

User Manual

WARNING Read all instructions. Save these instructions.

™0.5

"1_C

M2.5

Contents

Electric fencing and your Stafix energiser	1
Installation	2
Operation	2
Building a permanent electric fence	2
Temporary electric fencing	5
Safety considerations	5
Frequently asked questions/Troubleshooting	7
Servicing	7
Product specifications	8

© Tru-Test Limited, 2004. All rights reserved.

Stafix and Fence Compass are trademarks of Tru-Test Corporation Limited.

No part of this publication may be photocopied, reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise without the prior written permission of Tru-Test Limited. Product specifications may change without prior notice.

For more information about the Stafix range of quality products, see www.stafix.com.

Tru-Test Limited Postal address:
25 Carbine Road P O Box 51078
Mt Wellington Pakuranga
Auckland 1006 Auckland 1730
New Zealand New Zealand

XED05012 Issue 3 10/04

Electric fencing and your Stafix energiser

Congratulations on your purchase of a Stafix mains/line energiser. This product has been constructed using the latest technology and construction techniques. It has been engineered to give superior performance and many years of service.

It is important to read these instructions carefully and thoroughly. They contain important safety information and will assist you in ensuring that your electric fencing system gives maximum performance and reliability.

Note:

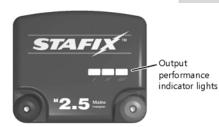
- This product has been designed for use with electric animal fences.
- Keep this manual in a handy location.

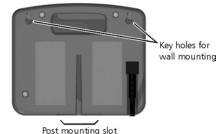
Warning!

- USA and Canada To reduce the risk of electric shock, the energiser has a polarised plug (one blade is wider than the other). This plug will fit in a polarised outlet one way. If the plug does not fit fully in the outlet, reverse the plug. If it still does not fit, contact a qualified electrician to install the proper outlet. Do not change the plug in any way.
- Switch the energiser off before installation or performing any work on the fence.
- Read all the safety considerations carefully. See Safety Considerations on page 5.
- Check your installation to ensure that it complies with all local safety regulations.
- The energizer must be located in a shelter, and the cable must not be handled when the temperature is below 5 °C.

Do not connect simultaneously to a fence and to any other device such as a cattle trainer or a poultry trainer. Otherwise, lightning striking your fence will be conducted to all other devices.







Fence earth terminal

Fence output terminal

Symbols that may be on your energiser



To reduce the risk of electric shock, the energiser should be opened or repaired only by qualified Stafix-appointed personnel.



Read full instructions before use.



Indicates that the energiser is of a doubleinsulated construction.

How does an electric fence work?

An electric fence system comprises an energiser and an insulated fence. The energiser puts very short pulses of electricity onto the fence line. These pulses have a high voltage, but are of very short duration (less than 3/10,000ths of a second). However, a shock from an electric fence pulse is very uncomfortable and animals quickly learn to respect

electric fences. An electric fence is not only a physical barrier, but is also a strong psychological barrier.

What are the benefits of an electric fence?

An electric fence has many benefits over conventional fencing:

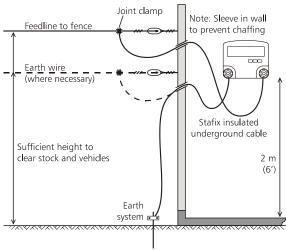
- Requires less labour and material to construct than conventional fencing.
- Flexibility to change or add paddocks when required. The use of strip grazing techniques can allow temporary fencing to be guickly and easily erected or removed.
- Controls a broader range of animals.
- Minimises damage to expensive livestock when compared with other fencing mechanisms, for example barbed wire.

Installation

- Read all of the safety instructions in this manual carefully before installing the energiser.
- Mount the energiser indoors, sheltered from wind, rain, birds, snow etc.
- Mount the energiser close to a power outlet.
- Mount the energiser out of reach of children.
- Use the template at the end of this manual (inside cover) to locate fixing points.

See the diagram below to install the energiser:

- 1 Connect the Fence earth terminal to a separate earth system that is at least 10 m (30') away from other earth systems.
- 2 Connect the Fence output terminal to the fence.

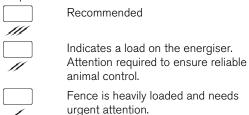


Operation

Turn on the power supply.

One of the three output performance indicator lights will flash with each pulse.

The lights indicate the approximate voltage at the output terminals.



Building a permanent electric fence

Components of an electric fence

An electric fence system comprises the following elements:

- An energiser.
- An earth system. This comprises a number of metal rods inserted into the ground, which are connected to the Fence earth terminal on the energiser.
- Stafix insulated underground cables. Used to connect the energiser to the earth and fence.
- An insulated fence. Connected to the Fence output terminal of the energiser. Fences can be made to a variety of designs (see below).

Other useful components that can be added:



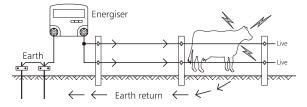
Cut-out switches. Installed at regular intervals, these allow you to isolate sections of the fence for repair.



Lightning diverter kit. Used to minimise the damage to your energiser from lightning conducted down the fence line.

Typical installation

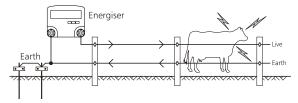
The animal receives a shock when it completes a circuit between the fence and the earth system. The fence below has all live wires and requires conductive soils. These fences are often referred to as 'all-live' or 'earth-return' fences.



Alternative installation

For poor conductivity soils (dry or sandy), a 'fence-return' or 'earth-wire-return' system is recommended. On these fences the Fence earth terminal is connected directly to at least one of the fence wires.

The animal gets maximum shock from touching a live and earth wire at the same time.

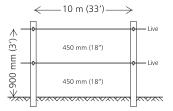


Fence designs

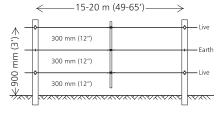
Fences can be constructed to suit the type of livestock and materials available. Discuss with your Stafix distributor which design best suits your needs. Some suggested fence configurations are below.

Cattle and horses

10-15 m (33-49') spacing, posts only

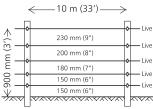


15-20 m (49-65') spacing with droppers

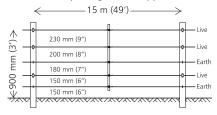


Sheep, goats, cattle and horses

10 m (33') spacing, posts only

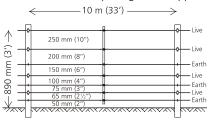


15 m (49') spacing with droppers



Wild animals

7 wire, 10 m (33') spacing with droppers



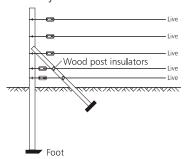
End assemblies

Angle stay

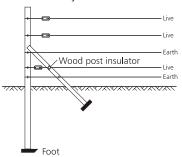
Suitable for field gate, high-tension strainer.

After firmly setting the footed strainer in the ground, dig in the stay block just below ground level, at a distance to ensure the angle stay will be held snugly in position. The stay can be levered into position with a spade.

All-live system



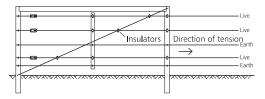
Earth-return system



Horizontal stay

Suitable for field gate, high-tension strainer.

Very simple to erect and most suitable as a high tension strainer, excellent in areas where the soil gets very wet or where heavy frost occurs.



Installing and testing an earth system

Select a suitable site for the earth system. Sites need to be:

- At least 10 m (33') from other earth systems (e.g. telephone, mains power or the earth system from another energiser).
- Away from stock or other traffic that could interfere with the installation.
- At a site that can be easily observed for maintenance.
- Ideally at a site that has damp soil (e.g. a shaded or swampy location). Note that the earth does not need to be directly adjacent to the energiser installation.

Drive Stafix earth rods into the ground. Use high-voltage, insulated cable and earth clamps to continuously connect the earth rods and the energiser's Fence earth terminal. Make sure the insulation is stripped back to ensure good contact between the wire and the earth rod. The table below specifies the minimum number of 2 m (6'6") earth rods recommended for an earthing system:

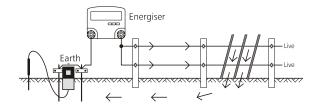
Energiser	Earth rods
M0.5 (0.5 J)	1
M1.0 (1.0 J)	2
M2.5 (2.5 J)	3

Test the earth system, using the following procedure:

- 1 Turn off the energiser.
- 2 At least 100 m (330') away from the energiser, short circuit the fence by laying several steel rods or lengths of pipe against the fence. For best results, the fence voltage should be lowered to 2000 V or less. In dry or sandy conditions, it may be necessary to drive the rods up to 300 mm (12") into the earth.

 Note: It is not acceptable to short-circuit a fence return system to the earth wire of the fence.
- 3 Turn the energiser back on.
- 4 Using a Stafix Digital Voltmeter, ensure that the fence voltage is below 2 kV.
- 5 Check your earth system. Insert the voltmeter's earth probe into the ground at the full extent of the lead, and hold the hook against the last earth rod. The tester should not read more than 0.3 kV. Anything higher than this indicates that better earthing is required. Either add more earth rods or find a better ground area to drive in the earth rods.

Note: When earthing energisers located in dairies, earth at least 20 m (65') away from the dairy using double-insulated wire to avoid touching the dairy building or equipment.



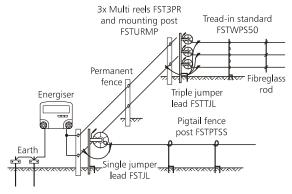
Temporary electric fencing

Stafix offers a range of products that allow the farmer to construct a temporary electric fence. A temporary fence that can be quickly erected and easily moved allows the farmer to:

- Make smaller paddocks (fields)
- Keep herds of animals separated
- Ration feed

Note: Use more wires for smaller animals and wild animals. Politape should be used when greater visibility is required (e.g. horses).

An example of a temporary fence is shown below.



Safety considerations

Definition of special terms

Energiser – An appliance that is intended to periodically deliver voltage impulses to a fence connected to it.

Fence – A barrier for animals or for the purpose of security, comprising one or more conductors such as metal wires, rods or rails.

Electric fence – A barrier which includes one or more electric conductors, insulated from earth, to which electric pulses are applied by an energiser.

Fence circuit – All conductive parts or components within an energiser that are connected or are intended to be connected, galvanically, to the output terminals.

Earth electrode – Metal structure that is driven into the ground near an energiser and connected electrically to the Fence earth terminal of the energiser, and that is independent of other earthing arrangements.

Connecting lead – An electric conductor, used to connect the energiser to the electric fence or the earth electrode.

Electric animal fence – An electric fence used to contain animals within or exclude animals from a particular area.

Electric security fence – A fence used for security purposes which comprises an electric fence and a physical barrier electrically isolated from the electric fence.

Physical barrier – A barrier not less than 1.5 m (5') high intended to prevent inadvertent contact with the pulsed conductors of the electric fence. Physical barriers are typically constructed from vertical sheeting, rigid vertical bars, rigid mesh, rods or chainwire mesh.

Public access area – Any area where persons are protected from inadvertent contact with pulsed conductors by a physical barrier.

Pulsed conductors – Conductors which are subjected to high voltage pulses by the energiser.

Secure area – The side of an electric security fence where a person may come into contact with the electric fence, without the protection of a physical barrier.

Requirements for electric animal fences

Electric animal fences and their ancillary equipment shall be installed, operated and maintained in a manner that minimises danger to persons, animals or their surroundings.

This energiser is not intended for use by young children or infirm persons unless they have been adequately supervised by a responsible person to ensure that they can use the energiser safely.

Young children should be supervised to ensure that they do not play with the energiser.

Electric animal fence constructions that are likely to lead to the entanglement of animals or persons shall be avoided.

An electric animal fence shall not be supplied from two separate energisers or from independent fence circuits of the same energiser. For any two separate electric animal fences, each supplied from a separate energiser independently timed, the distance between the wires of the two electric animal fences shall be at least 2 m (6'6"). If this gap is to be closed, this shall be effected by means of electrically non-conductive material or an isolated metal barrier.

Barbed wire or razor wire shall not be electrified by an energiser.

A non-electrified fence incorporating barbed wire or razor wire may be used to support one or more offset electrified wires of an electric animal fence. The supporting devices for the electrified wires shall be constructed so as to ensure that these wires are positioned at a minimum distance of 150 mm (6") from the vertical plane of the non-electrified wires. The barbed wire and razor wire shall be earthed at regular intervals.

Follow our recommendations regarding earthing. See *Installing and testing an earth system* on page 4.

A distance of at least 10 m (33') shall be maintained between the energiser earth electrode and any other earthing system connected parts such as the power supply system protective earth or the telecommunication system earth.

Connecting leads that are run inside buildings shall be effectively insulated from the earthed structural parts of the building. This may be achieved by using insulated high voltage cable.

Connecting leads that are run underground shall be run in conduit of insulating material or else insulated high voltage cable shall be used. Care must be taken to avoid damage to the connecting leads due to the effects of animal hooves or vehicle wheels sinking into the ground.

Connecting leads shall not be installed in the same conduit as the mains supply wiring, communication cables or data cables.

Connecting leads and electric animal fence wires shall not cross above overhead power or communication lines.

Crossings with overhead power lines shall be avoided wherever possible. If such a crossing cannot be avoided it shall be made underneath the power line and as nearly as possible at right angles to it.

If connecting leads and electric animal fence wires are installed near an overhead power line, the clearances shall not be less than those shown in the table below.

Minimum clearances from power lines for electric animal fences

Power line voltage	Clearance
≤1000 V	3 m (10')
>1000 V to ≤33,000 V	4 m (13')
>33,000 V	8 m (27')

If connecting leads and electric animal fence wires are installed near an overhead power line, their height above the ground shall not exceed 3 m (10'). This height applies to either side of the orthogonal projection of the outermost conductors of the power line on the ground surface, for a distance of:

- 2 m (6'6") for power lines operating at a nominal voltage not exceeding 1000 V.
- 15 m (50') for power lines operating at a nominal voltage exceeding 1000 V.

Electric animal fences intended for deterring birds, household pet containment or training animals such as cows need only be supplied from low output energisers to obtain satisfactory and safe performance.

In electric animal fences intended for deterring birds from roosting on buildings, no electric fence wire shall be connected to the energiser earth electrode. A warning sign shall be fitted to every point where persons may gain ready access to the conductors.

Where an electric animal fence crosses a public pathway, a non-electrified gate shall be incorporated in the electric animal fence at that point or a crossing by means of stiles shall be provided. At any such crossing, the adjacent electrified wires shall carry warning signs.

Any part of an electric animal fence that is installed along a public road or pathway shall be identified at frequent intervals by warning signs securely fastened to the fence posts or firmly clamped to the fence wires.

- The size of the warning sign shall be at least 100x200 mm (4x8").
- The background colour of both sides of the warning sign shall be yellow. The inscription on the sign shall be black and shall be either:



or the substance of "CAUTION: Electric animal fence".

 The inscription shall be indelible, inscribed on both sides of the warning sign and have a height of at least 25 mm (1").

Ensure that all mains-operated, ancillary equipment connected to the electric animal fence circuit provides a degree of isolation between the fence circuit and the supply mains equivalent to that provided by the energiser.

Protection from the weather shall be provided for the ancillary equipment unless this equipment is certified by the manufacturer as being suitable for use outdoors, and is of a type with a minimum degree of protection IPX4.

Frequently asked questions/Troubleshooting

What voltage is required to control animals?

4 kV is widely accepted as the recommended minimum voltage to control animals. However, you also require a well constructed fence system to ensure that animals cannot push through electrified wires.

The fence voltage is below 4 kV. How do I increase the voltage?

Check the energiser. Disconnect the energiser from the fence and earth system. Measure the voltage across the energiser terminals with a Stafix Fence Compass, DVM or Lite Tester. If the voltage is less than 6 kV, request your Stafix service agent to check the energiser.

Check the energiser earthing. Use the procedure described in *Installing and testing an earth system* on page 4.

Check your fence system for faults. The most common source of low voltage is faults on the fence line.

If the fence, earth and energiser are in good condition and the voltage is still below 4 kV, talk to your Stafix distributor. They will help you identify whether recent extensions to your fence, a poor fence layout, or soil conditions may be causing inadequate voltage.

How do I locate faults?

The recommended tool for locating faults is the Stafix Fence Compass. This combined voltage and current meter allows you to rapidly locate sources of current leakage. Alternatively, use a Stafix DVM or Lite Tester. Use cut-out switches to turn off the power to different sections of the farm. If the voltage on the fence increases when a section of the farm is turned off, then investigate that section for possible faults.

There are no lights flashing on the energiser.

Check the power supply. Ensure that the power is switched on. If the energiser still does not operate, request your Stafix service agent to check the energiser.

Servicing

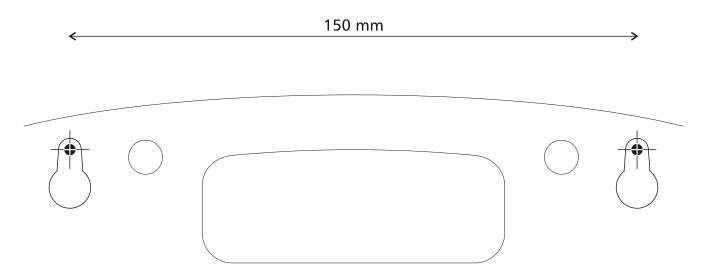
This energiser contains no user serviceable parts. It must be returned to a Stafix-appointed service agent for repair. If the supply cord is damaged it must only be replaced by a Stafix-appointed service agent, as a special cord is required.

This energiser uses Double Insulation, where two systems of insulation are provided instead of grounding. No equipment grounding means is provided in the supply cord of a double-insulated energiser, nor should a means for equipment grounding be added to the energiser. Servicing a double-insulated energiser requires extreme care and knowledge of the system and should only be done by qualified service personnel. Replacement parts for a double-insulated energiser must be identical to the parts they replace. A double-insulated energiser is marked with the words DOUBLE INSULATION or DOUBLE INSULATED and/or the symbol below.



Product specifications

	M0.5	M1.0	M2.5
Power Supply 115 V Models	110-120 V, 60 Hz	110-120 V, 60 Hz	110-120 V, 60 Hz
Power Supply 230 V Models	220-240 V, 50 Hz	220-240 V, 50 Hz	220-240 V, 50 Hz
Power Consumption	1.8 W	2.6 W	4.4 W
Maximum Output Voltage	7.9 kV	8.4 kV	8.4 kV
Maximum Output Energy	0.5 J @ 700 Ω	1.0 J @ 400 Ω	2.5 J @ 200 Ω
Stored Energy	0.8 J	1.7 J	4.1 J
Dimensions (WxHxD)	200x170x90 mm (8x6¾x3¾") WxHxD	200x170x90 mm (8x63/4x33/4") WxHxD	200x170x90 mm (8x6³¼x3³¼") WxHxD
Weight	1.25 kg (2 lb 12 oz)	1.25 kg (2 lb 12 oz)	1.25 kg (2 lb 12 oz)



[™]0.5

2.5

WARNING Read all instructions. Save these instructions.