BLADE SPEED ROTATION.

ONCE CHECKED THE ABOVE PARAMETERS, CHECK IF THE VACUUM TAP (REF. 5) IS CLOSED. BY HOLDING WITH ONE HAND THE TAP CLOSED (REF. 7) START THE VACUUM PUMP BY PUSHING VAC BUTTON AND RELEASE THE HAND FROM THE CAP ONCE THE VACUUM LEVEL IS KEEPING IT WITH ENOUGH SUCTION. CHECK THE VALUE ON VACUUM GAUGE (REF. 9) AND BE SURE THAT A GOOD VACUUM SITUATION IS BETWEEN - 60 AND – 76 (DEPENDING OF THE ALTITUDE FROM SEA LEVEL).

MIXER USE: DELICATE AND PRECISE OPERATIONS

ONCE THE VACUUM LEVEL HAS BEEN REACHED SWITCH OFF THE VACUUM PUMP ! ALWAYS OPERATES IN THIS PROCESS STEP UNDER VACUUM BUT WITH THE PUMP OFF TO AVOID ECCESSIVE BUBBLING ON THE MIXTURE.

TO TRANSFER THE EXACT WATER QUANTITY FROM THE DOSING TANK TO THE MIXING CONTAINER PROCEED AS FOLLOW: JUST REMEMBERING THE DRY POWDER QUANTITY LOADED, KEEP ONE FINGER TO THE EXACT CORRESPONDANT LEVEL LINE ON THE STICKER OF THE WATER DOSING TANK IN ORDER TO AVOID MISTAKES AND LOAD TOO MUCH WATER OR LESS WATER IN THE MIXING CONTAINER.

- a) OPEN TAP (REF. 6) AND CLOSE IT IMMEDIATELY AS WATER LEVEL LINE ON DOSING TANK WILL LOWERED TO THE FINGER INDICATING THE CORRESPONDENT VALUE OF THE POWDER PREVIOUSLY LOADED. (REFER TO PAGE 7)
- b) Start mixing operation (PUSH MIX BUTTON) we suggest to start initially slow and adjust speed according to the density condition of the mixture.
- c) Keep the vacuum level on the vacuum meter controlled not lower than 55 / -60
- d) During mixing operation, check the flask correspondence to the pouring hole and eventually adjust the flask position by pushing SX or DX where ROTAZIONE PIATTO is written on control panel.

e) Blade speed and rotation could be adjusted without problems during the machine functions.



WHEN MIXING'S FINISHED:

- a) Open pouring valve (REF. 8) and check the correct flask filling.
- b) We suggest to switch on the VIB button to have a slight vibration during the mixture pouring for a better flask filling. To adjust intensity push + or- where is VIB button on the control panel.
- c) After the first flask has been filled, close valve (REF. 8) and turn the flask plate until next flask will reach correct positioning. Open again the valve for the flask filling.
- d) If the vacuum value on the vacuum meter gauge has not been lowered, IT IS NOT NECESSARY TO START THE VACUUM PUMP AGAIN.
 switch on the pump just if the vacuum gauge has gone below – 60

WHEN FLASK HAS BEEN COMPLETELY FILLED:

- a) Start the vibration process (max 3 minutes) by pushing VIB on the control panel.
- b) Adjust the vibration intensity according to flask size and quantity.
- c) Switch off the vibration
- d) Release vacuum by opening vacuum tap (REF. 5) until vacuum gauge will reach zero.
- e)

FINAL OPERATIONS:

- f) Leave flasks into the unit for the mixture hardening.
- g) Remove the mixing chamber and the mixing blade and care to wash and rinse all their parts, specially the bottom part of the mixing container where it is located the pouring valve and its spring.
- h) Dry the container and the blade before using them for a new operation
- i) Clean the internal part of the top cover and cap especially where the blade shaft connection.
- j) take the flask plate completely off the machine.
- k) This particular process phase is very delicate: be careful in the flask moving because this is the most delicate moment for the accurate mould reproduction and copy during the mixture hardening .That's why we deliver with the unit a spare extra flask plate.
- l) Load again water level into the dosing tank
- m) The unit is now ready for another investment preparation process.