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# 6L OIL FREE AIR COMPRESSOR

IM180-6L



Always Read Instruction Manual  
Retain for Future Reference

# CERTIFICATE OF GUARANTEE

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This product is guaranteed for a period of 1 Year, with effect from the date of purchase and applies only to the original purchaser. This guarantee only applies to defects arising from, defective materials and or faulty workmanship that become evident during the guarantee period only and does not include consumable items. The manufacturer will repair or replace the product at their discretion subject to the following. That the product has been used in accordance with the guidelines as detailed in the product manual and that it has not been subjected to misuse, abuse or used for a purpose for which it was not intended. That it has not been taken apart or tampered with in any way whatsoever or has been serviced by unauthorised persons or has been used for hire purposes. Transit damage is excluded from this guarantee, for such damage the transport company is responsible. Claims made under this guarantee must be made in the first instance, directly to the retailer within the guarantee period. Only under exceptional circumstances should the product be returned to the manufacturer. In this case it shall be the consumer's responsibility to return the product at their cost ensuring that the product is adequately packed to prevent transit damage and must be accompanied with a brief description of the fault and a copy of the receipt or other proof of purchase. The manufacturer shall not be liable for any special, exemplary, direct, indirect, incidental, or consequential loss or damage under this guarantee. This guarantee is in addition to and does not affect any rights, which the consumer may have by virtue of the Sale of Goods Act 1973 as amended 1975 and 1999.

## INTRODUCTION

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Thankyou for purchasing this product which has passed through our extensive quality assurance process. Every care has been taken to ensure that it reaches you in perfect condition. However, in the unlikely event that you should experience a problem, or if we can offer any assistance or advice please do not hesitate to contact our customer care department. For details of your nearest customer care department please refer to the telephone numbers at the back of this manual.

### **Safety First**

Before attempting to operate this product the following basic safety precautions should always be taken to reduce the risk of fire, electric shock and personal injury. It is important to read the instruction manual to understand the application, limitations and potential hazards associated with this product.

## HELPLINE & SPARE PARTS

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In the unlikely event of a defect occurring please contact our Helpline.

Office hours: Monday - Friday 9:00am – 5:30pm.

Telephone Number 0844 264 2485

# SAFETY INFORMATION

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## Specific Safety Instructions

**Warning!** If not used and maintained correctly this compressor when used with some pneumatic tools can cause serious injury and death. Before attempting to operate this machine, it is important that you read, understand and follow these instructions very carefully. They are designed for the safety of yourself and others ensuring a long and trouble free service life from your machine. If not used correctly and as detailed in these instructions pneumatic tools can be dangerous. This product can cause injury to the operator and others. The warnings and safety instructions must be followed to ensure reasonable safety and efficiency in using this product.

**Note:** The operator is responsible for following the warnings and safety instructions in this manual and on the product.

Ensure that this compressor is disconnected from the mains supply when not in use and the air receiver fully discharged before servicing, lubricating or making adjustments and when changing accessories. Always switch ON and OFF using the ON/OFF switch on the compressor before switching OFF at the mains supply.

**Warning!** When spraying paint or cleaning agents the fine mist produced could ignite. When performing this type of operation the compressor must be a minimum of 4 Metres away from the work area. Do not smoke and keep naked flames and other sources of ignition well away from the work area. Make sure that the area in which you are working has good ventilation and protect your nose and mouth with a suitable face mask. Always check the safety data sheets for substances being sprayed & ensure manufacturers instructions are followed.

This air compressor must be used in a suitable environment. There must be adequate ventilation, the ambient temperature must be +5/+40°C. The working area must be free from dust, acid vapour, explosive gasses and flammable materials.

Compressed air can be potentially dangerous when not used correctly. Do not exceed the

maximum rated air pressure for the accessory. Do not direct compressed air at yourself, any other person or animals. Do not direct any liquid or any other material that is being sprayed by yourself towards any other person or animals.

Only use hoses and connectors designed for use with compressed air. The maximum working pressure of hoses and connectors must be higher than the maximum working pressure of the compressor. Do not attempt to move the compressor by pulling on the air hose.

This compressor is designed for tyre inflation, the operation of pneumatic tools, spray painting and spraying non-corrosive cleaning agents. Do not use this compressor for filling cylinders for breathing or diving apparatus. Compressed air from this compressor must not be used for pharmaceutical, food or health applications.

When spraying flammable liquids such as paint and non-corrosive cleaning agents the distance between the compressor and the work area must be a minimum of 4 metres. When spraying liquids always wear a suitable face mask designed for protection against the liquid being sprayed. Always wear approved safety glasses.

Do not attempt to modify the compressor or any pneumatic tools in any way. Use only accessories and pneumatic tools that are rated for the capacity of the compressor. Never leave the compressor pressurised.

Always transport the compressor by lifting or pulling it with the appropriate grips or handles.

Do not insert your fingers or other objects inside the motor housing to avoid physical damage or damage to the compressor.

If any part of the compressor is damaged, it should be carefully checked to determine that it will operate correctly and perform its intended function. Check for the alignment of parts, damage to parts, air leaks and any other conditions that may affect its operation. A guard or any other part that is damaged or defective should be properly repaired or replaced by an authorised service centre. Defective pressure switches must be replaced prior to further use of the compressor.

# SAFETY INFORMATION

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**Warning!** This compressor must be connected to a power socket that is safeguarded by a suitable circuit breaker or fuse.

Only use recommended parts. To avoid the risk of bursting, only hoses with a rated pressure of 10 bar, or more should be used. Never attempt to repair faulty hoses.

Avoid kinking or trapping the air hose. Always replace faulty hoses - never attempt a repair if a leak is detected.

Drain the tank after each use. Switch off and slowly open the drain valve to release the air then tilt the compressor to empty condensed water.

Keep the motor vent clear and free from dust, wipe regularly to maintain an adequate supply of clean air to the air compressor.

## General Safety Rules

**Warning!** Read all instructions. Failure to follow all instructions listed below may result in electric shock, fire and/or serious injury. The term "power tool" in all of the warnings listed below refers to your mains operated (corded) power tool or battery operated (cordless) power tool.

## Save These Instructions

### 1) Work Area

- a) **Keep work area clean and well lit.** Cluttered and dark areas invite accidents.
- b) **Do not operate power tools in explosive atmospheres, such as in the presence of flammable liquids, gases or dust.** Power tools create sparks which may ignite the dust or fumes.
- c) **Keep children and bystanders away while operating a power tool.** Distractions can cause you to lose control.

### 2) Electrical Safety

- a) **Power tool plugs must match the outlet. Never modify the plug in any way. Do not use any adapter plugs with earthed (grounded) power tools.** Unmodified plugs and matching outlets will reduce risk of electric shock.

- b) **Avoid body contact with earthed or grounded surfaces such as pipes, radiators, ranges and refrigerators.** There is an increased risk of electric shock if your body is earthed or grounded.
- c) **Do not expose power tools to rain or wet conditions.** Water entering a power tool will increase the risk of electric shock.
- d) **Do not abuse the cord. Never use the cord for carrying, pulling or unplugging the power tool. Keep cord away from heat, oil, sharp edges or moving parts.** Damaged or entangled cords increase the risk of electric shock.
- e) **When operating a power tool outdoors, use an extension cord suitable for outdoor use.** Use of a cord suitable for outdoor use reduces the risk of electric shock.

### 3) Personal Safety

- a) **Stay alert, watch what you are doing and use common sense when operating a power tool. Do not use a power tool while you are tired or under the influence of drugs, alcohol or medication.**  
A moment of inattention while operating power tools may result in serious personal injury.
- b) **Use safety equipment. Always wear eye protection.** Safety equipment such as dust mask, non-skid safety shoes, hard hat, or hearing protection used for appropriate conditions will reduce personal injuries.
- c) **Avoid accidental starting. Ensure the switch is in the off position before plugging in.** Carrying power tools with your finger on the switch or plugging in power tools that have the switch on invites accidents.
- d) **Remove any adjusting key or wrench before turning the power tool on.**  
A wrench or a key left attached to a rotating part of the power tool may result in personal injury.

# SAFETY INFORMATION

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- e) **Do not overreach. Keep proper footing and balance at all times.** This enables better control of the power tool in unexpected situations.
  - f) **Dress properly. Do not wear loose clothing or jewellery. Keep your hair, clothing and gloves away from moving parts.** Loose clothes, jewellery or long hair can be caught in moving parts.
  - g) **If devices are provided for the connection of dust extraction and collection facilities, ensure these are connected and properly used.** Use of these devices can reduce dust related hazards.
- #### 4) PowerTool Use And Care
- a) **Do not force the power tool. Use the correct power tool for your application.**

The correct power tool will do the job better and safer at the rate for which it was designed.
  - b) **Do not use the power tool if the switch does not turn it on and off.** Any power tool that cannot be controlled with the switch is dangerous and must be repaired.
  - c) **Disconnect the plug from the power source before making any adjustments, changing accessories, or storing power tools.** Such preventive safety measures reduce the risk of starting the power tool accidentally.
  - d) **Store idle power tools out of the reach of children and do not allow persons unfamiliar with the power tool or these instructions to operate the power tool.**

Power tools are dangerous in the hands of untrained users.
  - e) **Maintain power tools. Check for misalignment or binding of moving parts, breakage of parts and any other condition that may affect the power tools operation. If damaged, have the power tool repaired before use.** Many accidents are caused by poorly maintained power tools.
  - f) **Keep cutting tools sharp and clean.**

Properly maintained cutting tools with sharp cutting edges are less likely to bind and are easier to control.

- g) **Use the power tool, accessories and tool bits etc., in accordance with these instructions and in the manner intended for the particular type of power tool, taking into account the working conditions and the work to be performed.**

Use of the power tool for operations different from intended could result in a hazardous situation.

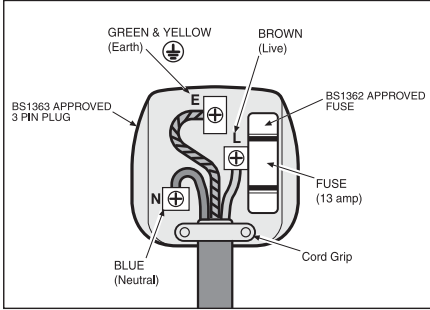
#### 5) Service

- a) **Have your power tool serviced by a qualified repair person using only identical replacement parts.** This will ensure that the safety of the power tool is maintained.

# ELECTRICAL INFORMATION

## Connection Of The Mains Plug

**Important! The wires in the mains lead fitted to this product are coloured in accordance with the following code:**



**Brown:** Live (L)


**Blue:** Neutral (N)

**Green and Yellow:** Earth (E) 

**THIS PRODUCT IS DOUBLE INSULATED AND THEREFORE DOES NOT REQUIRE A CONNECTION TO EARTH.  
3 PIN PLUG MUST COMPLY TO BS1363/A.  
FUSE MUST COMPLY TO BS1362.**

If for any reason the 13 amp plug fitted to this product requires replacement it must be wired in accordance with the following instruction:

**DO NOT CONNECT THE BROWN LIVE OR BLUE NEUTRAL TO THE EARTH PIN MARKED E  ON THE 3 PIN PLUG.**

Connect the Blue wire to the terminal marked Neutral (N). Connect the Brown wire to the terminal marked Live (L). Connect the Green and Yellow wire to the terminal marked Earth E . Ensure that the outer insulation is gripped by the cord grip and that the wires are not trapped when replacing the plug cover. The mains lead on this product is fitted with a 13 amp (BS1363/A) plug. A 13 amp (BS1362) fuse must be fitted in the plug.

### **If In Doubt Consult A Qualified Electrician.**

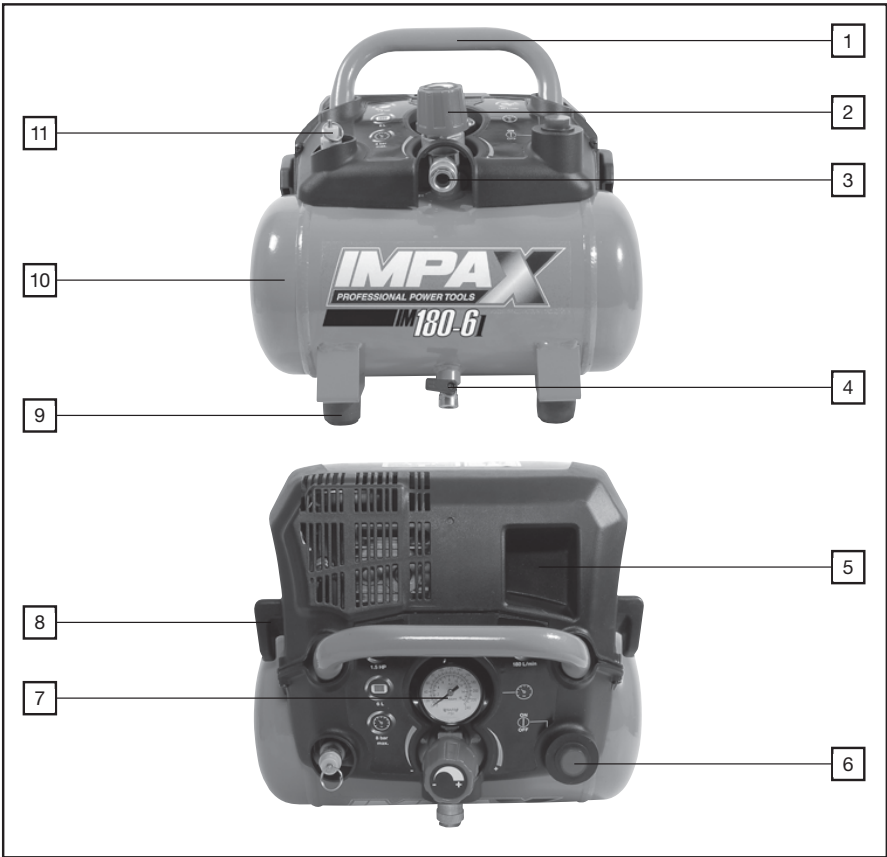
There are no user serviceable parts inside except those referred to in the manual. Always refer servicing to qualified service personnel. Never remove any part of the casing unless qualified to do so; this unit contains dangerous voltages.

### **Warning!**

For your protection if this tool is to be used outdoors do not expose to rain or use in damp locations. Do not place tool on damp surfaces, use a workbench if available. For added protection use a suitable residual current device (R.C.D.) at the socket outlet.

**Note:** If the mains cable requires replacing it must be replaced with an identical one and fitted by a qualified person.

# COMPONENTS



## Component List

- |   |                                  |
|---|----------------------------------|
| 1. Handle   | 7. Air outlet pressure gauge     |
| 2. Pressure regulator                             | 8. Cable and hose tidy           |
| 3. Air outlet quick release connector (regulated) | 9. Rubber foot x 4               |
| 4. Condensation drain tap                         | 10. Air receiver tank            |
| 5. Plug storage point                             | 11. Pressure relief safety valve |
| 6. ON/OFF switch                                  |                                  |

## Technical specification

Voltage:	230V~50Hz	CFM:	6.4
Rated power:	1.5HP	Working pressure:	8Bar/115psi
Receiver capacity:	6L	No load speed:	3400min <sup>-1</sup>
Type:	Oil free	Weight:	11kg
Free air delivery (FAD):	180L/min	Sound power level:	97dB(A)

# UNPACKING AND OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

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## Unpacking

**Caution!** This packaging contains sharp objects. Take care when unpacking. Remove the machine, together with the accessories supplied, from the packaging. Check carefully to ensure that the machine is in good condition and account for all the accessories listed in this manual. Also make sure that all the accessories are complete. If any parts are found to be missing, the machine and its accessories should be returned together in their original packaging to the retailer.

Do not throw the packaging away, keep it safe throughout the guarantee period, then recycle if possible, otherwise dispose of it by the proper means. Do not let children play with empty plastic bags due to the risk of suffocation.

Take care when lifting the compressor from the packaging.

**Caution!** Do not lift the compressor by the pressure regulator. Get assistance if necessary. This unit weighs 11kg.

## Locating the Air Compressor

This compressor should be positioned on a stable, flat surface (or one with a maximum inclination of 15°). Ensure that it is completely stable.

Do not cover or box in the compressor. Always position it with good all round ventilation.

## Moving the Air Compressor

Before moving the compressor, switch off and disconnect it from the mains power supply.

- Always use the handle
- Do not lift by (or put strain on) air taps, valves or hoses.
- Take care when moving the compressor to avoid damaging the valves or fittings.

The compressor is heavy, take care when lifting and moving this compressor to avoid personal injury. Get assistance if necessary.

This is an "oil less" compressor, this means that lubrication of moving parts is achieved by using lubricant impregnated materials, there is therefore no oil reservoir and the compressor can be mounted in any orientation without the

fear of spilling oil. The only consideration when mounting is the position of the water drain cock.

**Warning!** When the compressor is used for spraying paint or spraying cleaning agents the fine mist produced could ignite. When performing this type of operation the compressor must be a minimum of 4 Metres away from the work area. Do not smoke and keep naked flames and other sources of ignition well away from the work area.

## Basic Compressor Operation

**Important Note:** This manual is provided to allow the correct assembly and basic safe operation of the compressor. It must be read in conjunction with the manual that is supplied with any other accessory intended for use with this compressor. For more detailed information on the use of compressors and accessories, we strongly recommend that you purchase a good quality publication, in order to allow you to use this product to its full potential.

The electric motor drives an air pump which draws in air from the atmosphere and delivers it into the air receiver tank through the air receiver tank supply tube. When the air pressure in the air receiver tank reaches the operating pressure of 8 Bar the pressure switch operates and switches OFF the mains supply to the motor. At the same time the air that is in the pump cylinder, air receiver tank, supply tube and the pressure switch is discharged. This depressurises the pump and the pressure regulating system allowing the pump to re-start when the air pressure in the air receiver tank falls below the minimum operating pressure of 6 Bar. The pressure switch is fitted with a delayed discharge valve which will start the air pump motor. The pressure relief safety valve is set to operate at 8.5 Bar and is connected directly onto the air receiver tank and will operate if the set pressure of 8.5 Bar is exceeded should the pressure switch fail.

## Overload Protection

This compressor is fitted with an overload protection device, In the event that the motor becomes too hot a thermal protection device will cut the mains supply to the motor. When the motor temperature returns to normal, the mains supply will be restored automatically.



# OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

## Preparing For Use

Before connecting your compressor to the mains supply, check the following:-

- The mains voltage is 230V.
- The ON/OFF switch is in the OFF (non-depressed) position.
- The pressure regulator should be set at its lowest setting, i.e. turned fully anticlockwise.
- If the machine has not been used for 24 hours or so, open the drain valve tap to drain any condensate which may have accumulated.  
When clear, close the valve.

**Important:** If the receiver is under pressure, keep your hands well away from the air being expelled.... remember, compressed air is dangerous!

**Warning!** Before connecting any air tool, make sure you have read and fully understood the manufacturers instruction booklet for the tool being used.

Also ensure that the tool is compatible with the compressor and hose specifications.

If the pressure rating of the tool is less than 8 bar, the pressure regulator must be used to adjust the output pressure.

## Switching On and Off

**Warning!** Switching On & Off must be done using the On/Off switch mounted on the compressor. Switching the compressor Off at the mains supply can damage the motor and will invalidate the guarantee.

Before switching on the power supply to the compressor check that the On/Off switch is in the Off position (non-depressed) (Fig.1).

Check that the pressure regulator is closed (turned fully anti-clockwise) (Fig.2).

Check that the drain valve tap is closed (Fig.3).

Connect the compressor to a suitable 13A mains supply. Switch on the compressor by pressing the On/Off switch to the ON (depressed) position (Fig.4). The compressor will now start.



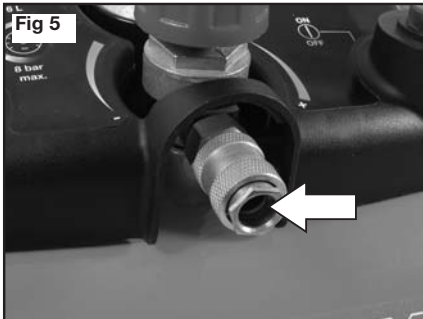
# OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

When the air receiver tank is pressurised to its working capacity the compressor will automatically switch off. When the compressor switches off there will be the sound of leaking air while the pressure regulating system is depressurised, this will last for only a few seconds and is quite normal. Check all valves and regulators for leaks. Note during extended periods of use the air receiver tank supply tube will become hot.

## Connecting Hoses & Accessories

**Warning!** Do not operate accessories at an air pressure greater than the maximum rated air pressure for the accessory.

Connect a hose to the compressor using the hose to compressor quick release connector (Fig.5).



When using the regulated air output first determine the working pressure of the accessory by referring to the accessory manual. Slowly open the pressure regulator (Fig.6) at the

same time observing the air outlet pressure gauge until the pressure gauge reads the minimum pressure for the accessory.

Fine adjustments to the air pressure can be made until the accessory is working at its optimum performance.

Do not exceed the maximum rated air pressure for the accessory.

To disconnect a hose push the hose connector towards the compressor and at the same time pull back the brass collar, this will allow the hose to be removed.

Always wait at least 10 seconds from when the compressor has been switched off before restarting.

## Safety Valve

Check the operation of the safety valve, under pressure, daily by pulling the ring as shown in Fig.7. Air should be released you pull the ring and stop when the ring is released.



- If the valve does not operate as described, or if the valve is stuck, it must be replaced by qualified service personnel before using the compressor.

**Warning!** Do not remove or attempt to adjust the safety valve.

## Draining the Reservoir

**Caution!** It is important to drain the reservoir before storage.

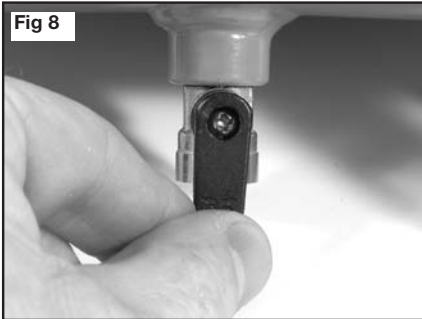
Switch the air compressor off, by pressing the On/Off button to the (non-depressed) position, and remove the plug from the mains supply.

# OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS & MAINTENANCE

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Place a suitable container beneath the compressor to catch any condensation.

Carefully open the drain tap until you hear a hissing noise, this is the reservoir depressurising (Fig.8).



When the gauge indicates zero and the hissing has stopped, tighten the drain outlet nut again.

## **Maintenance**

**Important:** Before carrying out any maintenance, always disconnect the compressor from the mains supply, drain the air receiver and, if necessary, allow the machine to cool down before starting work.

1.The compressor must be drained completely by opening the drain tap. Drain the air receiver tank after approx. 2 hours of use.

2.Cleaning and maintaining the compressor regularly will give a long and trouble free life.

Before long term storage it is advisable to give the compressor a thorough clean. This should include the removal of all fitted accessories. Do not use any solvents as these can damage plastic parts. Only use a clean cloth dampened with warm soapy water. Any metal parts should be given a wipe with a light machine oil to prevent rusting.

**Caution.** Water must never come into contact with the compressor.

# TROUBLESHOOTING

PROBLEM	POSSIBLE CAUSE	REMEDY
The compressor stopped and does not start.	Bad connections.	Check electrical connections. Clean and tighten as necessary.
	Overload cutout switch has tripped or duty cycle has been exceeded.	Switch off and wait approx 5 minutes before pressing the reset button and switching on again.
	Motor windings burnt out.	Contact your local Impax dealer for a replacement motor.
The compressor does not reach the set pressure and overheats easily.	Compressor head gasket blown or valve broken.	Wait for compressor to cool down, disassemble head and replace any broken components. Carefully clean all sealing surfaces before reassembling. If in doubt contact your Impax dealer.
Compressor does not start.	Air receiver charged	Open drain valve to expel air. Compressor should start again when pressure reduces to approx. 115 psi.

# ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Information for (private householders) for the environmentally responsible disposal of Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE)



This symbol on products and or accompanying documents indicates that used and end of life electrical and electronic equipment should not be disposed of in household waste. For the proper disposal, treatment, recovery and recycling, please take these products to designated collection points, where they will be accepted on a free of charge basis. Alternatively, in some countries you may be able to return your products to your retailer upon the purchase of an equivalent new product. Disposing of this product correctly will help to save valuable resources and prevent any potential adverse effects on human health and the environment which could otherwise arise from inappropriate waste disposal and handling. Please contact your local authority for further details of your nearest designated collection point. Penalties may be applicable for incorrect disposal of this waste in accordance with national legislation.

## FOR BUSINESS USERS IN THE EUROPEAN UNION.

If you wish to discard electrical and electronic equipment, please contact your dealer or supplier for further information.

## Information on Disposal in other Countries outside the European Union.

This Symbol is only valid in the European Union.

If you wish to dispose of this product, please contact your local authorities or dealer and ask for the correct method of disposal.

# SYMBOLS

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The rating plate on this product may show symbols. These represent important information about the product or instructions on its use.



Wear hearing protection.  
Wear eye protection.  
Wear respiratory protection.



Conforms to relevant safety standards.



Read the instruction manual.



Product conforms to RoHs requirements



General warning



Waste electrical products should not be disposed of with household waste. Please recycle where facilities exist. Check with your Local Authority or retailer for recycling advice.



CAUTION: Hot surface



Risk of electric shock. The compressor must be disconnected from the mains supply before removing any covers. Do not use in a damp environment.

# NOTES

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# NOTES

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# EC DECLARATION OF CONFORMITY

The manufacturer of the product covered by this Declaration is.



NAP Brands Ltd.  
Napier House, Unit 7, Corunna Court,  
Warwick, United Kingdom CV34 5HQ

The manufacturer hereby declares that the machine as detailed in this declaration fulfils all the relevant provisions of the Machinery Directive and other appropriate directives as detailed below.

The manufacture further declares that the machine as detailed in this declaration, where applicable, fulfils the relevant provisions of the essential health and safety requirements.

## The Directives covered by this Declaration are as detailed below

2006/42/EC The Machinery Directive.  
2006/95/EC. Low Voltage Equipment Directive.  
2004/108/EC. Electromagnetic Compatibility Directive,  
93/68/EC. The CE Marking Directive.  
2011/65/EU. The Restriction of the Use of certain Hazardous Substances in Electrical Equipment (RoHS) Directive  
2002/96/EC as amended by 2003/108/EC The Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Directive.  
2000/14/EC, Annex VI, and the Directive 2005/88/EC. The Noise Emissions in the Environment by Equipment for use Outdoors Regulations 2001 (SI 2001/1701 as amended)

## And is in conformity with the applicable requirements of the following documents

EN 55014-1  
EN 55014-2  
EN 61000-3-2  
EN 61000-3-3  
EN 1012-1  
EN 60204-1

## Product Details:


**Description:** 6L Oil Free Air Compressor

**Model No:** IM180-6L

**Brand Name:** Impax

## Name and address of technical documentation holder.

The technical documentation required to demonstrate that the product meets the requirements of directive has been compiled and is available for inspection by the relevant enforcement authorities.

Signed:  Print: Mark Shannon

Quality Director.  
NAP Brands Ltd.

Napier House, Unit 7, Corunna Court, Warwick, United Kingdom CV34 5HQ

**CE14**

Date: 28.10.2013

After sales support: Tel: 0844 264 2485 Website: [www.impaxpowertools.com](http://www.impaxpowertools.com)