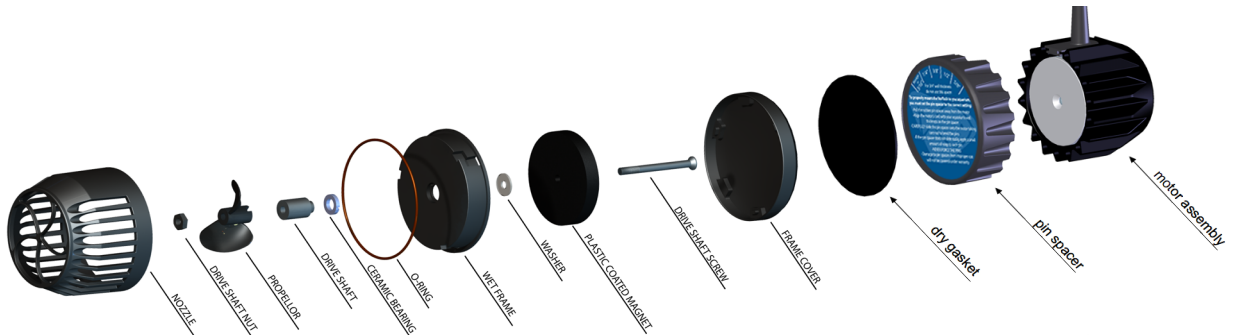


# Your VorTech propeller pump



To remove the nozzle from the wet frame, remove the entire wet half of the pump from the aquarium and place it on a non-metallic surface. Gently but firmly press down on the nozzle with your palm and twist counter clockwise. The nozzle should become free of the wet frame. It may then be cleaned of any obstructions.

## Specifications and Operating Parameters

**Flow:** 500-2000 gallons/hour, **Power:** 6-18 watts,  
**Aquarium Wall Thickness:** 3/16" to 3/4"

## Before you start

### Preparation

Once you have chosen the location where you wish to install your VorTech pump, clean away any algae, calcified or otherwise, using a razor blade.

### Notes on placement

The VorTech creates over 2000 gallons per hour of low velocity flow within your aquarium. Take care to place the VorTech in a suitable location where corals are not directly in the line of flow. Place the pump sufficiently high enough above a fine sand bed so that sand is not blown around by the output or undertow created by the VorTech.

### Protect the pump from water

The VorTech's motor housing and driver are NOT WATERPROOF. Any water allowed into these components can damage them enough to require replacement. This kind of damage is NOT covered in the VorTech's warranty. Protect these components from splashes of any kind.

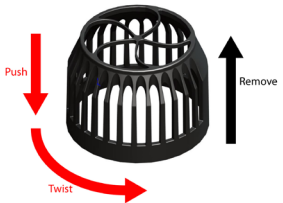
## Adjust the pin spacer

The VorTech pump is designed to operate with a constant gap between both halves of the device. The pin spacer is used to ensure the proper spacing for various aquarium wall thicknesses.

- Make sure to measure your aquarium's glass thickness using a ruler or contact the aquarium manufacturer in order to determine the exact thickness.
- To adjust for the proper aquarium thickness, pull the pin spacer from the motor housing. Then align the VorTech's power cord emerging from the motor with your aquarium's wall thickness to achieve the proper offset from your aquarium.

Note: 3/4" thick aquariums do not use the pin spacer at all.

**IMPORTANT:** When adjusting the pin spacer, be sure not to bend the pins as they are inserted into the holes within the heat sink as this may permanently damage your VorTech. Bent pins WILL NOT be covered under warranty.



## Warnings

- The VorTech utilizes very powerful magnets and can cause severe personal injury.
- NEVER connect the two halves of this device without a proper spacer in-between.
- NEVER place either half of this device near magnetically attractive surfaces or sensitive electronics.
- The motor and driver can become HOT. Be cautious around these surfaces.
- Never run the pump dry as the heat buildup may cause damage to its components.

## Attach the VorTech



### Attach the motor assembly

- Apply the rubber gasket at the chosen location for the VorTech pump, on the outside of your aquarium.
- Apply the cord mounting tab approximately 2" above this location. **Make sure the glass is clean and free of any grease or dirt prior to applying this tab.**
- Place the VorTech motor, with or without the pin spacer attached, upon the black gasket, and secure the cord to the mounting tab using one of the provided wire-ties.
- The cord must be positioned pointing upwards so that if the VorTech were to fall off the aquarium, it does not swing and damage your aquarium. When operating, make sure the gasket is properly recessed within the pin spacer.



### Attach the wet side assembly

- Place the wet side into the aquarium, making sure to allow ALL air to escape from the propeller housing.
- Carefully connect both halves of the pump together and visually align both halves of the pump.

## Protect the Pump From falling

Due to the nature of the magnetically coupled design, it is possible for the VorTech to become dislodged from the aquarium glass and fall to the ground. The cord should be positioned vertically above the pump with the mounting tab directly above the motor to ensure that the motor does not move in the event of a de-coupling of the magnets.

- The provided cord mounting tab **MUST** be used to prevent damage to the motor or the surrounding environment.

## Align the VorTech

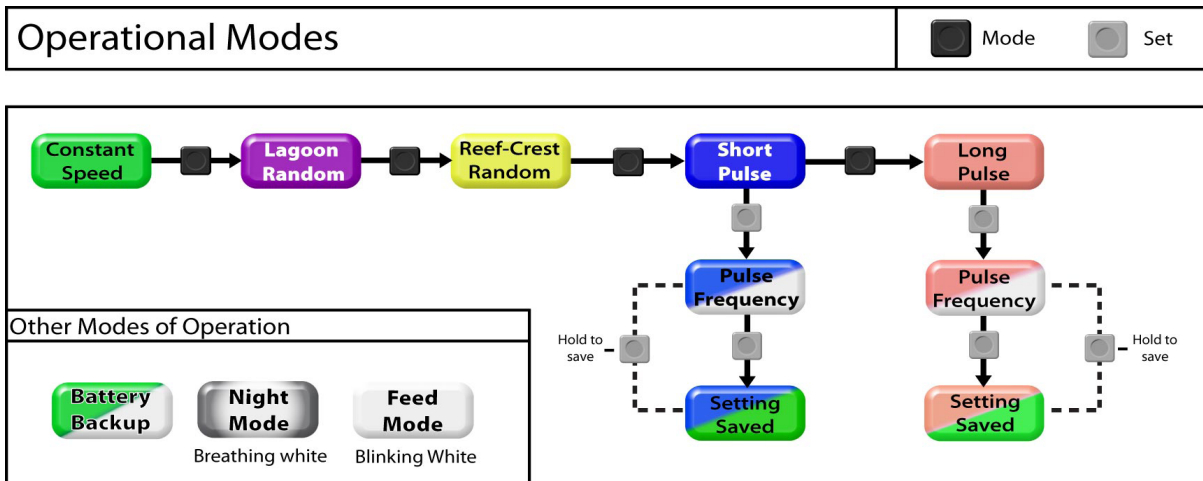
- Turn the speed up to the maximum speed by using the speed control knob on the driver.
- Plug the power supply into the driver. If vibration or noise is detected, carefully adjust the propeller housing by moving it VERY slightly left, right, up or down, until the noise/vibration is eliminated or minimized as much as possible.
- After alignment has been ensured, turn the speed control knob to achieve the desired flow rate within your aquarium.



**IMPORTANT:** If the VorTech is not properly aligned, a strong vibration will be heard. If the alignment is not corrected, this can cause increased electrical consumption, excessive wear on the components, excessive heat and excessive noise.

# Your VorTech Wave Driver

Your VorTech Wave Driver can operate in one of five modes as represented in the flow chart below.: Constant speed mode (green), Lagoon Random Mode (purple), Reef-Crest Random Mode (yellow), Short Pulse Mode (blue), or Long Pulse Mode (salmon).



## Wave Motion Warning

The generation of waves within your aquarium places additional stress on the aquarium glass and joints. Not all aquarium tanks are designed to withstand this stress, and failure of the glass and/or joints could result.

You are encouraged, before generating waves, to consult with your aquarium tank manufacturer to determine if the tank construction is adequate to withstand the additional stress generated by the wave motion.

You are also encouraged to assure that your aquarium stand or furniture is adequately stable to withstand the additional stress resulting from wave generation.

EcoTech Marine DISCLAIMS AND WILL NOT BE LIABLE FOR, damage to aquarium tanks or their surroundings, water damage, or any other consequential damages resulting from wave generation. MAKE WAVES AT YOUR OWN RISK.

# General Operational Modes

## Constant Speed Mode

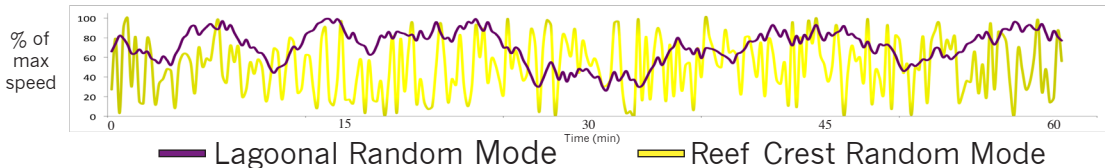
When a pump is in Constant Speed Mode, the dial is used to set the operational speed.

## Lagoon Random Mode

When a pump is in Lagoon Random Mode, **the dial is used to set the maximum operational speed**, and the driver will automatically randomize the pumps output to simulate a low energy lagoon reef environment.

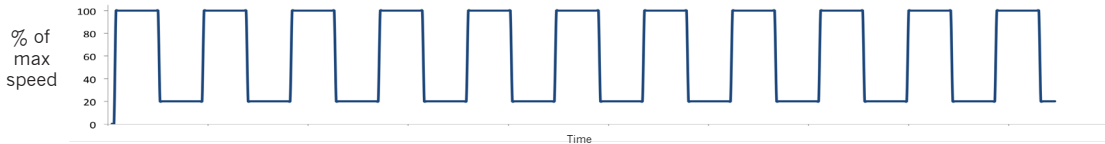
## Reef-Crest Random Mode

When a pump is in Reef-Crest Random Mode, **the dial is used to set the maximum operational speed**, and the driver will automatically randomize the pumps output to simulate a high energy reef-crest environment.



## Short Pulse Mode

When a pump is first entered into Short Pulse Mode, you must set the maximum pump speed by adjusting the dial. When the desired speed is achieved, press the Set button to lock this speed. The LED will now begin to blink. This blinking LED represents the pulsing frequency. Now adjust the dial to make the pump pulse faster or slower. To save this wave, press and hold Set until the LED flashes green/white indicating that the wave is saved.



## Long Pulse Mode

When the pump is entered into Long Pulse Mode, the maximum speed of the pump is set by adjusting the dial. When the desired speed is achieved, press the Set button to lock this speed. The LED will now begin to blink, the blinking LED represents the swelling frequency. Now adjust the dial to make the frequency increase or decrease. To save this wave, press and hold the Set button until the LED flashes green/white indicating that the wave is saved.



## Feed Mode

To enter Feed Mode, press and hold the mode button for three seconds. The LED will now blink white indicating that the pumps are in feed mode. The pumps will spin very slowly for ten minutes and then resume their prior operating conditions.

## Battery Backup Mode

When a battery backup accessory is added to the VorTech pump, the pump will automatically switch to Battery Backup mode during a power outage. The pumps will run at the minimum speed to maximize their run time during this critical period.

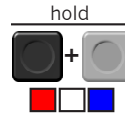
# Advanced Features

## Night Mode

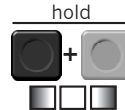
Enter the following button sequence to set Night Mode at the precise time when you desire your pump to enter into Night Mode. The pump's internal timer will then enter Night Mode for 10 hours and return back to your previous mode for 14 hours.

**Step 1)** Wait until the exact time that you wish night mode to begin.

**Step 2)** Press and hold Mode and Set to enter Setup. The LED will blink red/white/blue

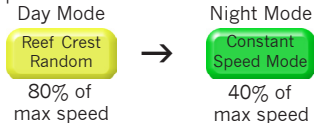


**Step 3)** Press and hold Mode and Set again to set Night Mode. The LED will now switch to breathing white.

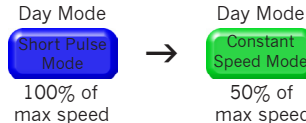


Night mode will operate in constant speed mode at 50% of the day mode speed.

Example 1:



Example 2:



After programming Night Mode, the pump will enter Night Mode at the same time every day until the driver loses power. If the driver loses power, Night Mode setting must be re-enabled.

You can force a pump out of Night Mode holding both Mode and Set. The pump will automatically resume Night Mode at the originally set time. Once you have forced a pump out of Night Mode, it can not be re-entered manually and you must wait until the originally set time.

## Pump Disconnect Calibration

Your VorTech can automatically shut down in the event of a pump disconnect. To set-up this mode, you must calibrate your motor using the following sequence of operations:

**Step 1)** Go into feed mode

Enter Feed Mode by holding the Mode button for 3 seconds. Feed Mode is indicated by a blinking white light.

**Step 2)** Remove pump from your tank

Remove the motor and wet side assembly and set aside separately. Motor will still be running so set it in a safe place with pin spacer facing upwards. (Do not connect both halves of the pump!)

**Step 3)** Hold Mode and Set

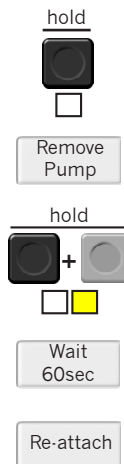
Holding both buttons while in feed mode will change the light from a blinking white to a cycling white and yellow, this indicates that you have entered Calibration Mode.

**Step 4)** Let the program run

The white and yellow cycling light will continue for about sixty seconds and then the pump will restart.

**Step 5)** Re-attach the pump to tank

You have now completed the Pump Disconnect Calibration and now have error codes enabled



## Maintenance

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### Wear of the drive shaft

The VorTech pump features a wear component in the form of the *drive shaft*. This part is designed with a special engineering grade plastic which extends the part's lifetime. The plastic drive shaft can be expected to last for years, depending on the speed, frequency, and alignment of the pump.

### Cleaning your VorTech

The VorTech may need thorough cleaning of the components periodically to keep it running optimally. This can be accomplished by disassembling the wet half of the pump and gently brushing the components with a soft brush under running water. Soaking these parts in a mild acid solution such as vinegar may be necessary if there is an extreme amount of calcium buildup. Do not use strong acids as this may damage the components.

## Troubleshooting

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### Break-in

The VorTech pump is engineered to adapt to its aqueous environment. During the first week of use, your pump may run noisier or stall. The noise should quiet dramatically over night and any stall conditions can safely be reset by manually cycling the power to your pump.

## Error Codes

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### Error Codes:



### Over Temperature Condition

In the event of a motor overheating, the pump will automatically shut down for a period to allow for cooling. Once the motor has cooled, the driver will automatically restart and resume normal operation. You may experience an overheating error from a misalignment.

### Stall Condition

In the event of a motor stall, the pump may have stopped for a few possible reasons. You should first check that there is not something blocking the propeller from spinning. Next, check to make sure the magnets are not rubbing on either the pin spacer or the frame cover.

### Miscellaneous Error

This error could be attributed to a communication error between pumps or an unidentified error in the wave driver. Move the drivers closer together and minimize any physical obstructions in between the drivers.

### Pump Disconnect Error

Enabled after performing the Pump Disconnect Calibration (Pg.5). This error is directly attributed to the Wet Side and the Dry Side becoming disconnected from each other and will cause the motor to shut off.

# Warranty

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EcoTech Marine warrants to the original purchaser only that the VorTech propeller pump will be free from defects in material and workmanship under normal use for a period of (1) year from the date of original purchase if the product is installed and used properly and consistent with the User Manual. The VorTech propeller pump consists of a wet side operating unit that will be fully submerged in the aquarium and a motor and driver that must not be exposed to water at any time. EcoTech Marine's warranty shall not apply: (i) to any damaged VorTech propeller pump that has been subjected to accident, misuse, neglect, alteration, acts of God, improper handling, improper transport, improper storage, improper use or application, improper installation, improper testing or unauthorized repair, (ii) to any VorTech propeller pump where the motor and/or driver have been exposed to water or (iii) to cosmetic problems or defects that result from normal wear and tear under ordinary use, and do not affect the performance or use of the product. EcoTech Marine's warranty applies only to a product that is manufactured by or for EcoTech Marine and identified by the EcoTech Marine trademark, trade name or product identification logo affixed to the product. If you notice a problem with your VorTech propeller pump, do not attempt to repair it yourself. Any attempts at self repair shall void this limited warranty. EcoTech Marine shall not be held liable for damage to any aquarium, aquarium life forms, or other personal objects due to improper use of the device. If the product develops a covered defect within the one-year period, EcoTech Marine will, at its option, either repair or replace the VorTech propeller pump without charge, provided that the VorTech propeller pump is returned during the warranty period.

The VorTech pump operates at high temperatures and produces forces within the aquarium that can cause extreme loading and fatigue. Due to this, caution must be used when installing this device on any aquarium. Because the construction of aquariums varies from each manufacturer and the operating conditions of each individual aquarist is different, there is a possibility that the VorTech propeller pump may cause damage to your aquarium. Please contact your aquarium manufacturer to determine if your aquarium is properly built and recommended for VorTech pumps. If you notice any damage to your aquarium, including but not limited to crazing, cracking, bending, scratching, etc, immediately discontinue the use of the VorTech propeller pump. EcoTech Marine will not be liable for any damage caused to your aquarium resulting from the use of the VorTech propeller pump.

To obtain warranty service or technical support, please contact EcoTech Marine's customer service department at (610) 954-8480. You will receive instructions on how to return the product for repair or replacement. To take advantage of this Limited Warranty you will be required to supply an original point of purchase receipt.

ECOTECH MARINE DISCLAIMS ALL OTHER WARRANTIES WHETHER ORAL OR WRITTEN, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, TO THE FULLEST EXTENT ALLOWED BY APPLICABLE LAW. NO IMPLIED WARRANTY OF FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE OR MERCHANTABILITY SHALL APPLY EXCEPT AS REQUIRED BY APPLICABLE LAW. ECOTECH MARINE DOES NOT AUTHORIZE ANY PERSON OR BUSINESS ENTITY, INCLUDING ITS AUTHORIZED DEALERS, TO CREATE FOR IT ANY OBLIGATIONS, LIABILITIES, OR OTHER WARRANTIES IN CONNECTION WITH THIS PRODUCT.

ALL WARRANTIES ARE VOID IF THERE IS DAMAGE TO THE VORTECH PROPELLER PUMP THAT IS NOT A RESULT OF A DEFECT IN THE MATERIALS OR WORKMANSHIP. THE SOLE AND EXCLUSIVE REMEDY FOR ALL CLAIMS THAT YOU MAY HAVE ARISING OUT OF OR IN CONNECTION WITH YOUR USE OF THIS PRODUCT, WHETHER MADE OR SUFFERED BY YOU OR ANOTHER PERSON AND WHETHER BASED IN CONTRACT OR TORT, SHALL BE REPAIR OR REPLACEMENT OF THE PRODUCT. IN NO EVENT WILL ECOTECH MARINE BE LIABLE TO YOU OR ANY OTHER PARTY FOR ANY DIRECT, INDIRECT, GENERAL, SPECIAL, INCIDENTAL, CONSEQUENTIAL, EXEMPLARY OR OTHER DAMAGES ARISING OUT OF THE USE OR INABILITY OF TO USE THE PRODUCT (INCLUDING, WITHOUT LIMITATION, DAMAGES FOR LOSS OF BUSINESS PROFITS, BUSINESS INTERRUPTION, LOSS OF INFORMATION OR ANY OTHER PECUNIARY LOSS, DAMAGE TO YOUR AQUARIUM OR ANY AQUARIUM INHABITANTS), OR FROM ANY BREACH OF WARRANTY, EVEN IF ECOTECH MARINE HAS BEEN ADVISED OF THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH DAMAGES. IN NO CASE SHALL ECOTECH MARINE'S LIABILITY EXCEED THE AMOUNT YOU PAID FOR THE PRODUCT. IF YOU DISAGREE WITH THESE TERMS AND CONDITIONS DO NOT USE THE VORTECH PROPELLER PUMP.

Some states do not allow the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages, so the above exclusions may not apply to you. EcoTech Marine's warranty is governed by the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, excluding its conflict of laws principles and excluding the provisions of the United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods. This warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may also have other rights, which vary from state to state.

## **Customer Support**

service@ecotechmarine.com

(610) 954-8480

**Sales inquiries please contact:**

sales@ecotechmarine.com

(800) 785-0338

## Warnings

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This product carries an ingress protection rating of IPX0 and must not be immersed in water.

**Danger:** To avoid possible electrical shock, special care should be taken since water is employed in the use of aquarium equipment. For each of the following situations, do not attempt repairs yourself; return the appliance to the manufacturer for service or discard the appliance.

DO NOT immerse in water. If the appliance falls into the water, DON'T reach for it! First unplug it and then retrieve it. If electrical components of the appliance get wet, unplug the appliance immediately. (Non-immersible equipment only)

Carefully examine the appliance after installation. It should not be plugged in if there is water on parts not intended to be wet.

Do not operate any appliance if it has a damaged cord or plug, or if it is malfunctioning or if it is dropped or damaged in any manner. The power cord of this appliance cannot be replaced: If the cord is damaged, the appliance should be discarded. Never cut the cord.

To avoid the possibility of the appliance plug or receptacle getting wet, position aquarium stand and tank to one side of a wall mounted receptacle to prevent water from dripping onto the receptacle or plug. The "drip-loop" should be arranged by the user for each cord connecting an aquarium appliance to a receptacle. A "drip-loop" is that part of the cord below the level of the receptacle, or the connector if an extension cord is used, to prevent water traveling along the cord and coming in contact with the receptacle. If the plug or receptacle does get wet, DON'T unplug the cord. Disconnect the fuse or circuit breaker that supplies power to the appliance, then unplug and examine for presence of water in the receptacle.

Close supervision is necessary when an appliance is used by or near children.

To avoid injury, do not contact moving parts or hot parts such as heaters, reflectors, lamp bulbs, and the like.

Always unplug an appliance from an outlet and battery backup when not in use, before putting on or taking off parts, and before cleaning.

Never yank cord to pull plug from outlet. Grasp the plug and pull to disconnect.

Do not use an appliance for other than intended use. The use of attachments not recommended or sold by the appliance manufacturer may cause an unsafe condition.

Do not install or store the appliance where it will be exposed to weather or to temperatures below freezing.

Make sure an appliance mounted on a tank is securely installed before operating it. Read and observe all the important notices on the appliance.

If an extension cord is necessary, a cord with a proper rating should be used. A cord rated for less amperes or watts than the appliance rating may overheat. Care should be taken to arrange the cord so that it will not be tripped over or pulled.

Prior to servicing ensure the appliance is unplugged from the mains as well as the battery backup.