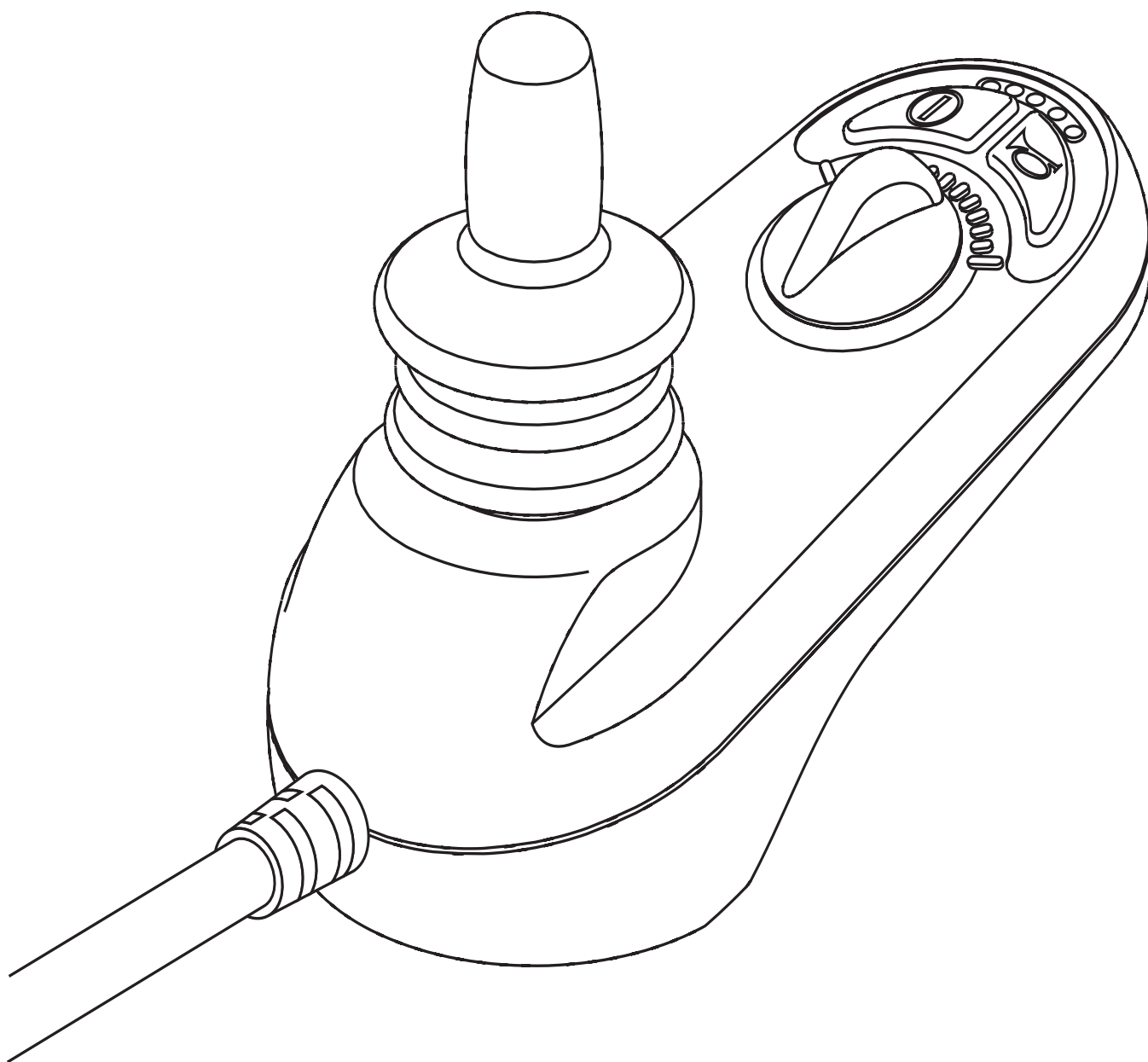


# GC3<sup>™</sup> Controller



## Safety Guidelines

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**WARNING!** An authorized Pride Provider or a qualified technician must perform the initial setup of this product and must perform all of the instructions in this manual.

The symbols below are used throughout this owner's manual and on the controller to identify warnings and important information. It is very important for you to read them and understand them completely.



**WARNING!** Indicates a potentially hazardous condition/situation. Failure to follow designated procedures can cause either personal injury, component damage, or malfunction. On the product, this icon is represented as a black symbol on a yellow triangle with a black border.



**MANDATORY!** These actions should be performed as specified. Failure to perform mandatory actions can cause personal injury and/or equipment damage. On the product, this icon is represented as a white symbol on a blue dot with a white border.



**PROHIBITED!** These actions are prohibited. These actions should not be performed at any time or in any circumstances. Performing a prohibited action can cause personal injury and/or equipment damage. On the product, this icon is represented as a black symbol with a red circle and a red slash.

**NOTE:** *These instructions are compiled from the latest specifications and product information available at the time of publication. We reserve the right to make changes as they become necessary. Any changes to our products may cause slight variations between the illustrations and explanations in this manual and the product you have purchased. The latest/current version of this manual is available on our website.*

**NOTE:** *This product is compliant with WEEE, RoHS, and REACH directives and requirements.*

**NOTE:** *This product meets IPX4 classification (IEC 60529).*

**NOTE:** *The GC3 Controller and its components are not made with natural rubber latex. Consult with the manufacturer regarding any after-market accessories.*



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## Product Safety Symbols

The symbols below are used on the controller to identify warnings, mandatory actions, and prohibited actions. It is very important for you to read and understand them completely.



**Read and follow the information in the owner's manual.**



**Avoid exposure to rain, snow, ice, salt, or standing water whenever possible. Maintain and store in a clean and dry condition.**



**EMI/RFI — This product has been tested and passed at an immunity level of 20 V/m.**



**Disposal and recycling — Contact your authorized Pride Provider for information on proper disposal and recycling of your Pride product and its packaging.**



**Use correct tie-down points for controller harness to prevent the harness from getting caught in the drive tires, pinched in the seat frame, or damaged when passing through doorways.**

## GC3 Controller

The GC3 controller is a fully-programmable, modular electronic controller system that allows you to operate your power chair. It is designed to allow the user to have complete control over chair movement and speed.

The controller has been pre-programmed to meet a typical user's needs. The program is set using either a personal computer with software provided by the controller manufacturer or with a hand-held programmer, also provided by the controller manufacturer.



**WARNING!** The controller program can affect speed, acceleration, deceleration, dynamic stability, and braking. If it is programmed incorrectly or outside of the safe limits as determined by your healthcare professional, it can create a dangerous situation. Only the power chair manufacturer, an authorized representative of the manufacturer, or a trained service technician should program the controller.

## Precautionary Guidelines

Before operating the GC3 controller, please read the following. These guidelines are provided for your benefit and will aid you in the safe operation of the control system.

- Turn off the power to the controller when transferring to or from your power chair.
- Follow all of the procedures and heed the warnings as explained in your power chair owner's manual.

## Electromagnetic and Radio Frequency Interference (EMI/RFI)

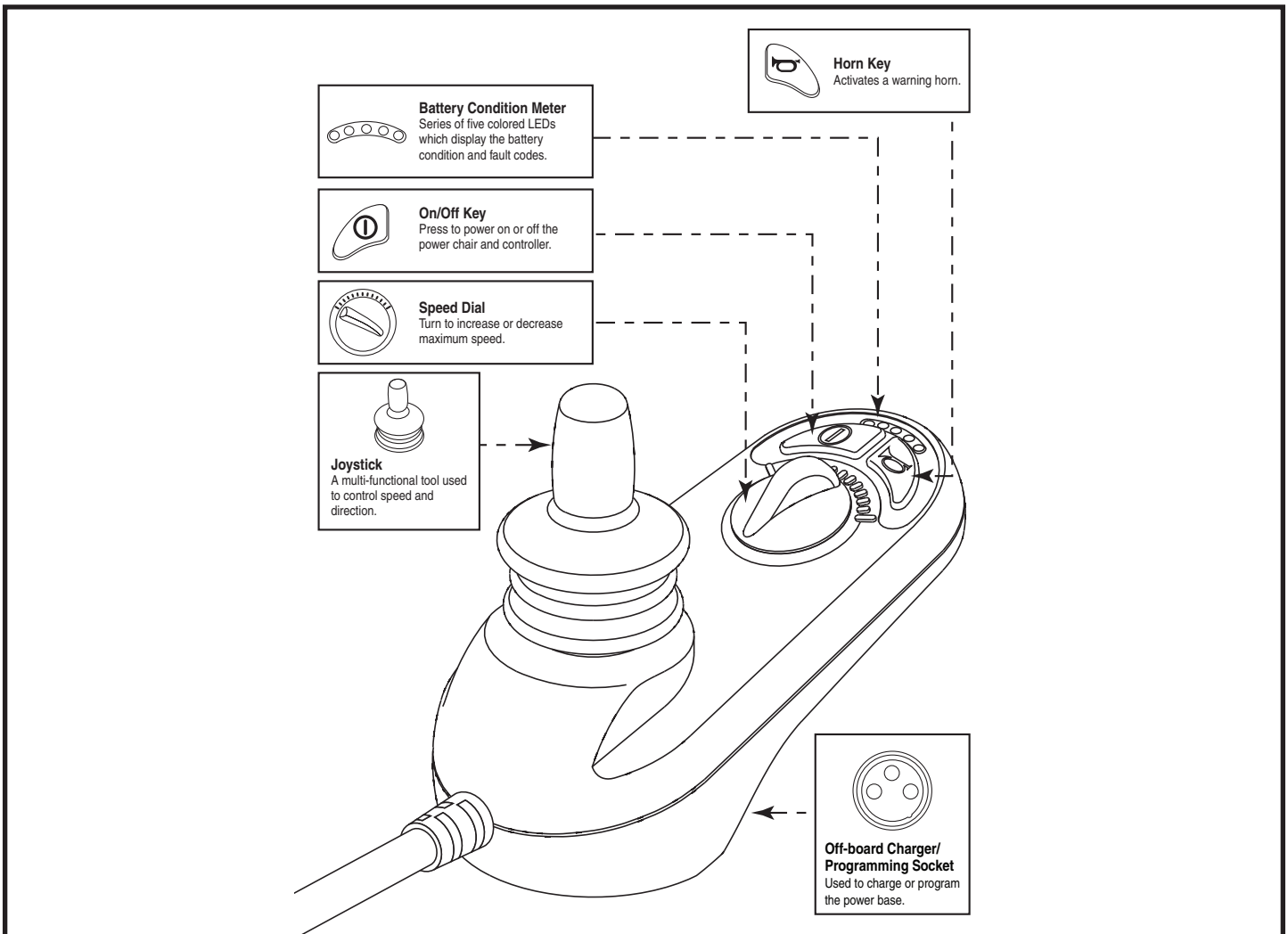
**NOTE:** This product has been tested for and has passed *Electromagnetic and Radio Frequency Interference (EMI/RFI)*. Please refer to the *Consumer Safety Guide* for more information regarding EMI/RFI.

## GC3 Controller Features

**Figure 1** provides information on the GC3 components and connections. Use this diagram to familiarize yourself with the function and location of each component before using the GC3 controller.

### The following functions are available with the GC3 Controller:

- Joystick Control  
The joystick is used to control the direction and speed of the power chair.
- Speed Adjustment  
The user can increase or decrease the maximum speed of the power chair.
- Sleep Mode  
This feature is designed to preserve battery charge and can be disabled through programming.
- Thermal Rollback  
A safety feature designed to prevent the power chair from overheating and causing damage to the motors or controller.



**Figure 1. GC3 Components and Connections**

## Operating the GC3 Controller

The GC3 controller is used to operate your power chair and all of its components.

The GC3 controller system consists of (see figure 2):

1. Joystick
2. Control panel
3. Joystick module
4. Off-board charging/programming socket
5. Power module
6. Controller communication connector

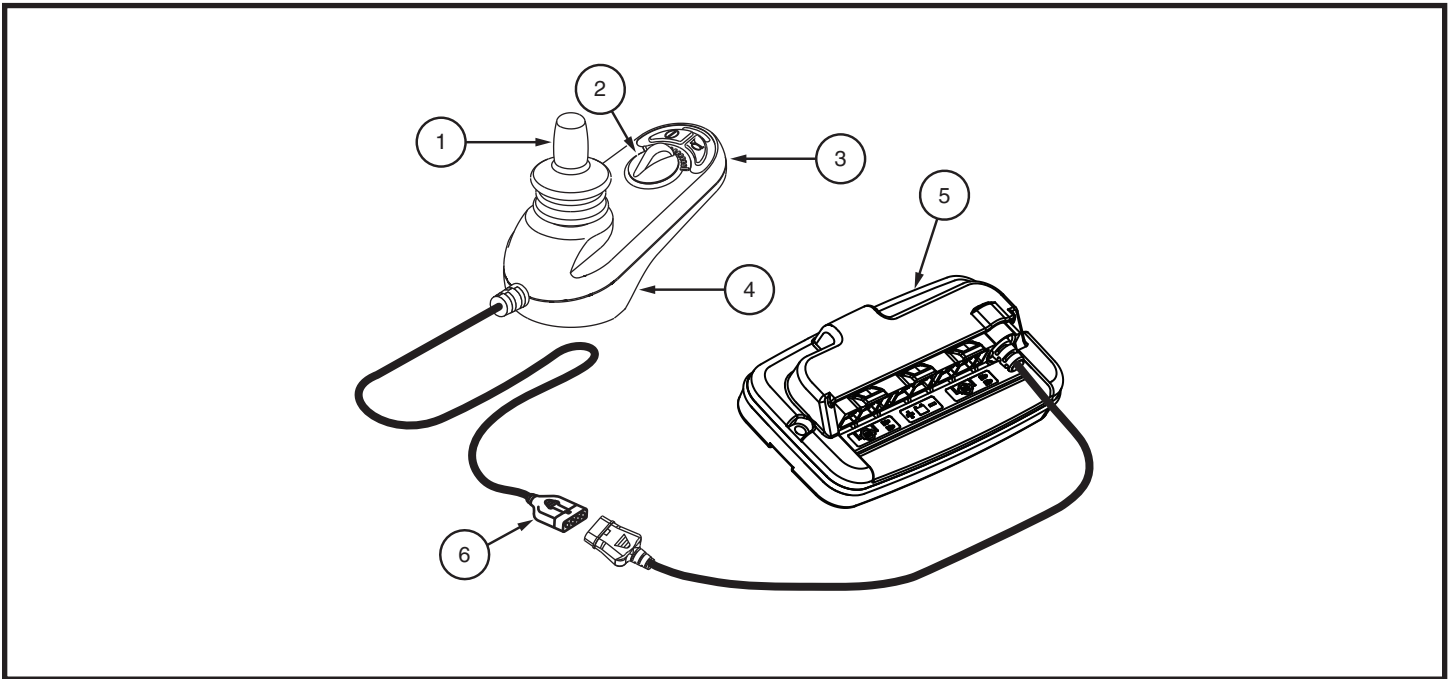


Figure 2. GC3 Controller

### Joystick Control

The joystick controls the driving speed and direction of the power chair. When the joystick is at rest, it is in the neutral (center) position, and the chair is stationary. In order to drive the chair, the joystick must be taken out of neutral. Moving the joystick in any direction will switch the chair from neutral to drive, and the chair will move in the direction indicated by joystick position. The farther away from the neutral position the joystick is, the faster the chair will move in that direction. To stop chair movement, simply release the joystick or move it back to the neutral position. The chair's electromagnetic brakes will engage after the chair has come to a controlled stop.

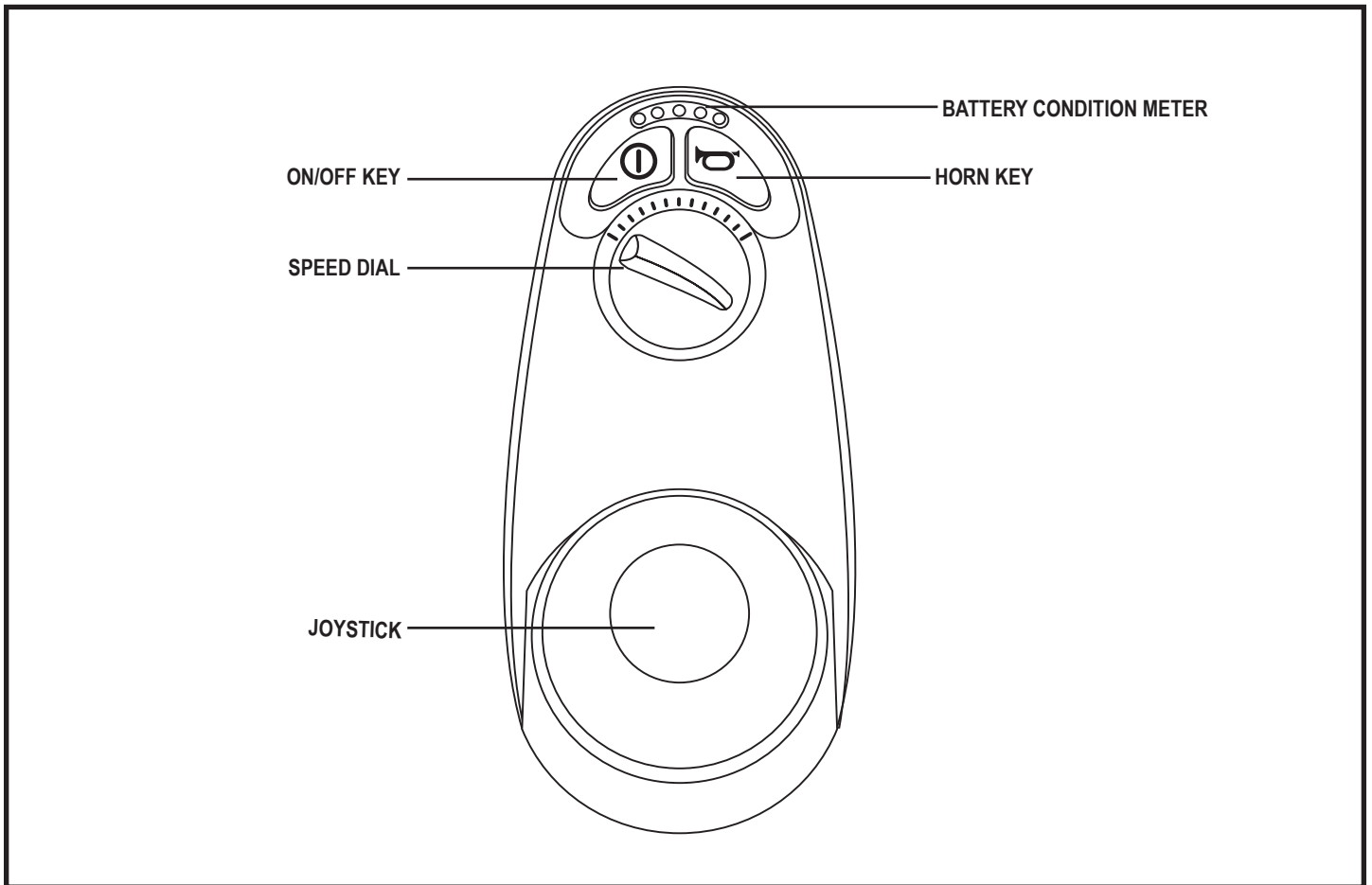


Figure 3. Control Panel

### Control Panel

The control panel is located directly in front of the joystick. It contains keys and a dial that you will use to control your power chair. **See figure 3.**

### On/Off Key

The on/off key turns the system on and off.



**WARNING!** When faced with an emergency situation, release the joystick, then press the on/off to stop the power chair. Use caution. Be advised that pressing the on/off button may cause the power chair to stop abruptly.

**WARNING!** Always turn the power off when you are stationary to prevent unexpected movement.

### Horn Key

The horn key activates a warning horn.



### 3-Pin Off-board Charger/Programming Socket

You may use an off-board charger to charge your power chair batteries through the 3-pin socket located on the front of the GC3. **See figure 4.** If you use an off-board charger, the charge current should not exceed 5 amps. Contact your authorized Pride Provider for more information.



**WARNING!** Only chargers with Neutrik NC3MX plugs should be connected to the off-board charger/programming socket. Contact your authorized Pride Provider for more information.

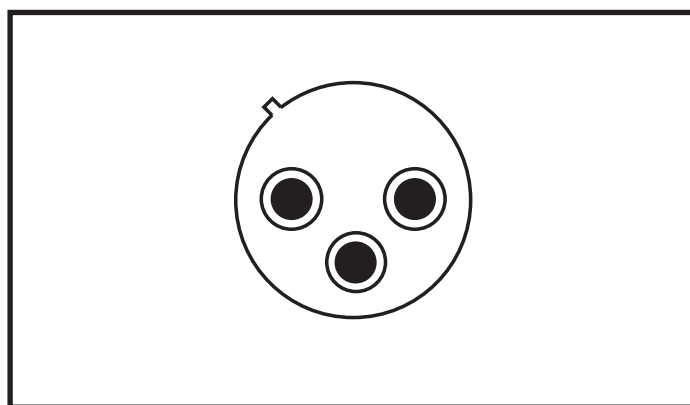


Figure 4. 3-pin Off-board Charger Socket

### Speed Dial

The GC3 controller provides a speed dial to control the speed of the power chair. **See figure 3.**

#### To change the speed:

1. Push the on/off key to power on the chair and the controller.
2. To increase your speed, turn the speed dial clockwise.
3. To decrease your speed, turn the speed dial counterclockwise.

**NOTE:** We recommend that the first few times you operate your power chair, you set the speed to the slowest setting until you become familiar with your new power chair.

### Battery Condition Meter

The battery condition meter consists of five LEDs arranged in an arc over the on/off and horn keys. **See figure 1.** When functioning as the battery condition meter, this indicates the status of the electrical system using LED codes. For example, as the battery voltage drops, the number of LEDs reduces from right to left. When the battery capacity drops to 10% or below, the left red LED will flash.

#### Battery condition meter codes are as follows:

- **Left Red LED Flashing Slowly or Steady:** Battery charge is low; charge the batteries as soon as possible.
- **Red and Yellow LEDs Flashing:** Battery charge is low; charge the batteries overnight.
- **LEDs Scroll From Left to Right:** The controller is in inhibit or charging mode.
- **LEDs Ripple Side-to-Side Twice, then All LEDs Flash Quickly:** The joystick was not in the center position when the power was switched on, or the controller system detected a fault; refer to “Fault Codes.”

**NOTE:** Your GC3 controller is equipped with a battery charge reminder feature. If the power chair is driven for 8 hours or more, powered off, and not charged, then the charge reminder feature becomes activated when the power chair is powered back on.

***The charge reminder is displayed when the power chair is powered off again. The left red LED on the battery condition meter will flash four (4) times in 0.5-second intervals. This will happen every time the power chair is powered off until the charge reminder is reset by charging the batteries.***

***In order to reset the charge reminder feature once it has been activated, it is important to note that the controller must be powered on prior to attaching the charger to the charger port and must remain on throughout one full charging cycle.***

## **Controller Communication Connector**

The controller communication connector provides the GC3 with a connection to the power module.



**MANDATORY! Prevent controller harness damage! Avoid routing the controller harness on the outside of the armrest pad. Route the harness under the armrest or toward the inside of the armrest pad. Use correct tie-down points for the controller harness to prevent the harness from getting caught in the drive tires, pinched in the seat frame, or damaged when passing through doorways.**

## **Lock Mode**

The controller is equipped with a feature that enables you to “lock out” unauthorized users.

### **To lock the controller:**

1. While the power is on, press and hold the on/off key until it beeps (approximately 1 second).
2. Release the on/off key.
3. Move the joystick to the full forward position until it beeps.
4. Move the joystick to the full rearward position until it beeps.
5. Release the joystick. There will be one long beep. The controller system is now locked.

***NOTE: The battery condition meter will be stepping up from left to right. The sequence will continue to step up for two full cycles and then turn off.***

### **To unlock the controller:**

1. Press the on/off key to turn on the controller. The battery condition meter will display the “locked” sequence.
2. Move the joystick to the full forward position until it beeps.
3. Move the joystick to the full rearward position until it beeps.
4. Release the joystick. There will be one long beep. The controller system is now unlocked.

## **Sleep Mode**

Your GC3 controller has a sleep mode feature. Sleep mode is a built-in circuit that automatically shuts off the main power if the joystick is not moved in any direction for a period of time predetermined by the controller program. When the programmed period of time is reached, the joystick will beep and then power off. To restore power, push the on/off key.

## **Thermal Rollback**

The GC3 controller is equipped with a thermal rollback circuit that monitors the temperature of the chair’s motors and controller. If either exceeds the safe operating temperature, the controller reduces the output to 50% of full operation level. This reduces the chair’s speed and allows a cool down period. Once the temperature returns to a safe level, the chair will resume normal operation.

## Fault Codes

The battery condition meter will flash fault codes when the controller system detects an abnormal condition in the electrical system. All of the battery condition meter LEDs will flash a number of times quickly, then pause, then flash again. The battery condition meter will continue to flash the fault codes until the problem is fixed. The table below identifies the individual fault codes. If any of these fault codes persist, contact your authorized Pride Provider.

Fault Codes	Probable Causes	Possible Solutions
1 Flash	The batteries need charging. There is a bad connection to the batteries.	Check the battery connections. If the battery connections are good, then try charging the batteries.
2 Flashes	There is a bad connection on the left motor.	Check the left motor connections and wiring harnesses.
3 Flashes	The left motor has a short to the battery connection.	Contact your authorized Pride Provider.
4 Flashes	There is a bad connection on the right motor.	Check the right motor connections and wiring harnesses.
5 Flashes	The right motor has a short to a battery connection.	Contact your authorized Pride Provider.
Scroll Left to Right	The charge inhibit has been activated.	Make sure that the battery charger is not connected to the power base.
7 Flashes	There is a joystick fault.	Make sure the joystick is in the center position and then power off and on again.
8 Flashes	There is a control system fault.	Check power module and joystick module connections and wiring.
9 Flashes	The park brakes have a bad connection.	Ensure that both freewheel levers are in drive mode. Check the left and right motor connections and wiring.
10 Flashes	An excessive voltage has been applied to the control system.	Check the battery connections.
Left red LED flashes 4 times in 0.5-second intervals at power down.	Power chair has been driven for 8 hours or more and the batteries have not been charged.	Fully charge the batteries for 8 to 14 hours. The controller must be powered on during charge cycle.

## Care and Maintenance

Refer to your power chair owner's manual for proper cleaning and disposal instructions.

## Warranty

Refer to your power chair owner's manual for specific information on controller warranty.









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