EXPLO SFX

IGNITION SYSTEMS • SPECIAL EFFECTS

USER MANUAL

Fire-Bowl

Version 2.0

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PREAMBLE

Dear Explo customer,

Please be sure to read this document before the first use of the devices. It contains important information that will help you familiarize yourself with the correct handling.

We ask you to follow the safety and application instructions provided by us carefully.

If you have any questions, or if you have any uncertainties during the operation of the device that this operating manual cannot answer, we will be happy to help you by phone or e-mail.

We wish you a lot of fun with your new effect units,

Your Explo Team

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1 GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE FIRE-BOWL

1.1 FUNCTIONALITY

The Fire-Bowl is an effect device to create lasting fire effects (like a campfire).

The Propane gas is fed into the device via a pressure regulator and a gas hose. The pressure regulator can be used to adjust the flame height. **The propane must only be used in gaseous state, and no riser pipe bottles are allowed be used**. If you are going to use it for a long time, gas bottle heating is necessary, otherwise the flame height will decrease drastically over time due to gas cooling.

The device is controlled via the powerCON True-1 connection (230VAC/110VAC). Once a power supply is connected, the electric ball valve opens, and the ignition starts. The ignition is set to activate for 3 seconds when power is present and then pause for 6 seconds. This interval is repeated until the power supply is disconnected or interrupted. In this case, the motor-valve also closes automatically via a spring. The same happens in the event of a power supply failure. The spring closes the valve slowly and the effect stays on for a few more seconds.

1.2 AREAS OF APPLICATION AND POSSIBILITIES

The Fire-Bowl is intended to be used in longer installations and to create lasting fire effects.

But it is just as suitable to accompany a show that only lasts a few minutes, or as a constant side effect that should not distract from the main action.

The M10 threads are meant to be used for truss mounting (F34). The mounting screws must not reach into the housing more than 2cm. However, the devices should always be secured with the additional holes by either screwing them to the stage, or in the case of truss installation, provided with fall protection. The holes in the bottom plate can be used for this purpose.



When used for the first time, smoke can be produced when the coating of the shell heats up. However, this passes with longer use!

2 DESCRIPTION OF THE FIRE-BOWL

2.1 COMPONENTS AND ACCESSORIES OF THE FIRE-BOWL




2
5
230V
IN
OUT
DEPRESSURIZE AFTER USE!
GAS
INLET
6
7
7
EXPLO
SFX
MODELFire-Bowl 60
ID: 25-14943
FUEL: Propane / Butane
POWER: 230VAC / 80W
WEIGHT: 9,5 kg
MADE IN AUSTRIA
2025

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7
7
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Components of the Fire-Bowl	
1	Protector
2	Electric ignition

3	Cross-shaped flame projector
4	Flame Bowl 60cm (Optional 90cm)
5	True-1 power connection 230V (optional 110V)
6	Gas hose connection - BAM certified quick coupling
7	Feet, mounting holes, M10 threaded sleeves in F34 truss format
8	Pressure regulator (0,5 – 4 Bar)
9	5m LPG gas hose *
10	5m power cable* (True-1 → Schuko**)
11	Optional: stopcock
	*Length can be assembled according to customer requirements **Other standardized power connectors can be ordered as well

2.1.1 DESCRIPTION OF THE COMPONENTS

2.1.1.1 ELECTRIC IGNITION

The electric ignition consists of an ignition transformer and two ignition electrodes, between which the spark to ignite the gas is generated. The ignition transformer is controlled directly via the 230VAC or 110VAC supply voltage. A timer relay is responsible for the interval control of the ignition.

The high-voltage spark generated by the ignition electrode is life-threatening when touched. Even if the electrodes are protected from contact by the protector, you should not reach near them after activating the Fire-Bowl.



Never work on the ignition electrodes while the device is connected to a power source. ALWAYS disconnect the Fire-Bowl from the power supply beforehand.

2.1.1.2 ELECTRIC BALL VALVE

There is an electric ball valve in the housing of the Fire-Bowl. It is used to let the gas flow through to the cross-shaped diffusor and is switched via the 230VAC or 110VAC supply voltage. If the power supply fails or is disconnected, the motor valve closes by itself a few seconds later.

2.1.1.3 CONNECTION FOR GAS HOSE, PRESSURE REDUCER (OPTIONALLY WITH STOPCOCK)

On the front of the Fire-Bowl is the connection for the gas hose. A BAM-certified quick-release coupling for flammable gases is installed here as standard. The hose connection is a 10L (M16x1.5mm) thread with the opposite quick-coupling sleeve already mounted. The LPG gas hose is usually delivered in five-meter length but can be shorter or longer if desired.

If the optional stopcock is at a 90° angle to the hose, it is closed. If it is parallel to the pipe system, it's open.

On the side of the pressure reducer, the set pressure can be read (yellow marking) and adjusted by turning the valve lever (0.5Bar-4Bar). If the flame height needs to be even lower than adjustable with the pressure reducer, the screw valve of the gas bottle can be used to further regulate the gas volume.

2.1.1.4 POWER CORD

The Fire-Bowl comes standard with a five-meter power cable with Schuko plug (CEE 7/7) and a powerCON True-1 connector from Neutrik. This is used to connect the Fire-Bowl to the necessary 230VAC/110VAC supply voltage. As long as the required voltage is provided at this connection, the Fire-Bowl will be triggered (electric ignition is activated and the motor valve is opened).

3 OPERATION OF THE FIRE-BOWL

3.1 PLANNING THE SHOW

A successful show starts with planning. We recommend considering the following bullet-points:

Checklist planning
Can the Fire-Bowl be used at the location?
Can the necessary safety distances be maintained?
How many Fire-Bowls can, and do I want to use?
What flame height can, and do I want to use? (Adjust pressure reducer accordingly)

3.2 PREPARING THE EQUIPMENT FOR THE SHOW

The following points should be checked before leaving for the show:

Pre-show checklist
Do I have the required number of Fire-Bowls with me?
Do I have enough gas hoses / power cables with me?
Are there enough consumables (propane gas) available?
Are the ignition electrodes & flame bars cleaned?
Do I need any other accessories? (Truss mounts, connecting cables?)
Do I have the gas bottle heaters necessary for long burning times with me?

If the above questions can be answered with **YES**, you are already one step closer to a successful show.

3.3 USE AND POSITIONING OF THE GAS BOTTLE

The generally applicable safety regulations for the use of flammable gas, as well as the instruction in the safety data sheet of the gas used, must be strictly obeyed. Propane gas is heavier than air, so it should never be used in unventilated rooms, in recesses in the ground (deeper than 30cm) or near drainage shafts. Especially in basement exits and floor recesses, an ignitable gas-air mixture can form. Only **CO2 fire extinguishers** may be used for extinguishing.

The Fire-Bowls may only be used in ventilated rooms. The following applies to the safety distances: Sufficient distance must be maintained from all living creatures and objects so that they cannot be endangered or damaged by the operation of the Fire-Bowl. The manufacturers recommended safety distances can be found in the chapter **Recommended safety distances**, but in principle the distances must be obeyed according to the specifications of the responsible authority and security personnel.

When positioning, it is essential to also pay attention to the occurring wind conditions, as these can severely affect the flames, especially when using the gas phase of large bottles.

It is advisable to position the gas and electricity connections of the Fire-Bowl on the side facing away from the audience.

3.4 CONNECTING THE GAS BOTTLE

The gas bottles must be placed on a firm, straight surface and must be secured against possible tipping over (for example with tension belts). The gas bottle heater should already be installed.

The gas hose must first be connected to the Fire-Bowl and only then to the gas bottle. It is advisable to check the tightness of the system with a leak detection spray.

The gas bottle connection is a Euro connection with a 30mm spanner size. Please note that the gas bottle connection has a left-hand thread. If you need another connector specific to your country-standards, please let us know in advance.

3.5 CONTROLLING THE FIRE-BOWL

The Fire-Bowl is operated exclusively by supplying the device with a voltage of 230VAC or 110VAC via the powerCON True-1 connection.

Simply put, plug is plugged into the socket > device creates an effect, plug is unplugged > effect is deactivated.

The Fire-Bowl ignites as long as it is supplied with a sufficient voltage. It is not possible to set the opening time on the device itself. To achieve controlled ignition, it is recommended to use a 230VAC / 110VAC switch box, or a DMX switch pack (not a dimmer pack!).

3.6 DISMANTLING THE EQUIPMENT

After using the system, the valve on the gas bottle must first be closed. **Then depressurize the hose and the Fire-Bowl by activating until no more flame appears.** After pressure release, the gas bottle can be safely disconnected and the gas hose removed from the Fire-Bowl. Never transport or store pressurized equipment, as this not only poses a safety risk, but can also damage the Fire-Bowl.

3.7 STORING THE EQUIPMENT

Store gas bottles in accordance with the applicable regulations on the storage of gas bottles. The manufacturer/supplier of the gas bottles will also provide you with information on this.

Ideally, the Fire-Bowl should be stored at room temperature. The devices must never be left under pressure (residual gas) during storage. Not only does this pose a safety risk, but it can also damage the seals of the device.

Clean the machines thoroughly before storing.

3.8 CARING FOR THE EQUIPMENT

Before each cleaning, disconnect the machine from all power supplies and gas supplies in advance.

The equipment should be cleaned after the show. To do this, remove coarse dirt and dry the devices. The use of compressed air and a dry cloth is a good way to do this.

If the ignition electrodes are dirty, they can be carefully cleaned with a wire brush.

In the case of heavy soot formation, an especially suitable cleaner can also be used, but afterwards it should be cleaned with rubbing alcohol.

4 GENERAL SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

The device must only be put into operation if it is in proper and well-maintained condition. Defective devices must be checked and repaired by the manufacturer or by a recognized service center. Under no circumstances may defective devices be used.

The devices must be set up securely in a suitable place. The Fire-Bowl should stand horizontally on the ground.

The safety and operating instructions mentioned in the manual must be strictly obeyed. All persons involved in the show (e.g. construction helpers, actors during the show) must be informed about the positions, safety distances, dangers and the basic function of the equipment.

The person responsible for triggering the equipment must always have vision on all effect devices. Ideally through a direct line of sight, alternatively via cameras. This person must ensure that the safety distances are maintained during operation and must be able to cancel the effect immediately in the event of danger. We recommend using an emergency stop button in the power supply and a stopcock in the gas line.

Before use, the system should be checked for leaks to avoid unintentional gas escape. If gas leaks from the system, all gas valves must be closed, the area must be left immediately, and authorities are to be notified.

5 RECOMMENDED SAFETY DISTANCES

The safety distances are specified for the direction of ejection (effect direction) and in the radius around the effect.

	In the direction of ejection	Radius around the effect
Fire-Bowl	**6m**	**2m**

The safety distances listed refer to the distance to flammable objects and spectators. In the case of non-combustible objects (concrete walls, metal scaffolding, etc.) and for instructed actors/technicians, the safety distance can be reduced.

When the projector is used by **trained pyrotechnic specialists**, the safety distances specified above can be adapted to the individual circumstances, considering dangers and risks.

The values listed apply to windless conditions and to the ignition of a large flame effect. Ultimately, the user is responsible for positioning, calculating and maintaining the safety distances. It is advisable to consult with the fire protection officer of the venue.

It is essential to increase the safety area if there are highly flammable objects in the direction of ejection or around the device.

6 SPECIFICATIONS

Fire-Bowl 230V 60cm	
Dimensions	Ø600x335mm
Weight	9.5kg
Power supply	230VAC / 80W
Case	Stainless Steel / Aluminum
Gas	Euro standard, 30mm wrench size
Consumables	Propane / Butane

Fire-Bowl 110V 60cm	
Dimensions	Ø600x335mm
Weight	9.5kg
Power supply	110VAC / 80W
Case	Stainless Steel / Aluminum
Gas	Euro standard, 30mm wrench size
Consumables	Propane / Butane

Fire-Bowl 230V 90cm	
Dimensions	Ø900x355mm
Weight	14.5kg
Power supply	230VAC / 80W
Case	Stainless Steel / Aluminum
Gas	Euro standard, 30mm wrench size
Consumables	Propane / Butane

Fire-Bowl 110V 90cm	
Dimensions	Ø900x355mm
Weight	14.5kg
Power supply	110VAC / 80W
Case	Stainless Steel / Aluminum
Gas	Euro standard, 30mm wrench size
Consumables	Propane / Butane

7 IMPORTANT INFORMATION



EXPLO RECOMMENDS A MAINTENANCE INTERVAL OF 2 YEARS FOR ALL EFFECT UNITS!



INSTRUCT THE STAFF AND THE ACTORS ABOUT ALL THE EFFECTS USED AND MARK THE SECURITY AREAS ACCORDINGLY!



IF YOU HAVE ANY PROBLEMS, PLEASE CONTACT office@explo.at IMMEDIATELY!
PROVIDE A DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE ERROR AS WELL AS THE ID OF THE DEVICE!



COVER DEVICES AFTER COOLDOWN WITH TARPS BETWEEN SHOWS IF THE EVENT LASTS FOR SEVERAL DAYS!
THIS IS ALSO RECOMMENDED FOR PERMANENT INSTALLATIONS!



IF POSSIBLE, ONLY USE CO2 FIRE EXTINGUISHERS!
POWDER FIRE EXTINGUISHERS CAUSE ADDITIONAL DAMAGE TO THE EFFECT DEVICE AND THE WARRANTY IS VOIDED!

APPENDIX – TROUBLESHOOTING

This chapter lists possible problems and how to resolve them. If a problem is not listed, the corrective measures listed do not offer a solution, or a spare part is required, contact the manufacturer for further clarification.

Problem	Possible cause	Possible troubleshooting
There is no spark on the electrodes	Power supply failed	Check fuse box and power cable
	Ignition electrode spacing too large or too small	Set the distance between the ignition electrodes to 3mm.
	Ignition electrode defective	Visually check the ignition electrode and replace it if necessary (Note: hairline cracks are hardly visible).
	Ignition electrode dirty	Clean the ignition electrode with a wire brush without applying pressure.
	Ignition transformer defective	Contact Manufacturer
	Defective timer relay	Contact Manufacturer
The engine valve does not open	Power supply failed	Check fuse box and power cable
	Engine valve defective	Contact Manufacturer
The engine valve does not close	Engine valve defective	Contact Manufacturer
Gas is not ignited, although the engine valve opens and there is an ignition spark.	Wind too strong, gas is driven away	Wait for better environmental conditions
	Ignition electrode spacing too large or too small	Set the distance between the ignition electrodes to 3mm.

APPENDIX – CE CERTIFICATION

Konformitätserklärung nach 2014/35/EU
Declaration of Conformity according to 2014/35/EU

Die alleinige Verantwortung für die Ausstellung dieser Konformitätserklärung trägt der Hersteller.

Hersteller / Verantwortliche Person: *Manufacturer / responsible person:*	Explo SFX GmbH, Völkermarkterstraße 240, 9020 Klagenfurt am Wörthersee, Österreich (AUT)
Erklärt, dass das Produkt: *Declares that the product:*	Fire Bowl *230VAC controllable flame projector*
Type: *Type:*	Fire Bowl 60cm 230V, Fire Bowl 90cm 230V
Verwendungszweck: *Intended purpose:*	Flammen-Effektgeräte (über 230V Eingangsspannung gesteuert) *Flame effect device (controlled by 230VAC supply voltage)*
Seriennummer: *Serial number:*	25-xxxxx

bei bestimmungsgemäßer Verwendung den grundlegenden Anforderungen der Richtlinie 2014/35/EU (LVD), 2014/30/EU (EMC) und 2011/65/EU (RoHS) entspricht.
are complying with the essential requirements of the Directive 2014/35/EU (LVD), 2014/30/EU (EMC), und 2011/65/EU (RoHS), when used for its intended purpose.

Einhaltung der grundlegenden Anforderungen durch (verwendete Standards/Spezifikationen):
Means of proving conformity with the essential requirements (standards/specifications used):

Gesundheit und Sicherheit
Health and safety requirements

Angewandte Normen: Standards applied:	IEC 60204-1:2016 ISO 12100:2010

Schutzanforderungen in Bezug auf elektromagnetische Verträglichkeit
Protection requirements concerning electromagnetic compatibility

Angewandte Normen: Standards applied:	IEC 61000-6-3:2022

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Klagenfurt a.W., am 23.05.2025	Christoph Scheibert, Geschäftsführer Explo SFX GmbH
Ort, Datum *Place, date*	**Name und Unterschrift** *Name and signature*