

# ACE™ Salt Water Sanitizing System Operation Guide



## IMPORTANT

- Always read & refer to the owner's manual for complete information.
- **Test your water** with a test strip once a **week**, or each time the spa is used. ***This step takes less than 1 minute!***
- The ACE system requires feedback/input; **it is not a "set it & forget it" system.**
- Use the hot tub only when the chlorine level is between 1- 5 ppm. Boost or manually add chlorine as needed.
- **Low/No Use:** For vacations, or if the spa is used once a week or less, **decrease the Use Level to 1.**
- For extended vacations or periods of non-use, **shock the spa water** and set the **Spa Size to 2 and the Use Level to 1.** If you are unsure about your settings, contact your Hot Spring dealer for direction.
- It is the **spa owner's responsibility** to adjust the Use Level to prevent over or under chlorination.

## SYSTEM START-UP

*Approximately 2 times per year*

1. Fill your spa using the CleanScreen™ pre-filter. Begin heating the water to at least 100 °F.
2. Test your water with a FreshWater® 5-way test strip and balance according to the spa water guidelines. **Water outside the guidelines may cause improper ACE system function and/or damage to spa components.**

Parameter	Target	Min – "OK" Range – Max	
pH	7.4	7.2	7.6
Alkalinity	80ppm	40ppm	120ppm
Hardness	50ppm	25ppm	75ppm
Chlorine	3ppm	1ppm	5ppm

- Adjust pH/Alkalinity levels as needed.
  - Use Vanishing Act™ calcium remover as needed.
3. Add 50% of the recommended salt, per the ACE owner's manual, as salt levels in tap water can vary.
  4. Shock the water with bottled chlorine to 5 ppm.
  5. Set Spa Size and Use Level, per the ACE owner's manual.

**WHEN STARTING UP FOR THE VERY FIRST TIME,  
THE ACE CELL TAKES ABOUT 24 HOURS TO STABILIZE.**

After 24 hours have passed:

6. Confirm the water is at least 100 °F (37.5 °C), then verify the ACE system status message.
  - "Water Care System Functioning" - go to step 7.
  - "Low Salt/Clean Cell" - add 1 cup of salt and run the jets for 5 minutes then retest. Repeat until salt is in the OK range.
7. Test the water with a FreshWater 5-way test strip.
  - Add pH down and/or bottled chlorine as needed.
  - Use additional Vanishing Act calcium removers as needed.
  - Adjust Use Level up if chlorine level is below 1 ppm, or down if chlorine level is above 5 ppm.

## ONGOING REQUIREMENTS

### Weekly

Test the water with a FreshWater 5-way test strip. ***This step takes less than 1 minute!***

- The pH level may increase during the first few weeks after start-up. Add pH down if needed.
- Adjust the Use Level, if needed, to maintain 1-3 ppm chlorine.

### Monthly

Test the water with a FreshWater 5-way test strip. ***This step takes less than 1 minute!***

- Ensure water is balanced and re-confirm Use Level via the control panel. Make adjustments if needed.
- Shock the water with bottled chlorine to 5 ppm.

### Quarterly

Inspect the ACE cell for calcium and clean as needed. ***This step takes less than 15 minutes!***

- Lower hardness of water with the Vanishing Act calcium remover, if needed.

**Check with your Hot Spring dealer to determine if water in your region has unique qualities – such as high metal or mineral content – that should be addressed.**