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## Reasons why you should choose a **HYDRAMATIC** hydraulic automatic cover system

### 1. **Hydramatic hydraulic drive systems are WATERPROOF**

Other electric automatic cover systems have electric gearmotors which can be damaged when submerged in water resulting in costly repairs which are not covered by any warranty. The unique HYDRAMATIC duo-motor hydraulic system can be repeatedly submerged without any adverse affects.

Don't be misled by so-called submersible electric motors which have a gasketed metal sleeve around the electric motor. These sleeves will still "sweat" on the inside airspace and can still corrode the electric motor and bearings. A hydraulic motor fully contains and is lubricated by the hydraulic fluid which drives it !

### 2. **Hydramatic systems are FULL FLUID DRIVE systems**

Don't be fooled. This **patented** - virtually no maintenance **dual-motor** fluid drive is unique! Elegant in its simplicity - one motor closes the cover - another opens the cover. Other so-called single motor hydraulic systems are really **hydraulic/mechanical** systems complete with clutches and shearpins which need to be greased and maintained regularly - and are harmed by moisture or submersion!

### 3. **Hydramatic systems are FULLY AUTOMATIC Systems**

No Manual LATCH is required to keep the cover closed.

**Other** clutch and brake electric systems will open if the cover is walked on - or can be manually pushed open far enough to endanger a small child ! To meet ASTM F1346-91 safety standards - a small manual latch/strap is attached to the leading edge of the cover which must be fastened to the deck to make the cover safe. Every time you either open or close your "automatic" cover, you must first walk to the leading edge of your cover at the end of your pool to manually unlatch your cover, and then walk back to your key switch to open your cover. ( see their Homeowners manual )

The **HYDRAMATIC** system keeps the cover closed and sealed with a small amount of Hydraulic pressure and check valves. **NO LATCHES/STRAPS ARE REQUIRED !**

### 4. **Hydramatic systems eliminate electricity next to the pool for greater safety**

Hydramatic systems have the hydraulic powerpack - the pump which drives the two motors, and the electric controls located at the pool equipment pad along with the filter and other pool equipment. Two hydraulic lines are all that connects the systems two motors at the cover recess next to the pool. **NO ELECTRICS AT THE POOL** . The open/close **key-lock control** switch may be located in a convenient place in full view of the cover. Other additional key-lock controls are possible and optional.

**Other** electric clutch and brake systems usually have the electric gear motor located right next to the pool in the cover recess. In many cases, especially the lower cost models, so are the operating controls - in contravention of most local codes. The below deck recess is subject to damp conditions and may frequently be flooded, if the drains in the cover recess are not kept clear.

5. **Hydramatic systems are DURABLE, and have fewer parts**  
Hydraulics are widely used on heavy equipment. The Unique patented **duo-motor** system eliminates mechanical linkages, brakes and clutches to change the cover direction and motion of the cover. It has the least number of parts of any other cover system, and does not require lubrication, yet has the full range of safety and convenience features.
6. **Hydramatic systems have a LEADING EDGE SLIDER system - no wheels**  
We invented leading edge sliders ( U.S. patent 4,939,798 ) Sliders are tough Delrin runners on each front edge of the cover which slide in the track extrusion mounted on each side of the pool. Sliders support the leading edge in a more aesthetic manner, and also protect the front corner of the fabric from tearing back and creating an unsafe condition. On top of the deck track systems, sliders hold the leading edge closer to the deck and more securely to the track, and do a better job of preventing access under the cover.
7. **Hydramatic systems have a simple positive cover TRAVEL LIMIT system**  
Pressure relief valves gently stop the cover at the end of cover travel - standard equipment on **all** Hydramatic systems. It's positive and simple- when the leading edge touches the end of the pool it must stop and the slight fluid overpressure causes fluid to bypass back to the reservoir and cease to drive the motor.  
Other electric systems generally offer limit switches as an option. Most electric systems do not have this option and you must "eyeball " and stop the cover at the right place. If you miss you may run the cover fabric out of the track or worse - break a shearpin or drive bolt.
8. **Hydramatic built-in systems SEAL better to keep out leaves and dirt!**  
The leading edge bar of the cover is kept tight against the end of the pool under a slight amount of hydraulic pressure - a direct result of (see #5) above. This gives a better seal to keep dirt and debris from getting into your pool.  
**Other** "clutch and brake" types of electric covers may break a "shearpin" if you try to drive the leading edge hard against the end of the pool. If supplied with an electric limit switch - the sensor will try to stop the cover at a preset position - no pressure is applied to keep the cover tightly closed.
9. **Hydramatic systems are more fail-safe**  
Pressure relief valves gently stop the cover if it meets an obstruction in closing the cover.  
**Other** covers break a mechanical "shearpin" linkage that needs to be replaced before operation. This is not a simple repair. Average time to replace - 20 minutes to one hour - or a call by a service technician at a charge. Remember - a broken shearpin or drive bolt is not covered by their warranty !!
10. **Hydramatic covers close square**  
A patented automatic cable compensating system makes sure that the cover fabric closes squarely for a perfect tight and safe seal.  
**Other** "clutch and brake" systems may close as much as several inches off-square. This is the result of varying uneven cable wind-up on the two cable spools which pull each side of the cover closed. To adjust this you will need to unwind and manually re-attach the rope to the reels each time.
11. **Hydramatic systems have an easy to use Rainwater removal system**  
Removing rainwater off the top of a Hydramatic system is easy. Simply retract the cover and water on the top of the cover passes through a patented fine screen mesh into the pool, trapping leaves and debris. (See the video) Water is removed in minutes simply by retracting the cover, instead of hours with a pump!

**Other** clutch/shearpin cover systems use a small cover pump to remove water from the top of the cover . (not removing water off the cover during operation would likely result in breaking the mechanical shearpin!). Remember, on these systems the water must be removed off the top of the cover before the cover can be opened! And don't forget , the pump, electrical supply cord and the drainage hose must also be removed off the cover - before the cover can be opened. Not very automatic!

**12. Hydramatic systems have the best fabric on the market**

Hydramatic systems are supplied with a 16 oz / sq.yd. **coated homogeneous** vinyl fabric, with a polyester mesh reinforcing substrata. The vinyl has special U.V. and chlorine inhibitors to enhance fabric life. This same material is used for heavy-duty truck tarpaulins. **Cables** for the covers are custom made by manufacturers of yacht braids. These high quality cables are more densely constructed, have lower stretch characteristics and longer life.

**Other** electric clutch/shearpin cover systems use usually use a 14 to 16 oz per sq. yd. laminated fabric. Laminated fabric is made bonding several thin films of vinyl on each side of a polyester scrim. Problems can occur in this process in getting the films to bond properly resulting in de-lamination.

**13. Hydramatic cover systems use more attractive, solid cover recess lids.**

Because the hydraulic controls are remote and the system is waterproof there is less need to have ready access to the cover mechanism recess, ie. to clean the drain, adjust the brakes, change or replace the shearpins, lubricate clutches. The cover recess can now be covered with brick, tile, coping stone or concrete sections. Hydramatic systems can also be supplied with an attractive composite polymer lid available in 6 decorative colors, or a aluminum extruded lid. Unlike other cover systems, the Hydramatic aluminum recess lid has a two inch front vertical face which serves as structural bracing and also to more adequately hide the mechanism.

**Other** electric clutch/brake generally use an extruded thin aluminum lid with an approx. 1" front face. These lids can not be walked without severe deflection and permanent bending and also leave a large unsightly opening.

**14. Hydramatic systems have been independently tested and exceed ASTM F1346-91 safety standards.**

Hydramatic systems have been independently tested by two Engineering test labs including UL and found to exceed this standard. Powerpack electrics are listed by UL, CSA & CE approved.

**15. BEST OF ALL - Hydramatic has the best and longest warranty ! 20/7 yrs.**

The **hydraulics and hardware** have a limited twenty year warranty. The **cover fabric** has a limited seven year warranty.

**Other** competitive electric clutch/brake systems offer anywhere from a 2 to 10 year limited and prorated warranty on the mechanism ( watch the fine print on electric motors ), and a 2 to 7 year limited prorated warranty on the cover fabric.

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**Hydramatic** hydraulic automatic safety cover systems are manufactured by Aquamatic Cover Systems ( AMCS Inc., a California Corp.), a closely held family owned company. The company has been manufacturing Automatic Safety Covers for the past 24 years. Based in Gilroy, CA., the company has distribution and installation centers worldwide.

**Aquamatic Cover Systems- 200 Mayock Rd. Gilroy, CA. 95020 800-262-4044**

**COMPARISON OF HYDRAULIC COVER SYSTEMS**

Only two types of Hydraulic Cover Systems are available in todays market place: the **Hydramatic Dual Motor Full Fluid Drive** system by Aquamatic, and a Hydraulic/Mechanical single motor systems offered by Cover Pool, Coverstar, and Pool Cover Specialists

The Dual Motor Hydramatic system is a complete departure from the old style maintenance-prone electrical/mechanical pool covers drive systems. In this system , Hydramatic has one waterproof hydraulic motor directly coupled to the cover drum, and another motor coupled directly to the cable reel - thereby utilizing the tough internally lubricated and protected bearings of the hydraulic motor to provide zero maintenance reliability. A patented hydraulic manifold with a single simple shuttle valve provides smooth fluid interaction between the two motors so that when one motor drives the drum, the other imparts enough fluid resistance to keep the cover cables taut to prevent entanglement, thus eliminating the need for reel braking systems and the independent reel ratcheting devices found on other covers. A simple patented pulley cable compensating equalizes tension on both cables and keeps the cover running square. Aquamatic also developed a simple keyswitch control solenoid operated direct acting remote powerpack to power the motors.

The other Hydraulic/Mechanical systems retain all of the drive mechanism of the electric covers complete with reel brakes, double dog clutches, shearpins/drive bolts, reel ratcheting and numerous grease nipples to keep all parts running smoothly, and only substitute a single hydraulic motor for the electric motor. This saves having to replace the electric motor if a system is submerged, however, the mechanical system will likely have to be re-greased and serviced.

**Tabular comparison of Hydraulic Cover Systems**

<b>Manufacturer</b>	<b>Aquamatic</b>	<b>Cover Pools</b>	<b>Pool Cover Spec.</b>	<b>Coverstar</b>
System Type	Full Hydraulic	Hydra/Mechanical	Hydra/Mechanical	Hydra/Mechanical
Waterproof	Fully waterproof	Partial	Partial	Partial
Travel limits	Pressure relief valve	??	??	Sensor/relief
Open/close	Dual motor direct drive, with instant response, soft fluid start. No shock loading.	Single motor with reversing dog clutch, with delayed engagement hard impact start.	Single motor with reversing dog clutch with delayed engagement hard impact start.	Single motor with reversing dog clutch with delayed engagement hard impact start.
Cable tension and compensation	Tension by fluid resistance. Cable tension equalization with simple patented self-aligning pulley compensating system.	Double brakes on reels. Cable tension by independent braking reels. Cable compensation by mechanical reel ratchet system.	Double brakes on reels. Cable tension by braking independent cable reels. Manual rope adjustment only.	Brake on single reel. No cable tension compensation. Inherent chance of loose cable entanglement. Manual rope adjustment only.
Drive Lubrication	None required	grease nipples	grease nipples	grease nipples?
Rainwater removal	Standard <b>automatic screen water removal</b> system. Also optional self starting pump.	Cover pump only. <u>You have to manually place and remove</u> it from the top of cover.	Cover pump only. <u>You have to manually place and remove</u> it from the top of cover.	Cover pump only. <u>You have to manually place and remove</u> it from the top of cover.