



FWE531-175 / FWE531-150 **Ferno TRACLITE**
Stair Chair



FWE531-175
TRACLITE with 175mm wheels

FWE531-150
TRACLITE with 150mm wheels





Ferno Customer Service

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USERS' MANUALS

To request additional free users' manuals, contact Ferno Customer Relations, your Ferno distributor, or www.ferno.com.au

Disclaimer

This manual contains general instructions for the use, operation and care of this product. The instructions are not all-inclusive. Safe and proper use of this product is solely at the discretion of the user. Safety information is included as a service to the user. All other safety measures taken by the user should be within and under consideration of applicable regulations and local protocol. Training on the proper use of this product must be provided before using this product in an actual situation.

Retain this manual for future reference. Include it with the product in the event of transfer to new users. Additional free copies are available upon request from Customer Relations.

Proprietary Notice

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Limited Warranty Statement

The products sold by Ferno are covered by a limited warranty. The complete terms and conditions of the limited warranty, and the limitations of liability and disclaimers, are also available upon request by contacting Ferno Australia via email: info.au@ferno.com.

Adverse Event Notice

In the event of an adverse event or serious incident related to the use of this device, the end user/operator must report the incident to Ferno Australia, 11 Johnstone Road, Brendale Queensland 4500 Australia, +61 7 3881 4999 or via email to info.au@ferno.com. If the incident occurred in the European Union, report it to Ferno's Authorised EU Representative and the competent authority of the Member State in which the end user is established.



Serial Number: _____

Location: Under the seat behind the lock mechanism

1 - SAFETY INFORMATION

1.1 Warning

Warning notices indicate a potentially hazardous situation which, if not avoided, could result in injury or death.

WARNING

Improper use of the Chair can cause injury. Use the Chair only for the purpose described in this manual.

Untrained operators can cause injury or be injured. Permit only trained personnel to operate the Chair.

Improper operation can cause injury. Operate the Chair only as described in this manual.

An unattended patient can be injured. Stay with the patient at all times.

An unrestrained patient can be injured. Use patient restraints to secure the patient on the Chair.

Helpers can cause injury or be injured. Maintain control of the Chair, operate the controls, and direct all helpers.

Improper maintenance can cause injury. Maintain the Chair only as described in this manual.

Improper parts and service can cause injury. Use only Ferno parts and Ferno-approved service on the Chair.

Modifying the Chair can cause injury and damage. Use the Chair only as designed by Ferno.

Attaching improper items to the Chair can cause injury. Use only Ferno-approved items on the TRACLite Chair.



1 - SAFETY INFORMATION

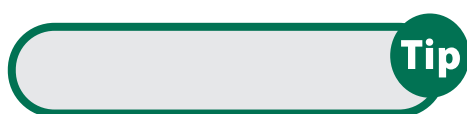
1.2 Important

Important notices emphasize important usage or maintenance information. Failure to follow Important notices could result in damage to the product or property damage.



1.3 Tip

Tips provide recommendations for easier use of the product.



1.4 Blood-borne Disease Notice

To reduce the risk of exposure to blood or other potentially infectious materials when using the chair, follow the disinfecting and cleaning instructions in this manual.

1.5 Safety Labels

Safety and instruction labels place important information from the users' manual on the Chair. Read and follow label instructions. Replace worn or damaged labels immediately. Replacement labels are available from Ferno Australia.



Label	Definition
A	Pinch point. Keep hands clear.
B	Ratings and Safety Label: Product name; chair load capacity; read the users' manual; chair track warning

1.6 Symbol Glossary

The symbols defined below are used on the chair, track and/or in this users' manual. Ferno uses symbols recognised by the International Standards Organization (ISO), American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and the emergency medical services industry.

Symbol	Definition		
	General warning of potential injury		
	Read the Users' Manual		
	Load capacity		
	Unlock		Lock

2 - OPERATOR SKILLS AND TRAINING

2.1 Skills

Operators using the chair need:

- The strength, balance, coordination and common sense to safely operate the Chair.
- The ability to select the proper equipment and procedures for the circumstances.
- Operators should have been trained in the operation of the Chair.
- The ability to understand and follow the procedures described in this manual.
- Operators should have a working knowledge of manual handling procedures.

2.2 Training

Operator trainees need to:

- Have followed a training plan.
- Read and understand the instructions in this manual.
- Practice using the fully-equipped Chair with weight and under simulated conditions.
- Trainees should be tested to verify their understanding of Chair operation.
- Keep training records. Annual refresher training for all Chair operators is recommended.

WARNING

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Untrained operators can cause injury or be injured. Permit only trained personnel to operate the Chair.



3 - OVERVIEW

3.1 Description

The FWE531 Traclite Chair provides a lightweight and portable means of transporting patients. Combined with the Ferno stair track (FWE531D), the chair quickly and easily converts into a track chair for downstairs transfers.

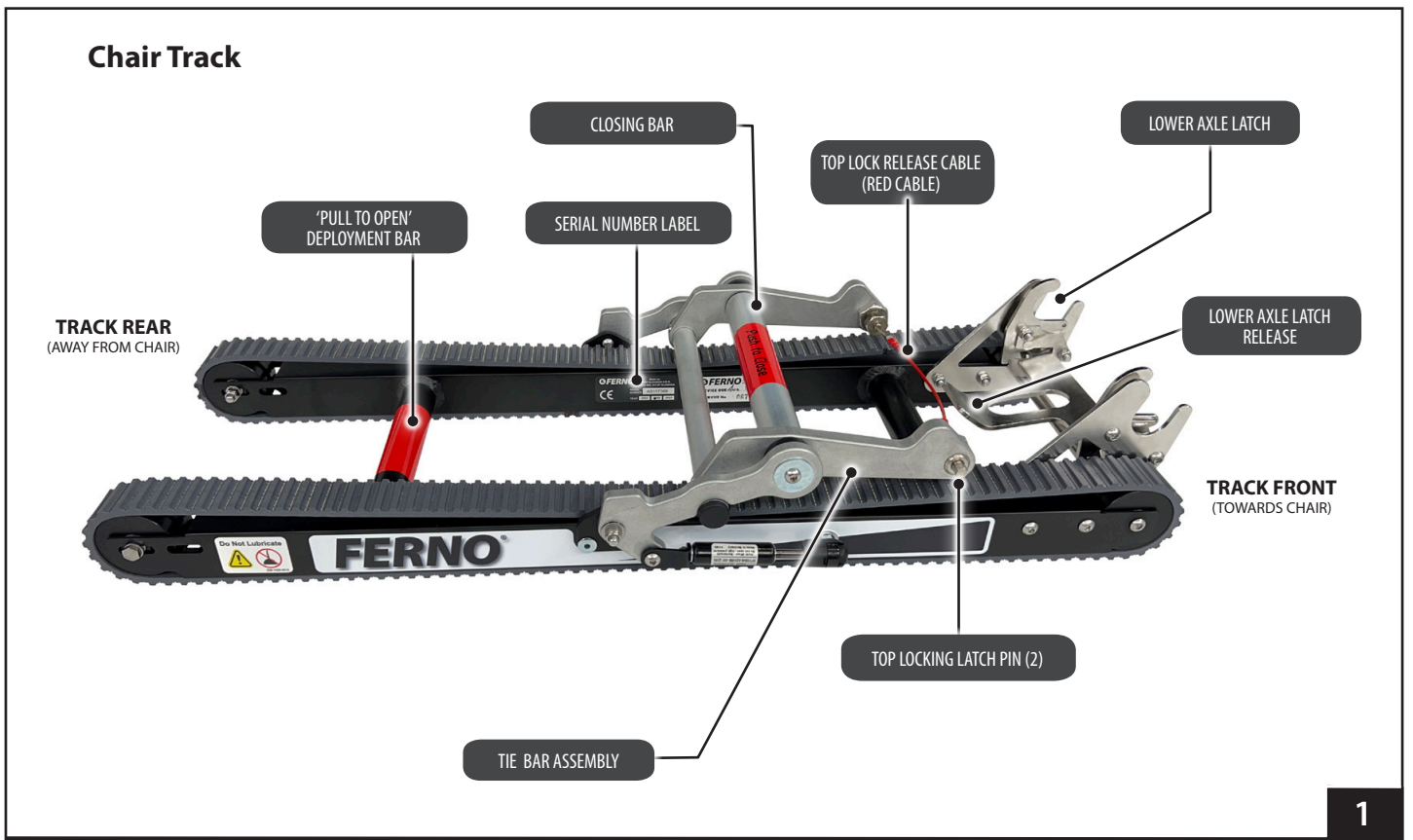
3.2 General Specifications

Specifications

FWE531-150	Ferno Traclite Chair – 150 mm wheels	
FWE531-175	Ferno Traclite Chair – 175 mm wheels	
FWE531D	Chair Track Descender	
	FWE531-150	FWE531-175
Safe Working Load	160 kg	160 kg
Chair Depth - Folded	175 mm	185 mm
Chair Height - Folded	965 mm	965 mm
Chair Width	375 mm	375 mm
Chair Weight (no restraints)	17 kg	17 kg
Chair and Track (no restraints)	21 kg	21 kg
Track Weight	4 kg	
Track Length	735 mm	
Track Width	300 mm	
Track Depth	105 mm	

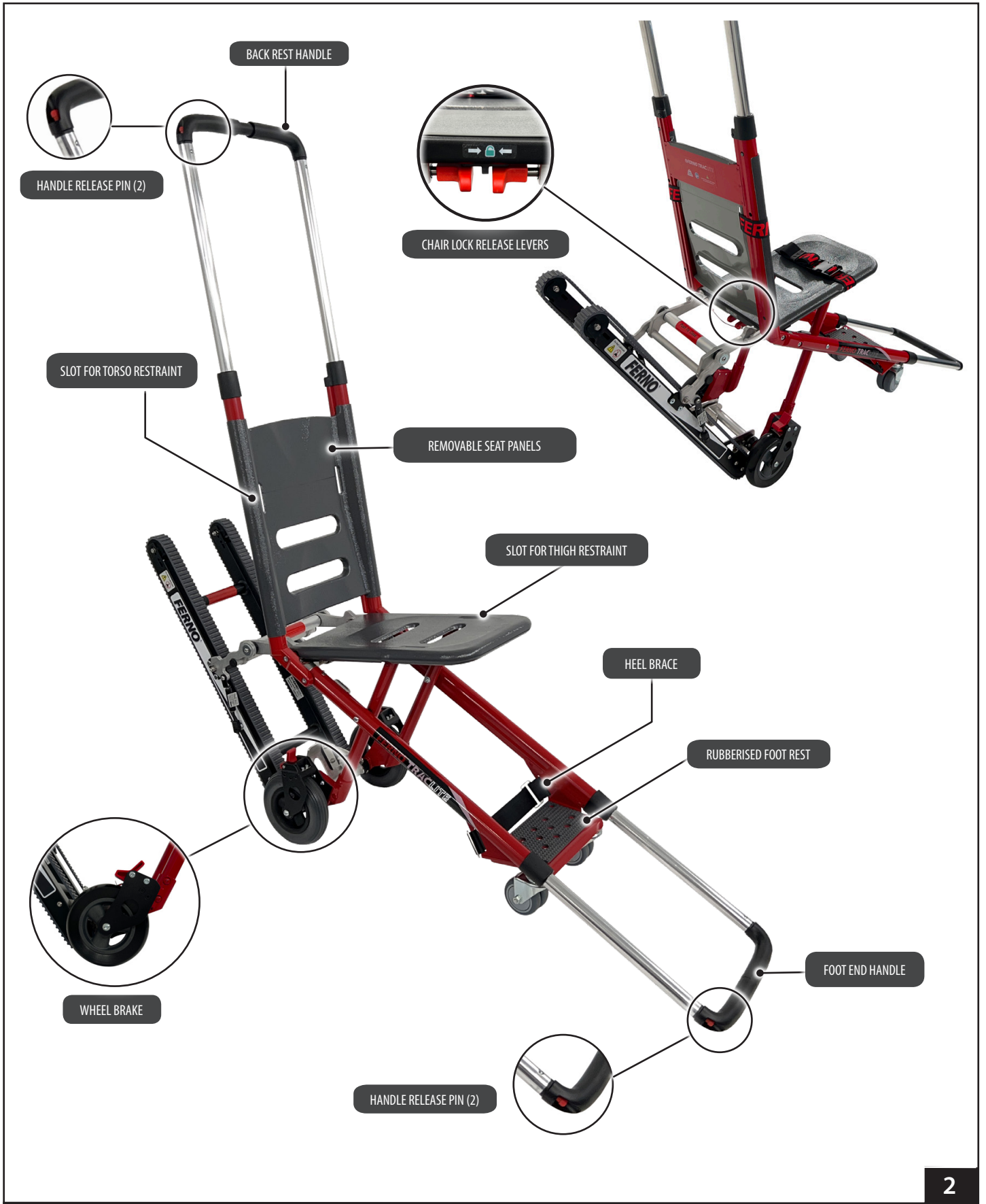
General specifications are rounded. Ferno reserves the right to change specifications without notice.

3.3 Chair Components





About the Ferno Traclite Chair





4 - CHAIR FEATURES

4.1 Unfolding the Chair

The chair folds for shipping and stowage when the track is not attached.

1. Place the folded chair on the ground with back rest facing up, then: **1** Squeeze the Chair Lock Release levers together to unlock the chair while simultaneously **2** lifting the backrest handle upwards (Fig 3).
2. Continue fully unfolding until the back rest is in an upright position and the locking mechanism engages. You will hear an audible click.

4.2 Folding the Chair

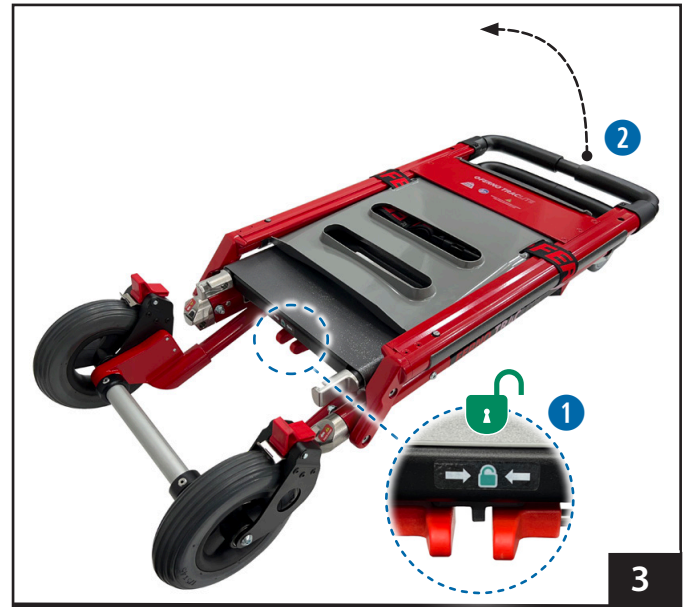
The chair track must be removed before folding the chair.

1. For safety, engage the wheel locks to prevent chair motion when the chair is next unfolded.
2. Return the back rest handle to its lowest position and fully retract the foot end handle.
3. Standing at the rear of the chair, hold the back rest handle and release the chair lock by squeezing the Chair Lock Release levers together.
4. Carefully lower the back rest handle until the chair lock engages with an audible click.

4.3 Operating the Brakes

The 531D Traclite Chair is equipped with foot-operated rocker-style brakes.

1. **To engage brakes**, place foot on top of brake lever and press down on the brake lever (Fig 4).
2. **To disengage brakes**, place foot on top of brake lever and press down on the brake lever with a heel-to-toe motion towards the chair (Fig 4).





4.4 Adjusting the Back Rest Handle

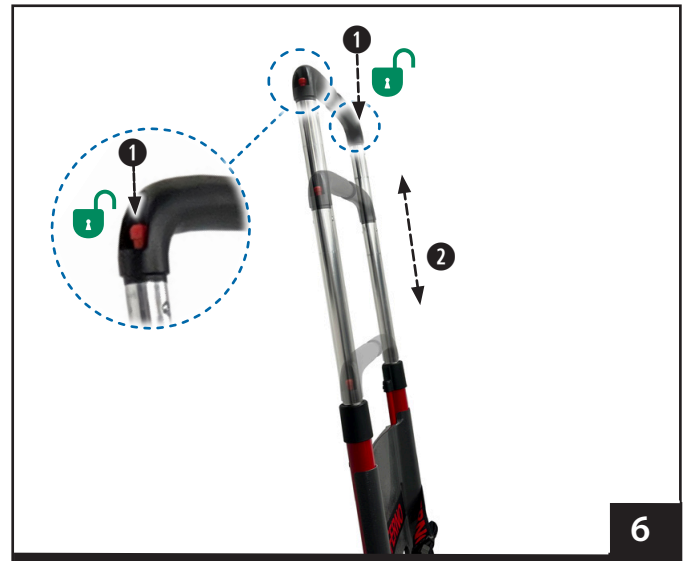
The back rest handle can be adjusted to three different heights from its lowest position to highest.

To extend the back rest handle:

1. Depress both back rest handle release pins (Fig 6 ❶) and pull the handle upwards (Fig 6 ❷). The handle will automatically lock when it reaches the first raised position. Repeat this process until the desired height is reached.

2. To retract the back rest handle:

1. Depress both back rest handle release knobs (Fig 6 ❶) and slide the handle downwards. The handle will automatically lock when it reaches the next lower position. continue this process until the desired height is reached (Fig 6).



4.5 Deploying the Foot End Handles

Foot end handles are intended to allow a second operator to guide the chair while negotiating stairs. The foot end handle has two positions: retracted or extended. The extended position is used during descent.

Extending the foot end handles

Depress both foot end handle release pins (Fig 7 ❶) and pull the handle outwards until it is fully extended and locks into position (Fig 7 ❷).

To stow the foot end handles

Depress both release knob and push the handle back towards the chair until it locks into the retracted position.



4.6 Positioning the Patient Restraints

Two webbing restraints with buckles (torso and thigh) and a heel brace are provided with the chair.

Using the thigh restraint:

Once the patient is comfortably seated, place the pre-adjusted thigh restraint over their thighs and buckle the two halves together (Fig 8).

Using the torso restraint:

With the patient seated, place the pre-adjusted chest restraint around the patient's torso and buckle the two halves together (Fig 8).

The heel brace is positioned behind the foot plate and prevents the patient's feet from travelling backwards during transfer and stair descent.





4.7 Attaching the Tracks

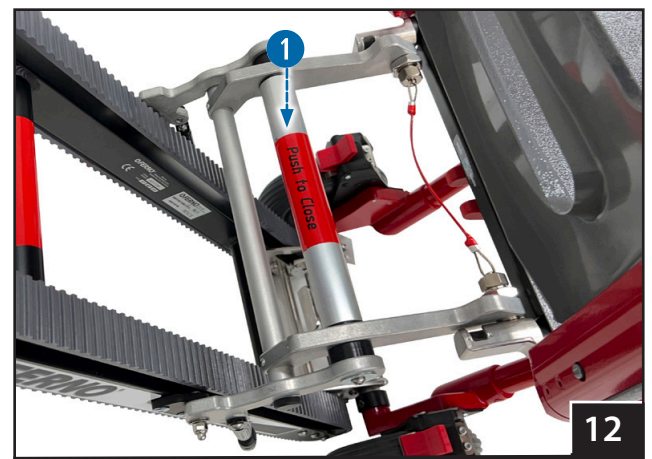
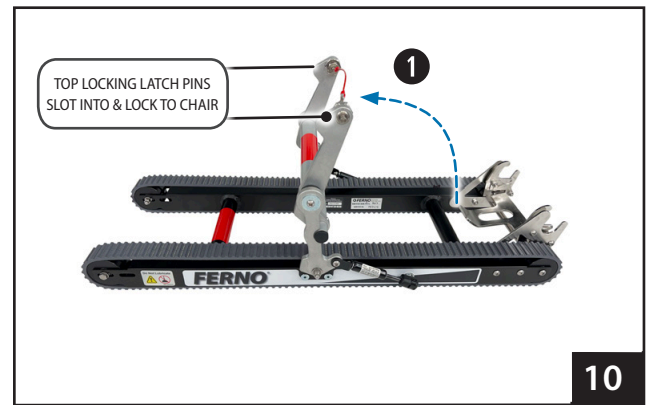
Using the chair on stairs requires a minimum of two operators - one to control the chair from the top / back rest handle end and one to guide the chair from the bottom / foot end.

It is recommended to attach the tracks before the patient is seated.

1. Unfold the chair and lock the wheel brakes.
2. Place the track on the floor behind the chair wheels. Lift the chair and clip the rear wheel axle to the track connector (Fig 9). You will hear an audible click when the catch locks on to the bar.
3. Raise the track's tie bar assembly so it is at right angles to the track as illustrated in Figure 10 (track disconnected from chair).
4. Rotate the whole track upwards towards back of chair. Simultaneously position the two top locking latch pins into the corresponding anchor slots on the rear of seat base (Fig 11), sliding the pins forward in the anchors until they lock into place (Fig 12). An audible click will be heard.
5. Verify the track is securely attached by opening and closing the track several times.

4.8 Stowing the Track on the Chair

1. Holding the chair to prevent movement, push down on the closing bar to fold the linkage (Fig 12 ①). As the linkage folds, the track will move towards and align with the chair's backrest.
2. Push the track towards the chair until the track is flush with the back of the chair and locks into stowed position.



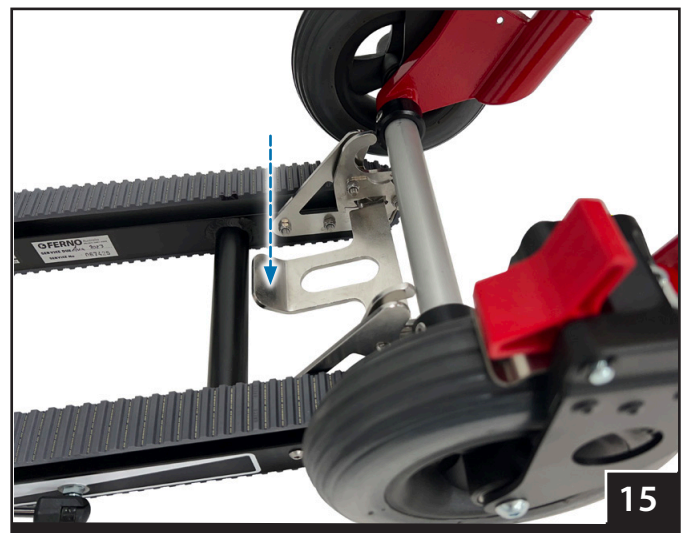
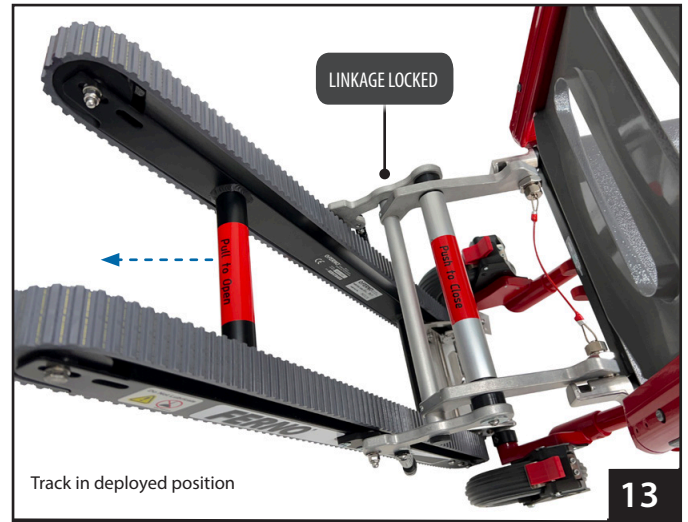


4.9 Deploying the Tracks

Holding the chair to prevent movement, use the red "Pull to Open" deployment bar to pull the track in an outwards direction away from the back rest (Figure 13) until the linkage moves in to a locked position. Verify the track has locked by pushing on the track unit.

4.10 Removing the Track

1. First, deploy the track.
2. Support the track so it doesn't fall on the operator, then pull the red top lock release cable to release the top of the track assembly from the chair (Fig 14). Lower the track to the ground.
3. Press downwards on the lower latch release lever to detach the track from the chair's rear wheel axle (Fig 15), then lift the chair off and away from the track.



5 - OPERATING THE CHAIR

5.1 Before Using the Chair

1. Ensure personnel working with the chair have read this manual and are properly trained to operate it.
2. Inspect the chair to ensure all components are present and in good operational condition.

5.2 Using the Chair without Tracks

Using the chair on level ground:

1. Unfold the chair (refer page 6)
2. Wheel the chair to the patient, place into position and lock the wheel brakes to prevent the chair from rolling while seating the patient.
3. Seat the patient. Secure the patient to the chair using the thigh and torso restraints (refer page 7).
4. Unlock the wheel brakes and proceed with transfer.

5.3 Carrying the Chair downstairs without Tracks

The Chair can be used as a Carry Chair to move a patient down the stairs when the circumstances do not allow the use of the track system and a suitable dynamic risk assessment has been undertaken. This manoeuvre should be carried out with the Track detached from

⚠ WARNING

Improper operation can cause injury. Operate the chair only as described in this manual.

An unattended patient can be injured. Stay with the patient at all times.

An unrestrained patient can fall off the chair and be injured. Use restraints to secure the patient on the chair.

Attaching non Ferno items to the chair can cause injury. Use only Ferno approved items on the chair.

Untrained helpers can cause injury or be injured. Maintain control of the chair while directing all helpers.



the Chair, and all manual handling procedures and risk assessment should be considered before carrying out such a manoeuvre.

1. With the patient seated on the Chair and restrained, adjust the upper handle into a position that is comfortable for your height (See 'Adjusting Upper Handle Height').
2. Always inform the patient about what is happening.
3. Once the head-end and foot-end operators are in their correct positions holding the upper and lower handles, the head end operator leans the Chair backwards until the occupant's weight is on the wheels.
4. The Chair can then be rolled towards the top of the stairs and lifted by both operators to begin descending the stairs
5. Upon reaching the bottom of the stairs, carefully lower the wheels onto the floor and continue to move the patient to the required destination by wheeling the Chair.

5.4 Manoeuvring the Chair Up Stairs without Tracks

The TRACLITE can be used as a Carry Chair to move occupant up stairs. This manoeuvre should be carried out with the Track detached from the Chair, and all manual handling procedures and risk assessment should be considered before carrying out such a manoeuvre.

1. With the patient seated on the Chair and restrained, adjust the upper handle into a position that is comfortable for your height (See 'Adjusting Upper Handle Height').
2. Always inform the patient about what is happening.
3. Once the head-end and foot-end operators are in their correct positions holding the upper and lower handles, the head end operator leans the Chair backwards until the occupants weight is on the wheels.
4. The Chair can then be rolled towards the foot of the stairs and lifted by both operators to begin ascending the stairs
5. Upon reaching the top of the stairs, carefully lower the wheels onto the floor and continue to move the patient to the required destination by wheeling the Chair.

5.5 Using the Chair with Tracks

Ferno recommends attaching the track to the chair before seating the patient. The tracks are not used during level ground transfer.

Using the chair on level ground:

1. Unfold the chair (refer page 6) and lock the wheel brakes..
2. Attach the track (refer page 8)
3. Wheel the chair to the patient, place into position and lock the wheel brakes to prevent the chair from rolling while seating the patient.
4. Seat the patient.
5. Secure the patient to the chair using the thigh and torso restraints (refer page 7).
6. Unlock the wheel brakes and proceed with transfer.

5.6 Descending Stairs with Chair Tracks

Ferno strongly recommends that the procedures for descending stairs with the stair chair be practiced and that training be conducted with a chair loaded with a manikin or weights before carrying live patients.

Using the chair on stairs requires a minimum of two operators. Use additional help as needed. The two chair operators face each other at opposite ends of the chair when transporting a patient down stairs. If available, a third person should assist by acting as a look-out for slip, trip or fall hazards during the descent.

Ensure the route down the stairs is clear of obstructions that could affect the safety of the operators or the function of the track.

Before descending the stairs:

1. Lock the wheel brakes and check that the track is securely fastened to the chair.
2. Check the patient is securely restrained to the chair.
3. *Head-end Operator:* Extend the back rest / upper handle to the required position and ensure it is locked in place (refer to page 7).
4. *Head-end Operator:* Deploy the track (refer to page 9).

Descending the stairs:

1. *Foot-end Operator:* Take up position on the stairs facing the chair and deploy the foot end handle (refer to page 7).
2. *Both Operators:* Working together, tilt the chair backwards and guide the chair over the edge of the top step, allowing the track belts to engage on the first step.
3. *Both Operators:* Move the chair slowly downwards until the track is resting on the lip of two or three steps. This establishes the glide angle. Ensure both operators are comfortable before proceeding further.
4. To maintain the glide angle:
 - a. *Head-end Operator:* With a palm down hand grip, apply downward pressure on the extended back rest handle to hold the track into the stairs and to move downwards. Adjust pressure and direction according to desired speed and track angle.
 - b. *Foot-end Operator:* Supports the chair using the foot end handle and assists in guiding the chair and maintaining the glide angle which provides both a smoother ride for the patient and is less fatiguing for operators.
3. When the chair reaches the bottom of the stairs and the rear wheels are on the floor, the chair can be returned to upright position with all 4 wheels on the floor.
4. If tracks are no longer required, collapse and return tracks back into the stowed position.



6 - INSPECTION & MAINTENANCE

6.1 Maintenance Schedule

The Chair requires regular inspection. Set up and follow a maintenance schedule.

The table to the right represents minimum intervals for maintenance. Ferno recommend to lubricate every 3 months and/or after a deep clean. The Chair Lock Release assembly located to the rear of the seat panel is the only lubrication point on the TRACLite Chair.

Keep maintenance records.

When using maintenance products, follow the manufacturers' directions and read the manufacturers' material safety data sheets.

Alternatively the Chair can be inspected in line with the Ambulance maintenance schedule.

Further details on maintenance are available from Ferno Australia's Service Division or through approved service technicians.

Recommended Maintenance Intervals	Each Use	As Needed	3 Months
Disinfecting	•		
Cleaning		•	
Inspecting	•	•	•
Lubricating (chair lock release assembly)			•

NOTICE

Water under high pressure or steam can penetrate joints, flush away lubricant and cause corrosion. Use caution when cleaning moving parts such as joints and hinges.

Using abrasive cleaning compounds or applicators on the Chair can cause damage. Do not use abrasive materials to clean the Chair.

Disinfectants and cleaners containing bleach, phenolics or iodides can cause damage. Do not use products containing these chemicals.

WARNING

Improper maintenance can cause injury. Maintain the Chair only as described in this manual.

6.2 Disinfecting and Cleaning the Chair

Wipe all surfaces with disinfectant. Follow the disinfectant manufacturer's instructions for application method and contact time. Ferno recommend you inspect the Chair for damage as you clean and disinfect it.

If required, the TRACLite seat and backrest panels can be removed for deeper cleaning.

Removing the backrest panel: Gently slide the panel upwards and unclip from the chair frame.

Removing the seat panel: With care, partially unclip the rear half of the seat panel, then slide the panel forward off the seat frame.

Replacing panels: Reverse the procedures for removing panels.

1. Remove the restraints, track and any accessories.
2. Hand clean all surfaces of the Chair with warm water and a mild detergent.
3. Rinse with warm, clear water. Dry the Chair with a towel and allow it to air-dry thoroughly prior to storage.
4. To disinfect: Apply disinfectant to the Chair, following the disinfectant manufacturer's instructions for the application method and contact time.

6.3 Inspecting the Chair

A periodic inspection should be conducted every three months by a competent person. Re-inspect the product after any adverse or exceptional event(s) or if there is any doubt about its condition.

Follow the inspection checklist and operate the Chair through all its functions as described in this manual.

If inspection shows damage or excessive wear, remove the Chair from service until repair is made.

Inspection Checklist

Reference document: Ferno Traclite User Manual

Are all components present?
Is the chair and track free of excessive wear?
Are all screws, nuts, bolts and rivets securely in place?
Do all moving parts operate smoothly and properly?
Does the chair lock properly when folded?
Does the backrest handle extend and lock securely in each of its three positions?
Does the foot end handle extend and lock securely in its two positions?
Do the wheels show signs of excessive wear?
Are the wheel brakes operating as intended?
Are the patient restraints (webbing and buckles) in good condition and operating as intended?
Does the track operate properly without interfering with chair operation?
Is the track adequately tensioned?

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