



Leading
the world
in cold salt
hydrotherapy





Introduction

A brief history...

ECB Equine Ltd was founded in 2001 as a farm diversification enterprise. The UK office is still based on Ean's family farm in the Cotswolds.

The aim was to provide cold salt hydrotherapy for horses – a groundbreaking idea. The initial research was carried out by Professor Evan Hunt in 1998; Professor Hunt remains a close friend of Ean and his family, and continues to support ECB equine spa and its customers.

Over the years ECB has continually refined the machines, with the health and safety of both horse and handler as it's main priority.

ECB Equine in America opened in 2005. From offices based in New Jersey, Allen and his team supply and support the North American market.



Ean Branston

Allen Gutowski

British made but with the benefit of international support and research, ECB equine spa are leading the world in cold salt hydrotherapy.

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Cold Saltwater Spas

Cold Salt Hydrotherapy is used to treat and prevent a multitude of injuries. This drug free therapy can be used for injury prevention, to increase mobility and to reduce inflammation in the limbs before, and after, competitive events and training.

The ECB equine spa is a self-contained unit which holds 2,000 litres of saltwater, capable of up to 3,000 treatments, each taking approximately twenty minutes.

All of our spas include a state of the art chiller, manure collection harness, starting supply of salts and chemicals, delivery, installation, full training and continued back up from Professor Hunt and ECB. They have a compact footprint and, manufactured from G.R.P. Fibreglass, are built to last.

Additional features include:

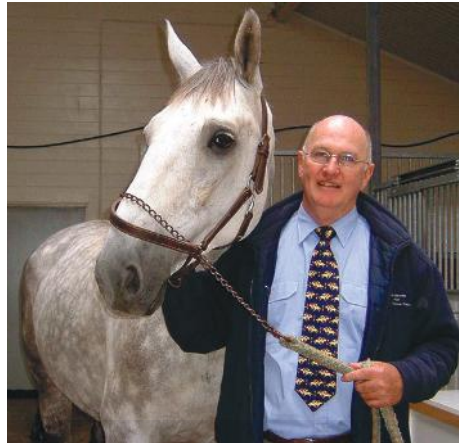
- Clear Perspex doors
- Half door
- Quick release handle
- Connective hose for treating higher injuries
- Insulated built-in water tank
- Hot water options available
- Five year fibreglass warranty
- One year full parts and labour warranty.



PROFESSOR EVAN HUNT

Professor Hunt carried out the initial research into the development of cold salt hydrotherapy. His work has been accredited by worldwide professionals and today he works alongside ECB in the constant development of the ECB spa.

He also provides exclusive support for clients of ECB, using his expertise and knowledge to aid in injury diagnosis and treatment. After years of working within rehabilitation with various units on the market, Evan will only provide support for ECB spas. Upon purchase of the spa you will receive a complete treatment regime manual (formulated by Professor Hunt) describing the types of injuries and the treatment parameters to address them.



*Professor Evan Hunt BVSc MVSc Phd GDipEd Tert
MRCVS – University of Sydney, Orange, Australia*

“Tendon injuries unfortunately come with performance horses, be it racing, eventing, showjumping or polo. These have traditionally taken a long time to respond and in the first cases of spa use I saw I couldn’t believe the rate of recovery with results I hadn’t previously achieved throughout my 35 years of veterinary experience. Trainers who have used the spa on a regular basis have quickly established that there is a major cost benefit in terms of keeping horses competing right through their training period.”

The Science

THERAPEUTIC EFFECTS

Temperature

The ECB spa solution is chilled to 2°C which takes out heat and inflammation. The solution, at this temperature, provides analgesic pain management and inhibits enzyme degeneration of tendons post injury.

Salt Concentration

The ECB salt solution acts as a hypertonic poultice, reducing heat while having a natural healing effect on wounds. Water density increases with salt concentration, which in turn increases pressure to aid fluid and waste dispersal.

Aeration

Water aeration has a massaging effect on the leg and increases the dissolved oxygen content of the spa solution.

Depth

The depth of the water is proportionate to the pressure exerted on the leg which aids fluid and waste dispersal. Water depth is adjustable dependent upon the position and severity of injury.

Biological Control

Proper chemical and salt maintenance allows for thousands of successive treatments without water replacement. Temperature and chemical levels combine to eliminate the transfer of microbiological infection.

Dissolved Oxygen

As water temperature decreases, its ability to carry oxygen increases. Increased oxygenation through the introduction of aeration is believed to enhance natural defence systems, much like the use of a hyperbaric chamber for humans.

PREVENTION IS BETTER THAN CURE

Regular use of cold salt hydrotherapy immediately after exercise will remove many of the stressors within tissues before inflammation develops. Cold also significantly improves surface bone density, reducing the opportunity for bone stress related injuries to occur.

For more detailed information please see our case studies on the ECB Equine website.

What it treats

Cold salt hydrotherapy can be used to treat all forms of lower leg inflammation... removing the painful fluid and swelling associated with injury. More specifically, these conditions are detailed below.

- Tendonitis
- Desmitis
- Arthritis
- Hoof injuries
- Sore shins
- Shin splints
- Jar up
- Bursitis/Synovitis
- Open wounds and skin infections



Chris Pollitt

Laminitis

Chris Pollitt, a practising veterinary surgeon, created the Australian Equine Laminitis Research Unit in 1996. The unit has become an international focus of laminitis and equine foot biology research. In 2008 Dr Pollitt published a paper on the success of cryotherapy in treating laminitis - the results were conclusive and proved that cold water therapy effectively ameliorates the clinical signs and pathology for acute laminitis.



Making the Spa mobile



The ECB spa can either be attached to a trailer or moved from yard to yard by using a skid which is winched on to a purpose made trailer, or built into a trailer complete with refrigeration.

This allows for instant treating when arriving on site. Horses can be treated safely and securely without the need for transportation to a rehabilitation centre.

Either way, the ECB equine spa is versatile enough to make spa treatments available for any horse.





“The best
equine invention
since the bridle...”

Jim Bolger Flat Trainer, Ireland

Technical

POSITIONING AND SPA REQUIREMENTS

The spa requires a quiet site, large enough for the spa and the chiller, with suitable access for the horses to load and unload.

In addition:

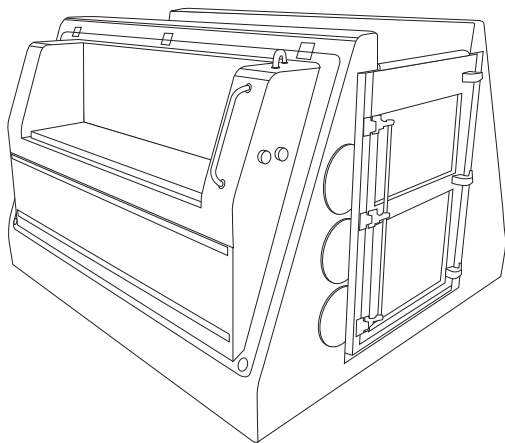
- A flat piece of concrete slightly larger than the size of the spa.
- Access to 13A electricity for the spa and either 3 phase or single phase for the chiller.
- Access to water to fill the spa.
- Suitable drainage in the vicinity.

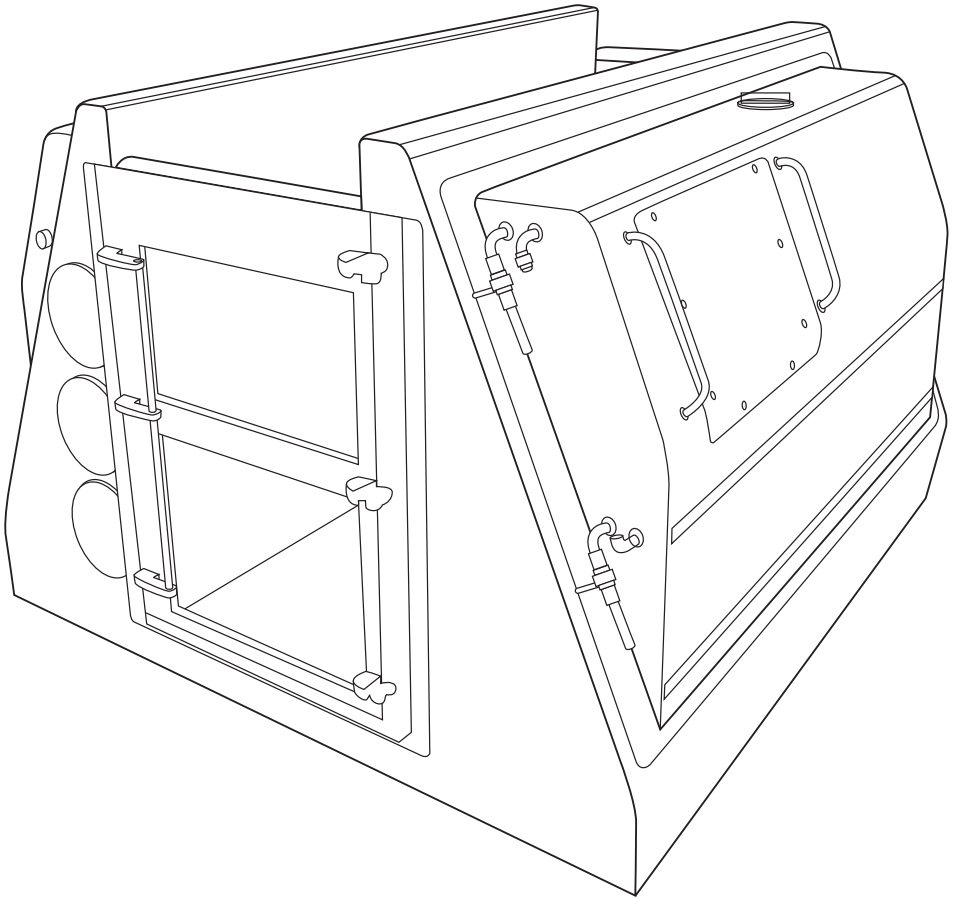
INSTALLATION AND TRAINING

- The spa can be situated in either an oversized pit with drainage or placed on an oversized flat piece of concrete (ramps will need to be provided).
- A JCB loader or similar that is capable of lifting two tonnes will be required for positioning the spa.
- Installation will take approximately four hours.
- Training will take approximately three hours.

SALTS AND CHEMICALS

- New spas come with everything required to get you going. Further accessories and spare parts can be purchased from ECB Equine.





Spa dimensions:

2550mm (l) x 2330mm (w) x 1660mm (h)

Chiller dimensions:

700m x 700m x 1350mm

Electrical requirements:

Spa: 13A supply

Chiller: Single Phase (220V supply) on motor rated trip, 3 phase (380/415V supply) 10 amps per phase.



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