



The healthy alternative in water purification

# RC-50 USER MANUAL



**MineralPURE™**  
POOL SYSTEM

with built-in

**SCALE BLASTER®**



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Thank you for purchasing the **RC-50 MineralPURE/ScaleBlaster** unit for your swimming pool. Using new state-of-the-art microchip technology, you have unquestionably the finest ionization system in the world!

You can now truly enjoy your swimming pool – the way it was meant to be. You will be swimming in natural “mineral spring” like water. No more red eyes, bleached out swimsuits, and dry itchy skin!

Please follow all instructions and keep the “Quick Chart” handy for quick reference!



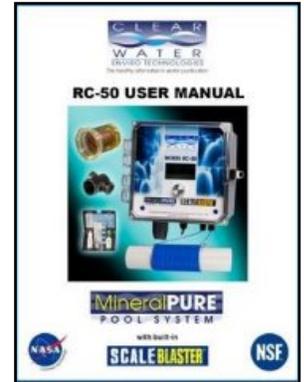
# A.) Identifying the RC-50 Components

The **RC-50 MineralPURE** unit should contain all the components listed below.



Copper Test Kit (1)  
CLA-41

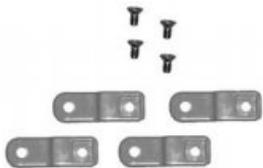
Control Unit (1)



Users Manual (1)



ScaleBlaster Signal  
Wire (60ft.)  
12" Zip Ties (3)



Control Unit Mounting  
Brackets (4)  
Mounting Bracket  
Screws (4)



Electrode (1)  
CLE-11



O-Ring (1)  
CET-0648



RC-50 Quick  
Chart Card (1)



Flow-Cell Chamber (1)



Threaded Male  
Adapters (2) CET-  
0008  
2"-1 1/2"  
Reducers (2)

# A.) Identifying the RC-50 Components

CET-0607

Warranty Card (1)

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Please photocopy or scan this document for your records. If you are unable to photocopy or scan this document, please contact your local distributor. This warranty card is not valid unless it is accompanied by a copy of the purchase invoice. The warranty card is not valid unless it is accompanied by a copy of the purchase invoice. The warranty card is not valid unless it is accompanied by a copy of the purchase invoice.

The warranty is limited to original retail purchase and is non-transferable. The warranty does not cover damage caused by misuse, improper use, or improper maintenance. The warranty does not cover damage caused by misuse, improper use, or improper maintenance. The warranty does not cover damage caused by misuse, improper use, or improper maintenance.

To register this warranty on-line go to: [www.MineralPure.com/WarrantyRegistration.aspx](http://www.MineralPure.com/WarrantyRegistration.aspx)

\*\*\*\*\*

Purchase Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Price Paid: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Dealer: \_\_\_\_\_



Purchaser: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

If registering on-line, do NOT send or mail this to: \_\_\_\_\_  
Agent of Buyer

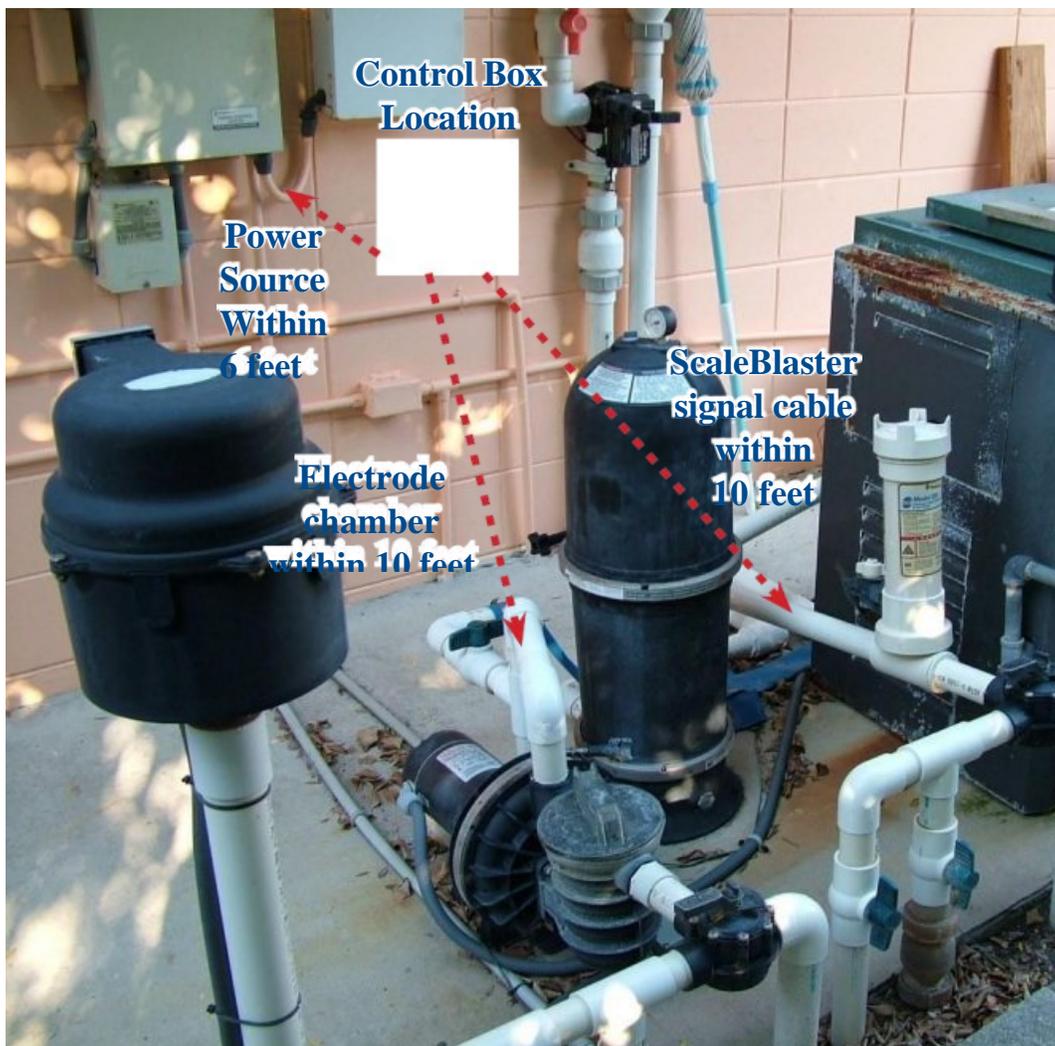
## B.) Tools and Materials Required



- Bullet Level
- Conduit Connector, 1/2" Straight
- Crescent Wrench
- Hacksaw or Pipe Cutter
- PVC Cement
- Screwdrivers, Flat & Phillips
- Teflon Tape or Liquid Teflon
- Voltage Meter
- Channel Lock Wrench
- Conduit, Flexible
- Drill & Drill Bits
- Hammer
- PVC Cleaner/Primer
- Screws & Anchors
- Utility Knife
- Wire Stripper

## C.) Site Survey

The RC-50 MineralPURE/ScaleBlaster unit should be installed at the pool's pump and filter area. You will need to locate a place to mount the RC-50 control box on a wall and within 10 feet or so of where you will install the electrode chamber and ScaleBlaster signal coil on the return line of your pool equipment. This location will also need to be within 6 feet of an electrical source.



## D.) Installing the Unit

### Installing the Electrode Chamber

Turn off the pump and all valves. Disconnect all power going to the motor, timer box or power source.

1.) Wrap Teflon tape around the two threaded male adapters. You can also use "Liquid Teflon" a thread sealant with Teflon. Always use plenty of tape to avoid possible leaks. Screw adapters into the black flow cell chamber.



2.) If the pipe size where the flow-cell chamber is being installed is 1 1/2", glue the two reducer bushings (2" x 1 1/2") into the male adapters. This step is not necessary if installing on two-inch pipe.



3.) Locate a space to mount the black flow-cell chamber. **Always install on the return line.** If possible, install the chamber after the filter, but it is not required if there is not enough space. If necessary, you can re-pipe an entire section to allow proper room for the electrode chamber or **ScaleBlaster** coil.

4.) Using a hacksaw or pipe cutter, cut out a 6" section of pipe if 2" pipe exists, or 6 1/2" of pipe if 1 1/2" pipe exists.



5.) In the area where the pipe was cut out, mount the black flow-cell chamber horizontally to avoid possible air pockets. In other words, make sure the black flow cell is angled downward, so that when the electrodes are screwed into the chamber, the wire connections are facing the ground and not the sky. The tee can also be installed on any vertical pipe. Do not force pipes as they may snap. Always use PVC cleaner on the inside of the tee and the outside of the pipe before slapping on the glue. Do not perform this step until you are absolutely ready to install the tee, as the cement will cure very quickly.



## D.) Installing the Unit (Continued)

6.) Seat the “O” ring in the electrode jar and screw into the black flow-cell chamber by using your hands. No Teflon tape or wrench required!



## Installing the Control Box

Keep the protective clear plastic sheet on during installation to stay clear of scratching the unit.

1.) Install the four mounting brackets using the enclosed screws to the back of the control box.



2.) Mount the microprocessor control box to the wall allowing for the power cable wire to reach the source of power; the electrode wire to reach the electrodes; and the **ScaleBlaster** signal cable to wrap around the pipe - also on the return line. Use proper anchors and screws to mount on the surface (wood, stucco etc.).



## D.) Installing the Unit (Continued)

### Choosing the Power Source

The RC-50 unit will automatically detect 110 or 220VAC and no adjustments are required. When locating the power source, make sure that when the pump and motor shuts off, the MineralPURE power box does too. The ideal source is the timer box. If no timer box exists, the unit can use the pump motor as its power source.

# WARNING!

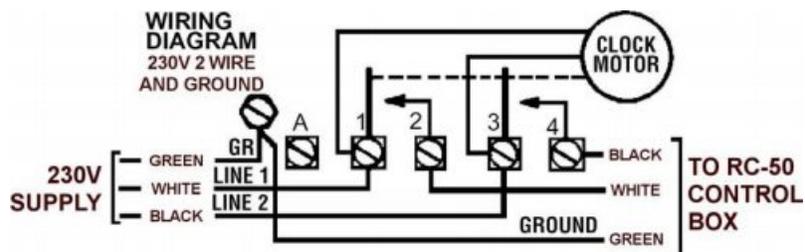


**YOU MUST FOLLOW ALL LOCAL, STATE, NATIONAL OR INTERNATIONAL CODES WHEN INSTALLING THIS EQUIPMENT. A CERTIFIED ELECTRICIAN MAY BE REQUIRED FOR THIS PART OF THE INSTALLATION.**

### Connecting to the Timer Box

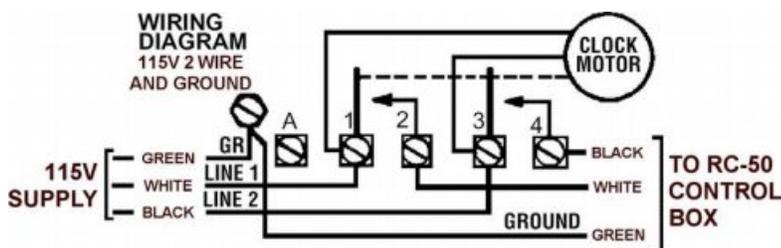
#### 230 VAC Operation:

Connect the black (3 stranded) wire cable to the 230 VAC timer box by splicing the 3 wires and connecting the black and white wires to the LOAD side on the timer box. It makes no difference which colored wire goes to the two load screws. Connect the green wire to GROUND. When installed properly, the unit should come on and off when the pool pump goes on and off.



#### 115 VAC Operation:

Connect either the white wire or the black wire to the LOAD side on the timer box. It makes no difference which colored wire goes to the two load screws. Connect the green wire to ground. When installed properly, the unit should come on and off when the pool pump goes on and off.



## D.) Installing the Unit (Continued)

### Connecting to the Pump Motor

Disconnect the back plate to the motor where the electrical connections are. You will notice two connections where the power source is connected. Connect the **MineralPURE's** power cable cord (black, white and green) to the same as the motor's connections. If connected properly, the unit should come on and off with the motor.



### Conduit Connections



You should use a flexible conduit from connection to connection on the power cord to meet codes. The size of the connector already on the control box is 1/2". There is no need to cover up the electrode wire with conduit.

### Connecting the Electrode Wires

Connect the two electrode wires (gray colored) to the electrode connectors on the bottom of the electrode jar. It does not matter what wire is connected to the electrode terminals. Make sure they do not touch each other. These connectors are weatherproof and there is no need to cover them.



## D.) Installing the Unit (Continued)

### Connecting the ScaleBlaster Signal Cable

The most desirable place to install the ScaleBlaster signal cable is on the return line away from any elbows, couplings, tees or valves as possible. You also want to be as far away from any electrical motor as possible as this could affect the signal. You will need about four inches of space.



1.) Insert the pre-stripped end of the signal cable into one of the two binding posts located on the bottom of the control box. It does not matter if you hook it up to the red or the black binding post. The receptacle post can be unscrewed by turning it counter-clockwise. This will expose a small hole in the post. Tighten the receptacle post as much as possible with the signal cable completely threaded through the hole.

2.) Route the signal cable from the power unit's terminal to the location where signal cable will be wrapped. Hold the cable parallel and next to the pipe and install one of the nylon cable ties. Make sure the cable tie is pulled tightly so that the cable is secured to the pipe. Remove the excess cable tie with cutters.



3.) Make sure the wraps are flush against one another – never overlapping.

**Wrap the coils around the pipe 40 times.**

4.) Once the wrapping is complete, secure the signal cable to the pipe using another nylon cable tie. Remove the excess cable tie with cutters.



5.) Route the loose end of the signal cable back to the power unit. Trim the cable to length. There may be several feet of unused wire. This extra wire was included in case the control box was mounted several feet away from the return line.



## D.) Installing the Unit (Continued)

6.) Carefully strip the outer plastic shield from the end of the signal cable, leaving about 1/4" to 3/8" of bare cable. Twist the bare cable and insert the end into the unused receptacle post on the power unit. Tighten the receptacle post. Make sure all the threads of the signal cable go through the terminal hole.



## E.) Balancing the Pool's Water

**Before turning on the system, it is imperative that the pool's water be clear and balanced properly. Without proper balancing, the unit may not perform properly.**

### Previous Sanitizer Use

If the previous sanitizer used was **Baquacil**, you will need to remove every drop of it, as Baquacil is not compatible with any other sanitizer including **MineralPURE**. The best way to remove it is to drain the pool completely and refill with fresh water. You should also change the sand in the filter, acid wash the cartridges or change the DE in a DE filter. Consult a professional first if draining the pool. Contact your dealer or Clearwater Enviro Technologies, Inc. for more assistance.

If the pool was using an **automatic chlorine generator** (where salt is added to make chlorine at the site), the water should be drained at least 3/4 of the way and refilled with new water. Usually the TDS level is very high and should be lowered.

If the pool was using chlorine, it is all right to go ahead and install the **MineralPURE**, as the two work together fine. In fact, some chlorine should be in the pool until the system takes over.

### Proper Circulation

Make sure the filtration system and circulation is good. Check the filter to make sure it is cleaned or back-washed properly. The filter pressure gauge should give you an indication right away. If the sand in a sand filter is several years old, you may want to change it. For cartridge filters, check the canister inside to make sure the polyester fabric or corrugated paper is in good shape. If you have a DE filter, change the DE.

Good circulation is important because you will no longer be dumping a lot of chlorine in the pool to "cover-up" a bad filtering system. Make sure the skimmer basket is empty and the strainer basket at the pump. This is very important.

If you have a pool sweep or vacuum, continue using it as this helps on circulation.

### Chlorine

Always make sure there is some chlorine in the pool when first starting up the system, as it may take a few days to fully "ionize" a pool. **Never add granular chlorine (like HTH) directly to the pool with the MineralPURE unit.**

Always make sure the water is clear before installing the ionizer by using chlorine. The **MineralPURE** unit itself will not clear up cloudy water.

## E.) Balancing the Pool's Water (Continued)

### pH Reading Must be Between 7.2 and 7.8

The most important factor in water chemistry is the pH reading. It should be kept between 7.2 and 7.8 at all times. If the pH gets too high, MineralPURE's ions lose their effectiveness and can fall out of solution. Always get the pH on the lower side – 7.2 to 7.4 for best results. This is standard water chemistry.

**If the pH is above 7.8** - Using an acid demand test with your regular test kit, determine the amount of muriatic acid needed to lower the pH down to 7.2. Add the acid and check a few hours later to make sure it is in the correct range.

**If the pH is under 7.2** - Using a base demand test with your regular test kit, determine the amount of soda ash needed to raise the pH to at least 7.2. If the pH tends to go down all the time, add enough soda ash to raise the pH to 7.8

**Tips on balancing the pH** - Test the pH at least once a week or after a heavy rainstorm. When adjusting the pH, don't wait for the pH to reach 8.0 before adding acid. Go ahead and add a little acid if the pH is over 7.6. If you use the non-chlorine shock as an oxidizer, this will lower the pH and may eliminate acid use completely.

### Total Alkalinity

Maintain the total alkalinity between 80-120. This should be tested at least once a month.

**If the total alkalinity is under 80ppm** - Raise the total alkalinity by adding sodium bicarbonate (baking soda). Consult chart with your test kit for the amount needed (based on pool size).

**If the total alkalinity is over 120ppm** - Lower the total alkalinity by adding muriatic acid. Consult chart with your test kit for the amount to add.

### Calcium Hardness

The calcium hardness level should be between 150-350ppm. If the reading is well over that, the pool should be partially drained and refilled with fresh water. If the reading is under that, chances are the pool was filled with softened water. Calcium chloride should be added to the pool. 1 1/4 lbs will raise the calcium hardness by 10ppm per 10,000 gallons.

### Cyanuric Acid

Cyanuric acid is not required with the MineralPURE unit. If the reading is over 150ppm, the pool should be partially drained and refilled with fresh water.

### Total Dissolved Solids

The MineralPURE unit requires some conductivity in the water for ionization to take place. A high TDS level can cause cloudiness and the unit not to work efficiently. The TDS level should be between 300 and 2000 ppm. The TDS reading can be obtained at any pool store.

**If the reading is below 300ppm** - To raise the TDS level, you would need to add one pound of regular salt to raise the TDS by 12ppm per 10,000 gallons. You should only do this if you are unable to obtain the desired ion level in the pool because of a low TDS (see chapter later in this manual). Always consult your dealer or Clearwater with help in this matter.

**If the reading is over 2000ppm** - To lower the TDS level, you should partially drain and refill with fresh water. This is standard pool water chemistry. If the unit is being installed on a saltwater pool, the unit will work without any adjustments and there is no need to lower the TDS level.

## E.) Balancing the Pool's Water (Continued)

### Copper Level

Before installing the **MineralPURE** unit, the copper level should be tested. There may be readings of copper sulfate in the water from leached copper piping or from a copper based algaecide. Correct the problem by either locating the copper pipe (usually next to a water heater) and balancing the pH, or eliminating any algaecides completely. Shock the pool with an extra heavy dose of chlorine to get rid of the algaecides.

If using the Copper/Silver electrode CLE-42 or CLE-44, the table below will allow you to lookup the calculated silver content in your water based upon measured copper levels.

Reading using the CLA-41 Copper Test Kit in PPM	Calculated Silver Level if using the CLA-42 90/10 copper/silver electrodes in PPM	Calculated Silver Level if using the CLA-44 80/20 copper/silver electrodes in PPM
0.05	0.0056	0.0125
0.10	0.0111	0.0250
0.15	0.0167	0.0375
0.20	0.0222	0.0500
0.30	0.0333	0.0750
0.50	0.0556	0.1250
0.70	0.778	0.1750
1.00	0.1111	0.2500

## F.) Starting Up the System

When all of the above steps have been completed, it is time to start up the system. Open all valves and turn the power on. Check for water leaks and all electrical connections for proper and firm connections. Remove the clear protective sheet from the control unit. When starting the system, the Clearwater Enviro Technologies, Inc. logo should first appear, followed by a three-digit number. To get better acquainted with the unit, turn the control knob counter-clockwise till the unit reads "OFF".



### Setting the Control Knob to the Desired Level

Once you have obtained the desired reading, the setting will most likely remain at that value the entire season, or close to it. The trick is getting the desired reading quickly.

By turning the control knob clockwise, the unit will read a three-digit number. These are actually **milliamp (mA) readouts** and go from **005** to **600** in 5 mA increments. If the readout does not go all the way to 600, chances are the TDS level is not over 300 or so. Do not cause any alarm or add salt to the pool unless you are not able to obtain the desired ion level (more in this section to follow).

## F.) Starting Up the System (continued)

### THE DESIRED ION LEVEL IN THE POOL IS 0.2 – 0.3

There are a lot of factors that can effect the rate the **MineralPURE** will produce the ions (see section in Troubleshooting). In order to get the desired reading of 0.2 to 0.3 quickly, you will need to set the unit to its maximum current output (600mA). Turn the knob clockwise to reach this setting. Again, if you can't reach 600, do not worry at this time. Eventually, the TDS level will rise as will your readout.

Other factors that effect the level ions are produced are keeping the pH under 7.8; the number of hours the filter runs, and the setting of the unit. Other factors include water temperature and the amount of algae/bacteria already in the water.

As a rule of thumb, it will take about 24 hours to get a pool of 10,000 gallons fully "ionized" and to the desired level of 0.2-0.3. So if your pool is 20,000 gallons, it may take two full days of running "around the clock" to reach this level. If you run the pool 8 hours a day (the normal time) it would take six days to reach the desired level.

### Using the MineralPURE Ion Test Kit

Included with every unit is an Ion Test Kit. The easy-to-use instructions are located on the inside cover of the lid. Please follow those instructions carefully, as the reading you get is most important in how you set the **MineralPURE** control knob. When using this test kit, make sure you wait 3 minutes for the test to develop and look **down** into the tube, not from the **side**. There is a reading or color match for 0.2 and one for 0.3 on the enclosed chart. Ideally, we would like the readings to be anywhere in that area.



### Once the Desired Level is Obtained

Once the desired level is obtained, you will need to find a setting point on the control box where the ion readings will remain in that range of 0.2 and 0.3. The biggest factor is water temperature. As a rule of thumb, if the pool is 10,000 gallons, the reading on the control box should be around 75-100. It may be lower in cooler climates, or higher in warmer climates. Someone in Maine may keep the level at 25, while in Florida it may be 125. A 20,000-gallon pool may need a reading of 150 to 200. A 50,000-gallon pool may need a reading of 375 to 500 or so. This is also based on running the system 8 hours a day. It is all proportionate. So if the pool ran 24 hours a day, the settings would be 1/3 that.



When you lower your setting, it is best to test on a daily basis. If the readings continue to go up, lower the setting and retest the following day at about the same time. If the reading goes down, turn the control knob up some, and test again the next day. Eventually you will find the proper setting. Once you do, the setting will stay near that the entire season. If your pool is open year round, like in Florida, you will have a lower setting in the winter and a higher setting in the summer.

## G.) Proper Procedures of Maintaining a Healthy Pool

INCLUDED WITH THIS PACKAGE IS A “QUICK CHART” THAT GIVES YOU THE BASICS OF MAINTAINING A PROPER POOL. PLEASE REFER TO THAT SHEET WHENEVER POSSIBLE. IF YOU EVER HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, CONTACT YOUR DEALER OR CLEARWATER ENVIRO FOR ANY ASSISTANCE.



- Keep the pH between 7.2 and 7.8
- Keep total alkalinity between 80-120ppm
- Maintain Ion level between 0.2 and 0.3 ppm
- Maintain normal pool maintenance – keep filter cleaned, empty baskets, etc.
- Add an occasional oxidizer

### Adding an Occasional Oxidizer

An occasional oxidizer is necessary to burn off body oils, suntan lotions, and particles that get into the water and can cause cloudiness. Always add an oxidizer whenever the water loses its “sparkle”. Don’t wait for the water to get cloudy, or an extra dose will be required.

**There are several oxidizer options:**

**Non-chlorine shock** - Add one (1) pound of potassium monopersulfate (non-chlorine shock) per 10,000 gallons once a week during the warm weather season, less frequently during the cooler weather, or when the water loses its “sparkle”. You may also want to add some non-chlorine shock after a rainstorm if the pool was left uncovered. These are available in most pool stores, or at *Leslie’s Swimming Pool Supplies* (1-800-537-5437) ask for “*Fresh ’N Clear*”.

**Household bleach** - Add two (2) quarts of regular household bleach per 10,000 gallons once a week. You may also use liquid chlorine – but only ½ the amount. This small amount will dissolve rapidly and you will have chlorine-free water in a few minutes.

**Tablet in skimmer** - Add a 3” Trichlor tablet in the skimmer for continuous oxidizing. The reading will be so low that it won’t be detectable. This is ideal for pools with heavy swimmer use or if the homeowner is away often.

**Add ozone to your system** - By adding a corona discharge ozone generator to your system, you can virtually eliminate adding any oxidizers to your pool. Contact your dealer for more information.

**Ionizers are designed for supplementary disinfection and therefore are intended for use with appropriate residual levels of EPA registered disinfecting chemicals. Specific residual levels of EPA registered disinfecting chemicals may be required by the regulatory agency having authority.**

**WARNING: Excessive amounts of Copper may cause staining of pool and spa surfaces**

### Add a Sequestering Agent for Marcite/ Gunitite Pool

If your pool is made of a white marcite or gunitite finish, we strongly recommend you add a sequestering agent to prevent any type of staining in the pool. There are two types we recommend:

- **Pool Stain Treat** by **United Chemical** (800) 524-5550 - **Jacks Magic** (800) 348-1656

**These products or ones similar are available in all pool stores worldwide.**

## H.) Cleaning and/or Replacing the Electrodes

The only part of the **MineralPURE** Ionizer that will need maintenance or replacement is the electrodes. They should last about 1-5 years depending on your pool size, length of swimming season, water temperature and how well the water was balanced (ion level, pH, etc.). If the LCD display reads a warning to “Check Electrodes”, it may be time to clean or replace them. To inspect the electrodes, simply unscrew the electrode chamber with your hands and visually inspect the electrode bars. A blue greenish coating is normal, however, if there is a heavy buildup, you may need to clean the electrode. Using an old toothbrush and lemon juice or a muriatic acid/water solution, scrub the buildup off the electrode. If the electrodes are thin and worn out, they will need to be replaced.



### Electrode Reordering Information:

Replacement Electrode - Part # CLE-11 - residential copper electrode for the RC-50 Model.

Replacement Electrode - Part # CLE-42 (90/10) - residential copper/silver electrode for the RC-50 Model

Replacement Electrode - Part # CLE-44 (80/20) - residential copper/silver electrode for the RC-50 Model

## Ion – Test Kit Replacement

You should replace the reagents at least once a year. You can either replace the entire test kit (exactly as supplied in the box when you received the **MineralPURE** unit) or replace the reagents.

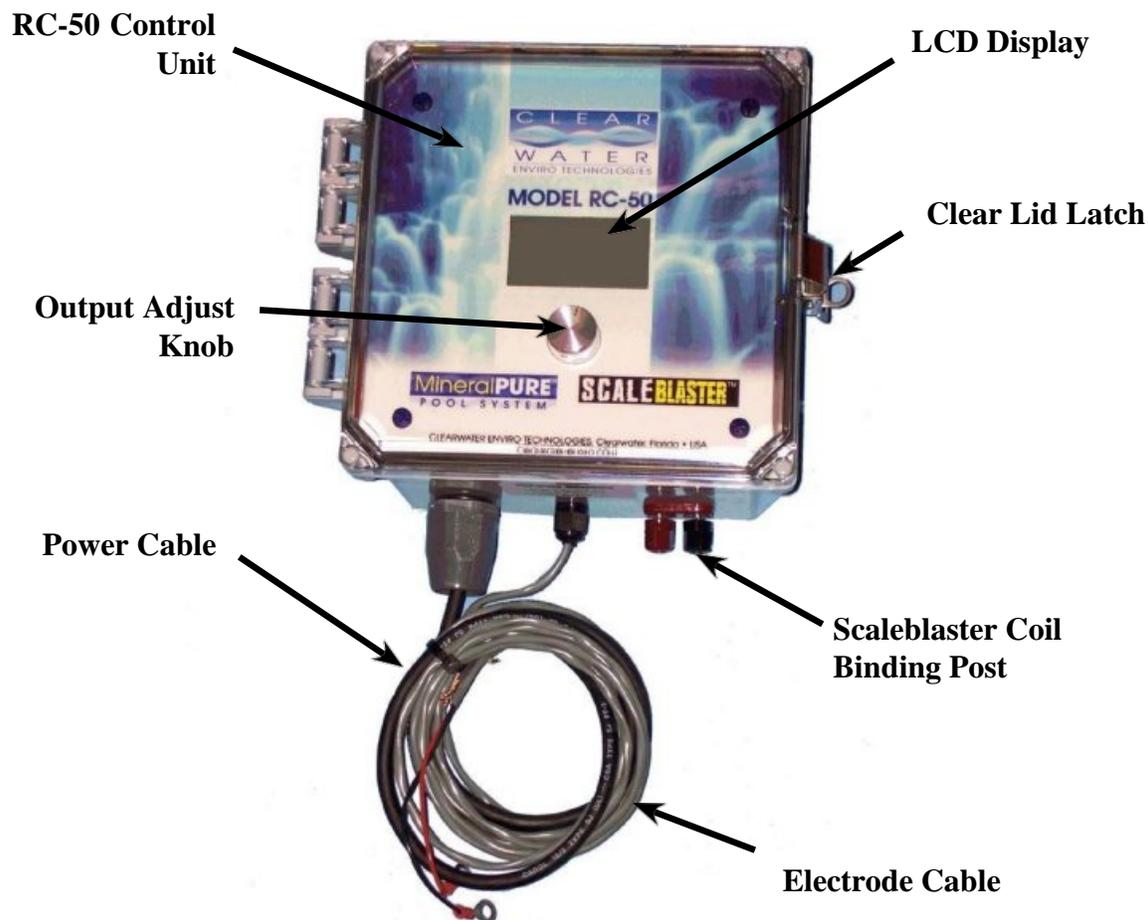


Order # CLA-41 MineralPURE complete test kit

Order # CLA-42 Replacement reagents “A” and “B”

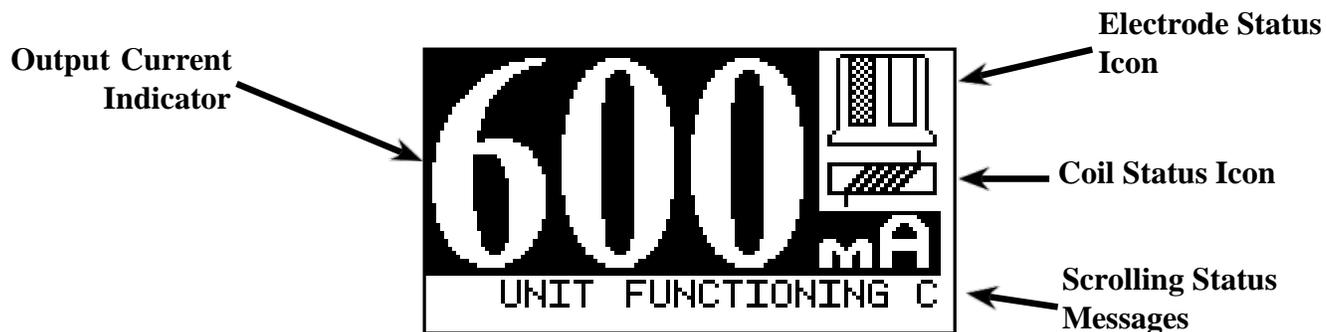
*Contact your dealer or Clearwater Enviro Technologies, Inc. for more ordering information or visit [www.ElectrodeWarehouse.com](http://www.ElectrodeWarehouse.com)*

## I.) RC-50 Control Box Features



The RC-50 control box has one LCD display screen and one control knob for easy to use simplicity.

### Main Screen



## I.) RC-50 Control Box Features (Continued)

### Output Current Indicator

This value indicates the output current flowing through the electrodes. It is adjustable from zero (OFF) to six hundred milliamps (mA), in five mA increments.

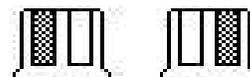


### Electrode Status Icon

#### **STEADY ON - NORMAL OPERATION**

The electrode icon on the upper right side of the main screen indicates the electrical

polarity as well as its operational status. The pictures to the right show the electrode icon switching from one polarity to the other. This will occur every five minutes and allow the electrodes to wear evenly to maximize the life of the electrodes.



#### **BLINKING - CHECK ELECTRODE or WATER TDS TOO LOW**

In this mode the electrode icon will blink. The output current indicator will also change

from the set to current value to the actual current value. The main cause for this to occur is the TDS level of the water is too low. In most cases the TDS level will rise and no action is required. Another reason for this warning is that the electrodes are worn out and need replacing. See the section on Inspecting and Replacing the Electrodes for more information.



#### **BLINKING with SHORT - SHORT CIRCUIT on ELECTRODE**

This error mode is very unlikely to occur. If it should happen, most likely it will be caused by something (usually a piece of metal) bridging (shorting) the electrode terminals. To correct the error check the electrode terminals and wiring to make sure they are not touching each other. Also make sure no foreign material is shorting out the electrode from inside the electrode chamber.



#### **BLINKING with OPEN - OPEN CIRCUIT on ELECTRODE**

This will most likely happen if one of the wires gets cut or otherwise disconnected from the electrode. Check both terminals on the electrode, making sure they are connected and not excessively corroded. Also make sure there are no nicks or cuts in the electrode cable.



### Coil Status Icon



#### **STEADY ON - NORMAL OPERATION**

The coil icon on the right side of the main screen indicates the operational status of the Scaleblaster coil.



#### **BLINKING - OPEN COIL**

In this mode the coil has been disconnected from the RC-50 control unit. Check the red and black binding post to make sure the coil wires are connected properly.

## I.) RC-50 Control Box Features (Continued)

### Scrolling Status Messages

The scrolling status messages are located at the bottom of the main screen. There are five different messages.

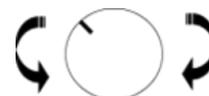
- 1). **UNIT FUNCTIONING CORRECTLY**: Lets the user know everything is ok and that the control unit is functioning.
- 2). **CHECK ELECTRODE CONNECTIONS**: A problem with the electrode connection has been detected. Inspect the electrode wire connection to the electrode terminals, make sure they are well connected and there is no corrosion. Also inspect the electrode cable and make sure there are no cuts or gouges.
- 3). **INSPECT ELECTRODE FOR SHORTS**: The control box has detected a short between the electrode elements. This can be caused by a piece of metal physically touching both of the electrode terminals or by a piece of metal inside the electrode chamber touching both electrodes.
- 4). **CHECK COIL CONNECTIONS**: The coil wire(s) has been disconnected. Check the wiring and the black and red binding posts to make sure there are no loose or disconnected wires.
- 5). **INSPECT ELECTRODE & MAKE SURE TDS IS NOT TOO LOW**: This message will be displayed if the user is setting the output current to a level that the control unit is unable to obtain. This is caused by the electrode resistance being too high. This increased resistance can be caused by a worn out electrode or by a low TDS level in the water. A TDS of 250ppm will allow a current flow of about 425-450 mA, with a new set of electrodes.

### Diagnostic Screen

This screen is used to display more technical information to the user or service technician. The following code will access the Diagnostic Screen:

Output Current Set -	OUTPUT SET - 600mA
Actual Output Current Reading -	ACT. CURRENT - 1200mA
Duty Cycle of Output -	DUTY CYCLE - 050%
Total Hours Unit Has been On -	TOT. TIME ON - 000860HRS
Output Voltage -	OUTPUT VOLT - 16.5VDC
LCD Display Contrast % -	CONTRAST - 045%
Error Status Number -	ERR. STATUS - 123456

1) Turn the output current knob until the output current indicator is **005**, wait about two seconds and you will notice the electrode icon will switch polarities.



2) Next dial in **030**, and wait 2 seconds



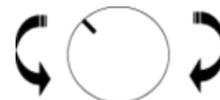
3) Next dial in **015**, and wait 2 seconds

The screen above should now be displayed. The control unit will return to the main screen when power is removed and then reapplied. The user can also dial in the following code to return to the main screen:

# I.) RC-50 Control Box Features (Continued)

## Diagnostic Screen (Continued)

1) Turn the output current knob until the output set value is **000** wait about two seconds and you will notice the electrode icon will switch polarities.



2) Next dial in **025**, and wait 2 seconds

```
--DIAGNOSTIC SCREEN--  
OUTPUT SET -000mA  
ACT CURRENT -1200mA  
DUTY CYCLE -050%  
TOT TIME ON -000060HRS  
OUTPUT VOLT -16.5VDC  
CONTRAST -045%  
ERR STATUS -123456
```

```
--DIAGNOSTIC SCREEN--  
OUTPUT SET -025mA  
ACT CURRENT -1200mA  
DUTY CYCLE -050%  
TOT TIME ON -000060HRS  
OUTPUT VOLT -16.5VDC  
CONTRAST -045%  
ERR STATUS -123456
```

```
--DIAGNOSTIC SCREEN--  
OUTPUT SET -010mA  
ACT CURRENT -1200mA  
DUTY CYCLE -050%  
TOT TIME ON -000060HRS  
OUTPUT VOLT -16.5VDC  
CONTRAST -045%  
ERR STATUS -123456
```

3) Next dial in **010**, and wait 2 seconds

The control unit's LCD display should now show the main screen.

The diagnostic screen monitors seven different operational values. Each value is described in detail below.

**OUTPUT CURRENT SET** This is the set point for the output current (in milliamperes). The RC-50 will maintain this amperage setting through the electrodes.

**OUTPUT CURRENT READING** This is a measured current value (in milliamperes) of the current flowing through the electrodes. This value is an instantaneous value and may or may not indicate a steady state current value. When in Analog Mode this reading will be the same as the current set value. When in Pulse Width Modulation Mode this value divided by the Duty Cycle Value will equal the current set value.

**DUTY CYCLE OF OUTPUT** When in the pulse width modulation mode, this is the ON time of the current output to the electrodes.

**TOTAL HOURS UNIT HAS BEEN ON** Total time (in hours) the RC-50 control unit has been in operation.

**OUTPUT VOLTAGE** This is the output voltage across the electrodes. This voltage can range from 6VDC to 20VDC depending on the electrode conditions, water TDS, and output current setting.

**LCD DISPLAY CONTRAST** The LCD display's contrast setting, in percentage.

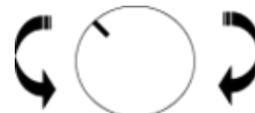
**ERROR STATUS NUMBERS** This is a numerical representation of the present status. The Values and the meaning are written below.

- 1) Normal Mode
- 2) Electrode Open Circuit
- 3) Electrode Short Circuit
- 4) Check Coil
- 5) Electrode Resistance Too High

## LCD Contrast Adjust Screen

The LCD contrast adjustment screen allows the user to adjust the darkness of the LCD display. To access this screen the user must dial-in the correct code on the output adjust knob. The following code will access the LCD contrast adjustment screen.

1) Turn the output current knob until the output current indicator is **010**, wait about two seconds and you will notice the electrode icon will switch polarities.



## I.) RC-50 Control Box Features (Continued)

### LCD Contrast Adjust Screen (Continued)

2) Next dial in **035**, and wait 2 seconds



3) Next dial in **020**, and wait 2 seconds

The display will now look like the picture to the right. The LCD display's contrast can now be adjusted. Adjustments will make the display easier to read in different light levels. After nine seconds of inactivity on the control knob the RC-50 will return to the main screen. After the screen switches back the new LCD contrast level will be recorded in the control unit and will then always return to this new level when powering up. Of course, the operator can always change it again if needed.



## J.) Troubleshooting

### Cloudy Water or Algae Present

If algae is present, you must take steps to solve the reason it formed. First, brush the algae then add chlorine to the pool to oxidize. Check filtering system and backwash or clean filter. Check water chemistry – especially pH. Make sure ion level is in range. You may need to oxidize more frequently if problems persist.

If cloudy water is a problem, add chlorine to clear it up. Again, make sure all readings are in the proper range and filter is clean. Usually cloudy water is from a poor filtering system. Make sure you oxidize on a timely basis. Never add granular chlorine without dissolving it first or pouring it directly into the skimmer.

### Can't Obtain the Proper Copper-Ion Level

If you are unable to obtain the proper ion level, check all of the following factors to solve the problem:

- 1.) High algae growth and cloudy water / Ion level too low.** A high algae growth or cloudy water will use up all available copper and silver ions in the water that the unit can produce. This would result in a low ion level. Make sure the pool water is balanced (see the rest of this section) and turn up the control knob to a higher reading. Oxidize the water with chlorine.
- 2.) Correct sizing of the pool.** If the pool is larger than 50,000 gallons, you may need a stronger system.
- 3.) Scaled, dirty or worn electrodes / check electrode scroll comes on.** A blue-greenish coating around the electrodes is normal. However, a build up of scale, dirt or debris around the electrodes can prevent the unit from producing ions. Simply unscrew the electrodes and clean the buildup using an old toothbrush and use a lemon juice or muriatic acid/water solution. See details in section H, page 18.
- 4.) Can't get a high reading on the display/ TDS is too low.** If your pool has brand new water in it, and you are unable to obtain a desirable reading on the control unit, chances are the TDS level is too low. See detailed section on page 13, and pages 22-23 under "Improper installation" and "TDS too low".

## J.) Troubleshooting (Continued)

### Can't Obtain the Proper Copper-Ion Level (Continued)

**5.) Improper test kit readings.** Make sure you follow the proper Ion-Test kit procedures. Many people look at the side of the test tubes instead of looking down from the top. Also, be sure to wait three minutes for the reagents to develop. These reagents should be replaced yearly and kept out of direct sunlight and stored at normal room temperature. Failure to do so will cause faulty readings. Never let the reagents freeze or be exposed to extreme heat.

**6.) Improper pH readings** This is usually the main reason for a low copper-ion level. Make sure the pH is maintained between 7.2- 7.8 , with the power end preferred. When the pH goes over 7.8, the ions fall out of solution. Make sure your test kit is updated with fresh reagents and kept out of direct sunlight and in normal room temperatures. Never mix different manufacturer's reagents with the test kit.

**7.) Too much chlorine in the pool** If the pool was just shocked with a lot of chlorine, this can give you an improper test kit reading on the Ion Test Kit. The high chlorine level will "bleach" out the reading and appear to read zero.

**8.) Sequestering Agents or Metal Out Removers in the water** Sometimes pool owners will add a flocking or sequestering agent to the water to remove stains or scaling in a pool or remove undesired minerals that are in the source water. Some of these will interfere with the **MineralPURE's** ions such as Sequasol, Cop-Out, Metal Magnet, Aluminum Sulfate or Alum. Products that won't cause problems and that are actually recommended to use with **Mineral Pure** include Pool Stain Treat by *United Chemical* or *Jack's Magic*. All polymer based products like Super Blue and Sea-Klear do not cause problems either. If you are unsure if a sequestering agent is causing a low ion level, send Clearwater Enviro Technologies a water sample to test. If it is a problem (these agents can stay in the water for up to a year) add a lot of chlorine to shock it out of the pool water.

**9.) Steel plumbing** Never install the electrodes on steel piping. Cut out a section of this and replace with PVC pipe.

**10.) Improper installation** Sometimes installers will mount the electrodes on a bypass line and not on the actual return line that goes back to the pool's water. Make sure unit is on properly with correct connections.

**11.) High Phosphate level** A high phosphate level will be a feeding ground for algae. If you have a lot of algae growing and can't keep the Ion level up, you may have a high phosphate level. Any reading over 125 ppb can cause problems. Have your pool store test for phosphates or contact your dealer or *Clearwater* for more information. There are products available that will remove phosphates from the water quickly and will eliminate algae and low Ion readings.

**12.) TDS too low** The RC-50 should work at any reading with a TDS of about 400ppm or so. All TDS levels go up when anything is added to the pool water, but if you need to, add regular salt to the pool to bring up the TDS level. One pound of salt will add 12ppm of TDS per 10,000 gallons.

If you have had the pool for several months or years and the "check electrode" scroll comes on and you are unable to keep the unit on a higher setting, the electrodes may need to be cleaned or replaced. See chapter "**H**" in this manual.

**"Inspect electrode & make sure TDS is not too low" scroll comes on / unable to keep desired readout on display**

When initially installing the unit and you notice the "inspect electrode" scroll coming on, or when you try to set the unit to a higher reading and it returns back to a lower setting, this is due to a low TDS or Total Dissolved Solids reading. Chances are your pool has brand new water in it. **Do not be alarmed.** For example, the RC-50 can reach 600 on the control box, but it goes back to 525 or something like that. Unless your pool is 50,000 gallons or your water is very warm (90 degrees) and you are unable to reach the desired Ion level in the pool, there is nothing to worry about. If you are unable to obtain the desired Ion level and all other factors listed in this chapter have been ruled out, you should test the TDS level. Any pool store can give you this reading or your dealer might have a meter with him.

## J.) Troubleshooting (Continued)

### No Output Reading on Display / Unit Not Working Properly

If for any reason you do not get a reading on the control box, and assuming all connections are correct, you will need to return the circuit board/face plate back to your dealer for repair. The circuit board/face plate assembly can be easily removed without having to un-install the enclosure or wiring. Always turn the power source off first!

### To Return the Circuit Board:

- 1.) Open clear door cover
- 2.) Remove the four blue screws
- 3.) Lift circuit board up and turn over
- 4.) Unscrew the 7 wires going to the two terminals on the circuit board
- 5.) Call your dealer or Clearwater for a RMA number (return merchandise authorization)
- 6.) Package carefully and return to your dealer or Clearwater Enviro Technologies, Inc. with RMA number clearly written on the outside of the box and description of problem on a note inside with the circuit board. Without RMA number, your package may be delayed in processing.



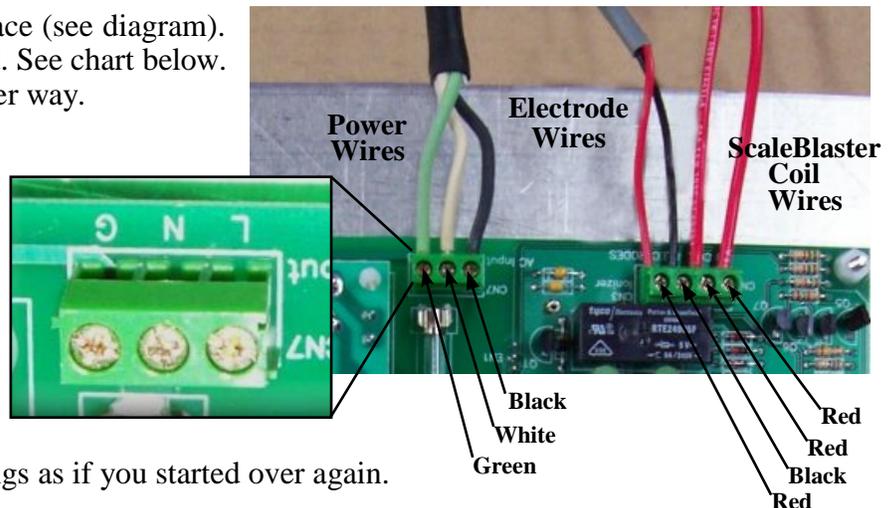
Circuit Board

### Reinstalling the Circuit Board:

- 1.) Carefully screw the 7 wires back in place (see diagram). Make sure power wires are correctly wired. See chart below. The Electrode/coil wires can be wired either way.

Terminal Block	Wires for 110 or 220 VAC
L	= Black
N	= White
G	= Green

- 2.) Seat circuit board back in place
- 3.) Tighten back the four blue screws
- 4.) Turn on power source. Check all readings as if you started over again.



## K.) Optional RC-50 Components

Electrode (1)  
90/10  
Copper/Silver  
CLE-42



or



Electrode (1)  
80/20  
Copper/Silver  
CLE-44

# L.) RC-50 Specs

## RC-50 IONIZER SPECIFICATION

**POOL SIZE:** up to 50,000 U.S. gallons

**INPUT VOLTAGE:** 90 to 264 VAC, at 47 to 63 HZ, auto switching

**INPUT CURRENT:** .5A @ 120VAC, .25A @ 240VAC

**INPUT POWER:** 3.6 to 20 Watts

**OUTPUT VOLTAGE:** 6VDC to 20VDC, Auto Ranging

**OUTPUT CURRENT:** Adjustable in 5mA increments  
0 TO 600mA DC in analog mode  
0 TO 600mA DC average in pulse width modulation mode

**CIRCUIT PROTECTION:** internal input fuse, both on high side and low side, input line spike/surge immunity to IEC 61000-4-5, level 3

**FUSES:** 1 ea 1A, 250VAC, 5x20mm, fast acting  
1 ea 3.15A, 250VAC, 5x20mm, fast acting  
1 ea 2A, 250VAC, 5x20mm, slow acting



**IONIZATION METHOD:** electrolysis of copper, copper/silver alloy electrodes by a microprocessor control circuit

**ELECTRODE:** one set 3", comprised of copper (CLE-11) or copper/silver (CLE-42 or CLE-44)

**ELECTRODE CHAMBER:** specially designed 2" black tee with bushings

**ENCLOSURE:** weather resistant NEMA 12 rated high impact corrosion resistant thermoplastic with hinged polycarbonate cover

**ENCLOSURE DIMENSIONS:** 8 x 8 x 4 inches (W x H x D)

**OPERATING TEMPERATURE RANGE:** 32 - 110 degrees F

**WARRANTY:** 5 years, parts and labor - excluding electrodes

**SHIPPING WEIGHT:** 12 lb.

**CARTON DIMENSIONS:** 22 1/4" x 11 1/4" x 6 5/16"

HEAD LOSS:	Flow Rate (gpm)	Total Head Loss (psi)
	25	0.06
	50	0.21

**HYDROSTATIC PRESSURE:** Maximum Recommended Pressure: 50PSI

**ION PRODUCTION WITH THE FOLLOWING WATER CONDITIONS:**

Water Temperature:	72.7 °F
Total Chlorine:	None
pH:	7.45
TDS:	347 mg/L
Hardness:	215 mg/L
Total Alkalinity:	85 mg/L

**USING THE CLE-11 ELECTRODE:** Our Ionizer with the output set to 50% (300mA) produces 215 mg of copper per hour. When set to 100% (600mA) produces 430 mg of copper per hour.

**MineralPURE<sup>®</sup>**

*The Healthy Alternative to Chlorine*

Manufactured by



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