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SPAGUTS VL401

SPAGUTS Balboa VL401 Hot Tub Control Panel Replacement Manual

Model: VL401 (52424-11853)

INTRODUCTION

This manual provides instructions for the installation, operation, and maintenance of the SPAGUTS Balboa VL401 Lite Duplex Digital LCD Hot Tub Control Panel. This unit is designed as a replacement for existing Balboa topside control panels, specifically models VL401 and 52424-11853, and is compatible with systems using an 8-wire phone-type connector.

PRODUCT OVERVIEW AND FEATURES

The SPAGUTS Balboa VL401 control panel is a digital LCD topside kit featuring a 4-button configuration for essential hot tub functions. It includes a 7-foot cord for connection to the spa pack.

- **Button Configuration:** 4-button (Warm, Jets, Light, Cool)
- **Connector Type:** 8-wire phone-type connector
- **Cord Length:** 7 feet
- **Approximate Dimensions:** 6.25 inches (L) x 2.25 inches (W)
- **Compatibility:** Also known as Icon and Weslo Topside 52274 (PANEL KEYS E4 SUPDUP KEYS15 VL401) with Overlay 11100. Replacement option for 51606 (Nordic).



Image 1: Front view of the SPAGUTS Balboa VL401 Lite Duplex Digital LCD Hot Tub Control Panel, showing the "Balboa" logo, LCD display, and four control buttons labeled Warm, Jets, Light, and Cool.

Balboa Topside Kit, Lite Duplex Digital LCD (VL401), 52424/11853

Replacement Balboa Topside Kit, Lite Duplex Digital LCD, VL401. Combo OEM part numbers 52424-01 and 11853.

SpaGuts P/N: 30-200-2453

Button Configuration: 4-Button (Warm-Jets-Light-Cool)

This topside panel uses an 8-wire phone-type connector with 7ft cord.

Topside dimension (Approx): 6.25 inch x 2.25 inch.

Also known as Icon and Weslo Topside 52274 (PANEL KEYS E4 SUPDUP KEYS15 VL401) with Overlay 11100.

NOTE: A standard 52424-01 topside (Panel Balboa E4 Supdup No O/L VL401) with a 11853 overlay will be provided.

This item comes with a 1-year limited warranty.

If a longer cord is needed, [CLICK HERE TO SEE AVAILABLE EXTENSION CORDS.](#)

NOTE: Depending on availability, the Overlay/Label may ship with a different color, text, and/or button shape than the picture shown above.

When selecting your spa topside panel, it's critical that you go by part numbers and not just by appearances or the model number. The part number on a spa topside panel can be found on a white sticker located directly under the topside panel (The ID label may be located on the casing of the topside panel, and the topside panel may need to be removed from the hot tub to get to this label). Buy based on this part number. Model numbers may provide many different options, and choosing the correct option is very critical. Do NOT purchase a hot tub topside panel just because it looks the same as the one you're replacing. Spa topside panels can look identical, but be programmed differently to work with different spa controllers and circuit boards. ALSO pay attention to the type of cable plug that is on the end of the topside cable. Different spa topside panels use a certain type of cable plug that plugs into compatible spa controllers and circuit boards. Replacement spa topside panels are shipped in clear sealed bags with Yellow Warning Label. Verify through the clear sealed bag that the correct topside panel was received prior to opening the bag. Sealed bags that are opened voids the return policy for spa topside panels.

Image 2: Detailed information sheet for the SPAGUTS Balboa VL401 control panel, listing part numbers, button configuration, dimensions, and compatibility notes.

SETUP AND INSTALLATION

Safety Precaution: Before beginning installation, ensure that the hot tub's power supply is completely disconnected at the circuit breaker to prevent electrical shock.

- 1. Remove Old Panel:** Carefully remove the existing topside control panel from its mounting location. Disconnect its 8-wire phone-type connector from the spa pack.
- 2. Prepare New Panel:** The new SPAGUTS VL401 panel may come with a separate overlay (e.g., 11853 overlay). Ensure the correct overlay is applied to the panel if not already pre-applied.
- 3. Connect New Panel:** Connect the 7-foot 8-wire phone-type cord from the new VL401 control panel to the corresponding port on your hot tub's spa pack. Ensure the connection is secure.
- 4. Mount Panel:** Place the new control panel into the opening. Ensure it fits correctly and is securely mounted.
- 5. Verify Compatibility:** It is crucial to verify that the cable plug type on the end of the topside cable matches your spa controller. Spa topside panels can look similar but may be programmed differently.
- 6. Power On:** Once the panel is securely installed and connected, restore power to the hot tub at the circuit breaker.

Important Note: Spa topside panels are shipped in clear sealed bags with a Yellow Warning Label. Verify the correct topside panel was received before opening the bag. Opened bags may affect return eligibility.

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

The Balboa VL401 control panel features a digital LCD display and four primary function buttons:

- **Warm Button:** Press to increase the desired water temperature setting.
- **Cool Button:** Press to decrease the desired water temperature setting.
- **Jets Button:** Activates or deactivates the hot tub's jet pump(s). Multiple presses may cycle through different jet

speeds or pumps.

- **Light Button:** Turns the hot tub's internal lighting system on or off.

Refer to your hot tub's main control system manual for specific programming modes or advanced functions that may be accessible through this topside panel.

MAINTENANCE

To ensure the longevity and proper function of your control panel:

- **Cleaning:** Gently wipe the panel surface with a soft, damp cloth. Avoid abrasive cleaners, solvents, or harsh chemicals, as these can damage the display or buttons.
- **Button Care:** Press buttons firmly but gently. Avoid excessive force, which can lead to premature wear or damage.
- **Environmental Protection:** While designed for outdoor use, protecting the panel from extreme weather conditions (e.g., prolonged direct sunlight, heavy rain, freezing temperatures) when not in use can extend its lifespan.

TROUBLESHOOTING

If you experience issues with your hot tub's functions after installing the new control panel, consider the following:

- **No Power/Display:**
 - Ensure the hot tub's main power supply is on.
 - Check that the 8-wire connector is fully and securely plugged into the spa pack.
- **Jets Not Activating:**
 - Verify the "Jets" button is being pressed correctly.
 - Confirm the hot tub's main system is not in a fault mode (check main spa pack for error codes).
 - If your previous panel had issues with jets not turning on, this replacement panel is designed to address such common failures.
- **Incorrect Temperature Reading/Control:**
 - Ensure the "Warm" and "Cool" buttons are functioning and the display updates accordingly.
 - Consult your main spa pack manual for temperature sensor troubleshooting.

For persistent issues, it is recommended to consult a qualified hot tub technician or contact SPAGUTS support.

SPECIFICATIONS

Brand	SPAGUTS
Model Name	VL401
Item Model Number	VL401
Part Number	52424-11853 (SpaGuts P/N: 30-200-2453)
Manufacturer	Balboa Water Group
Product Dimensions	6.25"L x 2.25"W (Approximate)
Material	Acrylic
Color	Silver
Cord Length	7 feet
Button Configuration	4-button (Warm, Jets, Light, Cool)

WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

This SPAGUTS Balboa VL401 Hot Tub Control Panel comes with a **1-year limited warranty** from the date of purchase.

For warranty claims, technical assistance, or further support, please contact the seller, SPAGUTS, directly. Ensure you have your purchase details and product model information available when contacting support.