



**VACU-MAID®**  
CENTRAL VACUUM SYSTEMS

**SilentPartner®**  
CENTRAL VACUUM SYSTEMS

**AstroVac®**  
CENTRAL VACUUM SYSTEMS

# Owners Manual

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**IMPORTANT:** Carefully read and retain this booklet.



Lindsay Manufacturing, Inc.  
[www.lindsaymfg.com](http://www.lindsaymfg.com)

# Astro-Vac® Central Vacuum Systems LIFETIME LIMITED\* WARRANTY

**This Warranty gives you specific legal rights, you may also have other rights which vary from State to State (or Province).**

## **ITEMS COVERED**

\*ASTRO-VAC power unit canisters carry a lifetime limited warranty to the original owner against defects in material and workmanship until a time when the original owner ceases to own the ASTRO-VAC system, or the building it was originally installed in. The motor and all internal electrical components of a ASTRO-VAC system are warranted for a period of 5 years. Hoses, power brushes, floor brushes, and cleaning tools purchased in a DUSTMATE tool kit are warranted for a period of 2 years. All warranties commence from the original date of purchase. Any warranted defects will be repaired or replaced without cost to the customer except for transportation charges and/or charges associated with removal and reinstallation. This Warranty is given only to the original owner and cannot be transferred.

## **ITEMS NOT COVERED**

This Warranty does not cover such conditions as normal wear to the power unit resulting from normal usage or from damage caused by accidents, negligence, misuse, or improper alteration, or from damage by fire, flood, or other acts of God. Motor brush wear is normal and is not considered to be a defect in material or workmanship. Further, this Warranty does not apply to vacuum tubing, fittings, wall inlets, or to the act of installing the ASTRO-VAC Central Vacuum Systems.

## **TERMS OF WARRANTY AND RESTRICTIONS**

\*The Lifetime / 5 year / 2 year terms of this limited Warranty is effective for single family residential applications only. In commercial/ industrial and other applications, this limited warranty is valid for ninety (90) days from the date of installation for all components of the system. In commercial/industrial and other applications, this warranty shall be for the benefit of the original owner of the ASTRO-VAC Central Vacuum System. Warranty will be void if service is provided by anyone other than an authorized ASTRO-VAC dealer using ASTRO-VAC replacement parts.

## **REQUIRED REGISTRATION**

Included with the papers which accompany the ASTRO-VAC product is a Warranty registration card. Please fill out and return this Warranty registration card or register online at [www.lindsaymfg.com/registration](http://www.lindsaymfg.com/registration) so that the required warranty information is on file. We also recommend keeping copies of receipts and delivery slips so that there is no discrepancy on date of installation or purchase.

## **HOW TO INVOKE THIS WARRANTY**

If it should ever become necessary to invoke the rights and privileges of this Warranty during the period of effectiveness the following procedures should be followed:

- a) Refer to operating maintenance instructions to ascertain that a malfunction of the power unit has actually occurred.
- b) Notify the authorized ASTRO-VAC dealer-installer who sold the unit, that you have a problem and describe the nature of your difficulty.
- c) If the ASTRO-VAC distributor-installer has not solved your problem within a reasonable time (but in all events within 45 days of when you became aware of a defect), write or call Lindsay Manufacturing, Inc., to obtain instructions for warranty service.

## **DISCLAIMER OF OTHER WARRANTIES**

**LINDSAY MANUFACTURING, INC., HEREBY DISCLAIMS ALL LIABILITY WHATSOEVER FOR ANY INCIDENTAL OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES WHICH OCCUR AS A RESULT OF DEFECTS IN MATERIAL AND WORKMANSHIP IN THE PRODUCT. LINDSAY MANUFACTURING, INC., ALSO HEREBY DISCLAIMS ALL IMPLIED WARRANTIES, INCLUDING THE WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE.**

**SOME STATES (or provinces) DO NOT ALLOW THE EXCLUSION OR LIMITATION OF INCIDENTAL OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES, SO THE ABOVE LIMITATION OR EXCLUSION MAY NOT APPLY TO YOU. SOME STATES (or provinces) DO NOT ALLOW LIMITATIONS ON HOW LONG AN IMPLIED WARRANTY LASTS, SO THE ABOVE LIMITATIONS MAY NOT APPLY TO YOU. TO THE EXTENT THAT ANY LAW PROHIBITS, IN WHOLE OR PART, THE LIMITATION OF IMPLIED WARRANTIES, ANY IMPLIED WARRANTY APPLICABLE TO THE PRODUCT SHALL NOT EXCEED A PERIOD OF LIFETIME / 3 YEARS / 2 YEARS FOR SINGLE RESIDENTIAL APPLICATIONS OR 90 DAYS FOR COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL AND OTHER APPLICATIONS.**

This warranty is exclusive and is in lieu of all other expressed warranties, and in lieu of all other obligations or liabilities on the part of Lindsay Manufacturing, Inc., for damage to person or property. We do not authorize any person, including any dealer, agent, supplier, or representative of Lindsay Manufacturing, Inc., to make any other warranty or guarantee on our behalf, or assume for us any liability on the ASTRO-VAC Central Vacuum System other than that contained herein. No oral representations regarding warranty shall be binding upon Lindsay Manufacturing, Inc., whether extended before or after sale of that product.

**LINDSAY MANUFACTURING, INC. / P.O. BOX 1708 / PONCA CITY, OK 74602-1708 / 580-762-2457**  
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15. Do not handle electric hose or inlets with wet hands.
16. Keep hair, loose clothing, fingers and all parts of the body away from wand, other openings and moving parts.
17. If so equipped, do not use your central vacuum system without dustbag and/or filters in place.
18. Always disconnect vacuum system before emptying dirt canister, cleaning filters or replacing dustbag.
19. Use extra care when cleaning on stairs.
20. Do not use to pick up flammable or combustible liquids such as gasoline or use in areas where such liquids may be present.
21. Do not use to pick up dry wall or cement dust. Doing so will void warranty.
22. Do not pick up anything that is burning or smoking, such as cigarettes, matches or hot ashes.
23. When finished put the vacuum hose and attachments away to prevent tripping accidents.
24. For a grounded appliance, connect to a properly grounded outlet only. See grounding instructions.
25. For electric vacuum hose, connect to a properly wired 2-pole polarized outlet.
26. Electric vacuum hose, use only with the electric power brush for use with the central vacuum system.
27. The extension cord provided may only be used with the electric power brush for use with the central vacuum system.
28. **DO NOT USE** the electric vacuum hose or extension cord with any appliance other than the central vacuum electric power brush for which it is intended.

**CAUTION:** Do not use when rug (or floor) is wet.

**ATTENTION:** Ne pas utiliser lorsque le tapis (ou le plancher) est moduillé.

**SAVE THESE INSTRUCTIONS**

**-WARNING-**

**ELECTRIC SHOCK COULD OCCUR IF USED ON WET SURFACES**

**GROUNDING INSTRUCTIONS**

**FOR CORD CONNECTED APPLIANCE**

This appliance must be grounded. If it should malfunction or breakdown, grounding provides a path of least resistance for electric current to reduce the risk of electric shock. Your central vacuum system is supplied with an electrical cord having a grounding pin. It is recommended that this plug be used only with an appropriate outlet that is properly installed and grounded in accordance with all local codes and ordinances. This appliance is for use on a nominal 120-volt circuit (U.S. only) or 230/250 volt circuits where applicable, and has a grounded plug that looks like the plug shown in Figure A. A temporary adapter, that looks like the adapter illustrated in Figure B, may be used to connect this plug to a 2-pole receptacle as shown in Figure B if a properly grounded outlet is not available.

**12. Dirt Canister - Over Filled** - Whenever low airflow is experienced the first thing to check is the dirt canister for over filling or clogged filter bag (some models). Refer to Number 13. Read the Operations section of this manual for information on how to clean your dirt canister.

**13. Filter Bag - Clogged (some models)** - Read the Operations section of this manual for information on how to remove and clean your filter bag.

**14. Dirt Canister Lid - Off** - On those models with lift off dirt canister lids, (check the Operations section of this manual) the lid must be replaced squarely on top of the canister or it will allow a vacuum leak.

**15. Dirt Canister Gasket - Loose** - If the dirt canister gasket has been pulled loose, it will allow a vacuum leak. The gasket may be reattached with contact cement or any of the so called "super glues".

**16. Outside Exhaust - Blocked** - Check the exhaust system by removing the tubing from the motor blower exhaust and comparing the airflow at this point versus the airflow reaching the outside. If blockage is detected and cannot be removed, contact you service technician.

**17. Dirt Canister - Not Attached** - If the dirt canister latches (some models) are not properly closed, it will cause an air leak along the gasket and reduce your cleaning ability.

**18. Another Wall Inlet Door - Open** - Check all the inlet valves to make sure that only one inlet is in use at a time. Attempting to clean from two or more inlets at a time will reduce the airflow below the level required to deep clean your carpets.

**19. Motor Protection Screen - Clogged** - This usually occurs due to allowing the dirt canister to over fill, or a broken filter bag (some models). Refer to the Operations section of this manual for instructions on cleaning the blower protection screen.

**20. Relay Stuck - On** - Refer to Number 9. If after using the procedures described in Number 9 it appears that the relay is sticking on, unplug the power cord to cut off all electricity to the power unit. **Caution: Checking the wiring in the power unit should only be attempted by a qualified service technician.**

**21. Relay Stuck - Off** - If the procedures described in Numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 or 7, do not correct the power unit not starting, then it could be a malfunction of the relay, the low voltage transformer could be burned out, or there could be a loose wire in the power unit. If you suspect a malfunction in the power unit, contact your service technician.

**22. Transformer - Burned Out** - Refer to Number 21.

**23. Loose Wire In the Power Unit** - Refer to Number 21.

**24. A Hose Plugged Into Another Inlet Valve** - Cleaning from more than one inlet at a time will reduce the airflow to less than is required to deep clean your carpets.

**25. P.C. Board Relay stuck on** - Refer to Number 9. If after using the procedures described in Number 8 it appears that the relay is sticking on, unplug the power cord to cut off all electricity to the power unit. **Caution: Checking the wiring in the power unit should only be attempted by a qualified service technician.**

**26. P.C. Board Transformer burned out** - If the procedures described in Numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 or 7, do not correct the power unit not starting, then it could be a malfunction of the relay, the low voltage transformer could be burned out, or there could be a loose wire in the power unit. If you suspect a malfunction in the power unit, contact your service technician.

**27. LED Light** - Some units have an LED light at the unit. If the LED light is not on, refer to number 5. If you have power at the unit but LED light is off, contact your local service technician.

IF YOU CANNOT DIAGNOSE OR REPAIR YOUR TROUBLE, CONTACT THE NEAREST DISTRIBUTOR.

# OPERATING YOUR CENTRAL VACUUM

Your central vacuum system has been engineered for a long, trouble-free service life. Your power unit is covered by a factory limited warranty that is enclosed with these instructions. Please read your limited warranty carefully. If your owners manual came with a warranty card, fill it out and return to the factory. You should fill out your registration card within ten (10) days of installation and return to address listed on the card. This will validate our factory warranty. Remember, your warranty does not cover abuse or misuse of the equipment.

If your owners manual did not come with a warranty card, contact your dealer for warranty information.

**CLEANING TOOLS** - Since there are several tool kits available, the use and care of these tools is explained in a separate booklet packed with each of the tool kits. It is very important to utilize the tool that is designed to perform a particular cleaning job, in order to obtain full efficiency from your system. Each of the tools and their designed use is explained in the booklet packed with your particular tool kit. Also, other special carpet & flooring tools are available, which are not included as part of the normal tool kits. A few of these are a vibrating upholstery tool, a pet grooming tool, and a hand held air turbine. In addition, there are accessories designed to allow you to safely pick up liquids with your cleaning system such as the Wet Pick-Up. Each of these tools is available for purchase from your local dealer; if you would like to know more about a certain tool, please contact them.

**VACUUM INLETS** - When opening the door of the vacuum inlet valve to insert the cleaning hose, care should be taken not to distort the door by forcing it too far open. Do not turn the system on and try to open the door of another inlet, since this will tend to pull the rubber gasket from the door. If inlet does not have remote on/off hose activated, leave door open for a few seconds after removing hose from inlet so the cyclonic filtration has time to shut down and debris can settle back down into the dirt can. If the power unit continues to run after the hose is removed from the inlet, the small ball which activates the low voltage switch at the inlet should be checked to make sure it has not become lodged in some way. Should this not shut the unit off, disconnect the electrical supply to the power unit and notify your local dealer or serviceman.

**VACUUM POWER UNIT** - Your power unit does not require any oil. The bearings in the motor are greased and sealed for life. The motor of the unit has contact brushes inside. As the unit is used, the brushes will wear, even when functioning properly. Because of this, the brushes in most power units will need to be replaced after 700 to 1,500 hours of use. Brush life is also affected by humidity, altitude, temperature and the number of starts and stops. So, there is a wide spread in the actual life of the motor brushes. On average the life of the motor brush, when used in a normal manner, will be from ten to twenty years. The cost of replacing your motor brushes is not great; but, the damage that can be done to the motor through not replacing the brushes **before they are completely worn out** is considerable. We recommend that you have your unit and motor brushes inspected by a qualified serviceman every 4-6 years.

# TROUBLESHOOTING GUIDE

Please read the Warranty certificate before attempting any service on your power unit. The motor in your power unit **DOES NOT** require oiling. The bearings have been lubricated and sealed at the factory. Tampering in any way with the motor blower will invalidate your warranty. Your central vacuum system has been engineered to provide many years of carefree service. Should your system for some reason fail to function properly, the following chart and instructions should help you to restore efficient service promptly. Check the chart for symptoms and then read across to determine the probable cause. The probable causes are numbered for your convenience and after you have found your symptom refer to the directions for checking that item.

<b>SYMPTOM</b>					Check each X for <b>PROBABLE CAUSE</b>
NO AIRFLOW	LOW AIRFLOW	POWER UNIT DOES NOT RUN	POWER UNIT CONTINUES TO RUN	CYCLES OFF AND ON	
X		X		X	1. Power Cord 2. Push-to-reset Circuit Breaker on Unit 3. Circuit Breaker in House Panel 4. Internal Thermal Switch in Unit (some models) 5. Electrical Wall Outlet Plug 6. Switch in the Wall Inlet Stuck Off 7. Switch in Wall Inlet Stuck On 8. Remote Control Wire Broken 9. Remote Control Wire - Shorted 10. Flexible Hose Plugged 11. Tubing in Walls Clogged 12. Dirt Canister Overfilled 13. Filter Bag - Clogged (some models) 14. Dirt Canister Lid - Off 15. Dirt Canister Gasket Loose 16. Outside Exhaust Blocked 17. Dirt Canister Not Latched 18. Another Wall Inlet Door Open 19. Blower Protection Screen Clogged 20. Relay Stuck - On 21. Relay Stuck - Off 22. Transformer Burned Out 23. Loose Wire in Power Unit 24. A Hose Plugged into another Inlet 25. P.C. Board Relay Stuck ON 26. P.C. Board Transformer burned out 27. LED Light
X		X			
X		X			
		X			
X		X		X	
		X			
X		X	X		
			X	X	
X	X				
X	X				
	X				
	X				
X					
	X				
X	X				
			X		
X		X			
X		X			
X		X		X	
			X		
		X	X		
		X			

1. Power Cord - Make sure that the power cord is plugged into an operating receptacle of the proper voltage and current for your unit.

2. Push-to-Reset Circuit Breaker - If your unit has experienced an over current or extremely high temperature, the button will pop out. To reset, simply push the button in until it protrudes about 1/8 inch and stays in. If the breaker pops out again when the unit is used - call your service technician.

## Split System Units

**1** To remove the dirt canister, support the bottom of the canister with your knee\* (see figure 1b), then unsnap the two dirt canister latches by grasping the lower end of each latch and pulling straight away from the canister. (**Note:** The latches may be tight, but do not try to adjust them. They need to latch tightly, to ensure a proper seal, which is vital in the operation of the cyclonic separation.)

**2** Carefully lower the dirt container and empty the debris into any suitable trash container. (If equipped with an air channel and plastic bag, see page 7 for more instructions.)

**3** Please note that for split systems, those systems which have the powerhead mounted separately from the filter canister, the screen may be cleaned by just lifting straight up on the lid of the dirt canister (see Figure 2b). *Optional maintenance: The underneath of the screen can also be cleaned. To do so, remove the two screws, lift screen and wipe the underneath of the screen clean. Place screen back into unit and secure with the two screws.*

These units may have an optional Electro-Static screen which can be lifted out and cleaned by vacuuming, rinsing with water, or shaking. Before replacing the Electro-Static screen make certain it is completely dry or it will void warranty. To replace the screen, simply place the Electro-Static screen over the stand pipe and push down to insure that it seats on the metal screen. With this type of unit, there is no need to look or reach up into the canister from the bottom of the unit. When replacing the lid, care should be taken to insure that it is placed squarely on the top of the canister; otherwise, it will allow a vacuum leak.

**4** Replace the dirt canister by slipping the rim of the dirt canister over the lip of the top can until it is seated against the rim gasket. Then while holding the canister in place with your knee\* (see Figure 1b), fasten the two latches. Do this by hooking the top lip of each latch over the rim of the top can and then press straight in on the bottom of the latches until they lock.



Figure 1b



Figure 2b

If you notice a lack of suction or power, lint screen or Electro-Static screen may be blocked. Remove lid and clean.



### HOW OFTEN SHOULD I CHECK OR EMPTY MY DIRT CANISTER?

Initially, the dirt canister should be checked or emptied weekly until some idea can be obtained as to how long it takes to half fill the canister under your normal cleaning routine. All vacuum systems will function more effectively if the filter system is emptied frequently. Under no circumstances should you allow your dirt canister to become more than 3/4 full before emptying.

Note: The canister will fill more rapidly if NEW carpets are being cleaned for there is usually a tremendous quantity of loose fibers that are retained in the carpet from the manufacturing process. In some instances it may take several months before all of these loose fibers are removed.

\*If you have trouble removing or replacing the dirt canister using your knee, try supporting the can with one hand, unlatching (or relatching) one side with the other hand. Then, reverse your hands to unlatch (or relatch) the other side.

# Inverted Bag Systems

Inverted bag units provide a permanent filter and require occasional cleaning. To clean the inverted bag units, follow these steps:

- 1** Remove the dirt canister by supporting the bottom canister with your knee\*. Then, unsnap the two dirt canister latches by grasping the lower end of each latch and pulling straight away from the canister (see figure 1c).
- 2** Carefully lower the dirt canister, dump the contents into trash container (figure 2c), and then set aside.
- 3** It is not necessary to remove the inverted bag to clean. A plastic bag may be placed over the bottom portion of the top canister. Then, while holding the plastic bag tightly around the canister with one hand, push the bag up inside with the other hand, and brush/shake the bag surface to loosen any dust and debris that may have accumulated on the bag (see figure 3c). In this way, the bag can be cleaned without getting any dust or debris on the floor or hands.
- 4** Replace the dirt canister by slipping the rim of the dirt canister over the lip of the top can until it is seated against the rim gasket. Then while holding the canister in place with your knee\* (see Figure 1c) fasten the two latches. Do this by hooking the top lip of each latch over the rim of the top can and then press straight in on the bottom of the latches until they lock.



Figure 1c



Figure 2c



Figure 3c



## HOW OFTEN SHOULD I CHECK OR EMPTY MY DIRT CANISTER?

Initially, the dirt canister should be checked or emptied weekly until some idea can be obtained as to how long it takes to half fill the canister under your normal cleaning routine. All vacuum systems will function more effectively if it is emptied frequently. Under no circumstances should you allow your dirt canister to become more than 3/4 full before emptying. (Note: The canister will fill more rapidly if NEW carpets are being cleaned for there is usually a tremendous quantity of loose fibers that are retained in the carpet from the manufacturing process. In some instances it may take several months before all of these loose fibers are removed.)

## HOW OFTEN SHOULD I CLEAN THE INVERTED BAG?

The inverted bag should be cleaned approximately 3-4 times a year or every time the dirt canister is dumped. If your inverted bag should ever need replaced, contact your local dealer.

\*If you have trouble removing or replacing the dirt canister using your knee, try supporting the can with one hand, unlatching (or relatching) one side with the other hand. Then, reverse your hands to unlatch (or relatch) the other side.