

Superior Design & Craftsmanship

# Vigilant Cigar Humidor Armoire

**Owner's Manual** 



Models: 1000, 1500, and 2000

# Vigilant Cigar Armoire

# **OWNER'S MANUAL**

Congratulations! You have purchased the most sophisticated and efficient cigar storage cabinet ever created. Your armoire will not only protect your investment in cigars, it will season and maintain them in perfect condition for years to come. In fact, the heirloom quality of this handcrafted piece and its state-of-the-art electronic climate control system will be enjoyed for generations.

Please read this entire manual before plugging in and operating your cigar cabinet. By following these instructions, you will not only ensure the proper operation of your armoire, you will be guaranteeing the preservation of your collection of fine cigars.

If you have any questions regarding the operation, and maintenance of your cigar cabinet that we may have overlooked, please contact us. We are committed to your complete satisfaction.

#### **INTERESTING FACTS**

Your armoire has been painstakingly designed to provide optimal performance without sacrificing esthetics. Taking into consideration the established thermal and humidity requirements for premium cigar storage, our engineers and cabinet designers have collaborated in creating an exquisite cabinet that effectively hides the highly insulated walls. The cabinet walls are filled with 1.5" of rigid polyethylene foam insulation, providing an overall R-Value of 11.5. This is extremely important in providing stable climate conditions in the cabinet interior. Please view a standard dew point chart prior to setting the ambient temperature in the room the cabinet will be stored in. Ambient temperatures will affect the efficiency of the system. If the ambient temperature is too cold, a warmer temperature inside the cabinet could cause condensation issues. If you have any questions at all about the operation of your electronic humidity or temperature control systems, please give us a call at 888-812-4427.

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#### PARTS LIST

Humidification Reservoir
Humidification Wicking Filter
Spanish cedar Drawer Dividers
Keys (2)
Warranty Registration Card
Accessories Order Form

Save all packing materials and sales receipt. Vigilant products should only be shipped in their original packing materials.

#### **IMPORTANT!**

DO NOT PLUG IN YOUR VIGILANT ELECTRONIC CIGAR CABINET UNTIL ALL PACKING MATERIALS HAVE BEEN REMOVED AND YOU HAVE CAREFULLY READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS.

#### UNPACKING YOUR CIGAR CABINET

- 1. After unpacking your cigar cabinet, examine it for any damage that may have occurred during shipping.
- 2. Find a suitable location for your armoire away from temperature extremes within the room. While the cabinet will easily control the interior climate in a wide range of exterior conditions, it is recommended that the cabinet not be placed directly in front of radiators, heating elements, or air conditioner ducts. The temperature and humidity extremes surrounding these ducts can cause short cycling of the system.
- 3. As with any piece of fine furniture, please keep your cabinet out of direct ultra-violet light, as this may alter the finish over time. This is especially critical for this piece because of the clear varnish finish and the combination of wood species used in its construction.
- 4. Open the drawer(s) and remove any packing material. You may want to take the time to roughly organize the loose cigar dividers in each drawer for preparation of loading cigars later.
- 5. Remove all packing material from reservoir area in the bottom, left of the cabinet interior. Also, check to see that the white mesh wicking filter is sitting upright in the water reservoir area.
- 6. Before you plug the cabinet into a surge protector, partially open the drawer(s), leaving the cabinet at room temperature for approximately one hour. This allows the interior of the cabinet to acclimate to your room environment prior to operation.

#### OPERATING YOUR ARMOIRE FOR THE FIRST TIME

Your armoire's adjustable divider system allows you to store a wide variety of cigar sizes in the drawers. The lower area is designed primarily for boxed cigar storage. It is possible to store smaller boxes in the drawers if you remove some of the adjustable dividers. Dividers that are not needed in these drawers may be used in other drawers or simply set aside for later use.

- 1. Pull the door in the bottom left of the cabinet interior. Locate the black plastic water reservoir positioned in the center of the opening. Remove all packing materials from around the reservoir.
- 2. Slide the water reservoir out of the opening and toward the front of the cabinet. Carefully fill the reservoir with distilled water until the water is about one inch from the top. USE ONLY DISTILLED WATER. DO NOT OVERFILL.
- 3. Check to make sure that the white mesh wicking filter is positioned vertically in the slots in the reservoir. It should protrude about an inch above the top edge of the reservoir. Also, observe the float switch on the back of the reservoir. This will illuminate the red light on your control panel when the water level drops below 1/3 full, giving you ample warning before the reservoir runs dry.

- 4. Slide the reservoir back into its opening, being careful not to get the float switch wires caught in the door.
- 5. The armoire is ready for operation. Simply plug the unit into a grounded outlet. The control panel will run through its start-up sequence and the fans will begin running immediately. If your cabinet is equipped with temperature control, there are two digital displays on the control panel; the left display represents the humidity level and the right display represents the temperature level inside the cabinet. Otherwise, you will see one digital readout of the humidity. Initial readings are meaningless since the cabinet has not been operating since it left the Vigilant, Inc. testing facility.
- 6. Let the system run for at least 36 hours and check to see that the digital display is reading 69-71% humidity prior to loading it with cigars. Temperature reading should also be around 69-71 degrees F. (See Seasoning your Cabinet, below).
- 7. Once the cabinet is operating at the prescribed set points, you may begin filling it with cigars.
- 8. The humidity level is pre-set on your control unit by Vigilant, Inc. at approximately 70%. This will maintain a 69% to 71% relative humidity inside the cabinet. If equipped with optional temperature control, that has been set to 70 degrees F. We recommend not running the system at any other settings until the interior of the cabinet has been properly seasoned (about two weeks) and you have felt your cigars. Never adjust humidity or temperature level up or down more than 2% in a 10-day period.

#### Fine-tuning humidity control

The best way to fine-tune your humidity level is to feel your cigars. If your cigars are too soft, adjust the display down 1-2% every 10 days until the cigars feel the way you want them. Do the opposite if the cigars feel dry (see adjusting humidity section below).

#### SEASONING YOUR CIGAR CABINET

Your armoire has over 23,000 square inches of natural, untreated Spanish cedar and Honduran mahogany lining its interior. When delivered to you, the moisture content of this wood interior is equal to the humidity in the air. To accelerate the seasoning of the interior, it may be necessary to rub the drawers and cabinet interior with distilled water prior to the 36-hour start up period. Do not worry about staining the wood. Proper application will temporarily raise the grain on the Spanish cedar. If you wish to accelerate the seasoning process follow these simple instructions.

After following the operating instructions in your Owner's Manual, locate a terry cloth towel or wash cloth, preferably no larger than 8" x 8". Soak the cloth in distilled water and wring it out so that no water is dripping from it.

Starting with the top drawer, remove the adjustable cedar dividers and wipe them down thoroughly with the damp cloth. Wipe each divider so that the water visibly soaks into the wood. Do not leave droplets of water sitting on the wood.

Before returning the dividers to their drawer, remoisten the cloth and wipe down all of the surfaces of the drawer, including the sides and bottom. Immediately replace the dividers and close the drawer. Proceed to the next drawer and the walls of the cabinet until all surfaces are moistened.

#### Make sure that there is no water residue on the cabinet exterior.

You will immediately see the humidity level of your cabinet increase and it may temporarily surpass the factory set point of 70% relative humidity. This may shut down active humidification for a short period until the humidity level falls back below the set point. This is perfectly normal.

Make sure that the water reservoir is filled and allow the cabinet to "rest" for 36 hours prior to filling it with cigars. Call us here at Vigilant with any questions or concerns.

# ADJUSTING THE HUMIDITY LEVEL (ANALOG SYSTEMS)

Your cigar cabinet comes with an analog system for humidity control which consists of an independent hygrometer and humidistat working together to provide a storage environment that is accurate up to 5%. (See the next section if you have digital humidity controls.)

- 1. You will notice that your humidity reading is displayed on your hygrometer prior to you plugging the cabinet in. This is because the hygrometer is battery powered. The fan will function once the cabinet is plugged in. The fan is controlled by the humidistat and is adjusted by the black knob.
- 2. You will notice a dial by the hygrometer that can be turned clockwise toward high or counterclockwise for low. Once the cabinet is plugged in, turn the knob counterclockwise to low. Slowly turn the knob clockwise until you hear a click and the fan will turn on. The humidity level shown on the display will be the level of humidity in your cabinet just prior to the click and fan turning on.
- 3. Once the fan is running, continue to turn the knob clockwise a little at a time and shut the door. Once the fan shuts off, look at the reading on the hygrometer. If it is still too low, continue to adjust a little higher. If the humidity level is too high, adjust down.
- 4. Continue to adjust the level until you reach your desired humidity level. Please note that if the humidity level is higher than desired, it could take up to 10 days or more for the reading to drop depending on the ambient conditions around the cabinet. Typically it takes 36-48 hours to season your cabinet.

# ADJUSTING THE HUMIDITY LEVEL (DIGITAL SYSTEMS)

If your humidification system is digital, the display marked "RH%" will indicate the Relative Humidity level inside of your humidor. To view and/or adjust the humidity set point, please follow these steps:

- 1. Depress briefly the far-left scroll key to access the humidity set point adjustment menu.
- 2. The display will flash back and forth between "SP" and the current set point (originally your system was set at "70").
- 3. To adjust humidity upward, depress the \(^\) key until your desired level is reached.
- 4. To adjust humidity downward, depress the  $\downarrow$  key until your desired level is reached.
- 5. If you go beyond your desired humidity level, you may reverse direction using the opposite arrow key.
- 6. Once the desired level has been selected, depress the = key on the far right to exit the set point menu. The actual humidity will now be displayed.

# ADJUSTING THE TEMPERATURE LEVEL (OPTIONAL UPGRADE)

If your cabinet is equipped with temperature control, the digital display marked "Temp" will indicate the temperature of the cabinet interior in degrees Fahrenheit. To view and/or adjust the temperature set point, please read through these instructions and follow the steps below.

**NOTE:** The cabinet is pre-set at 70°F and should remain there for a minimum of two weeks. It is recommended that you maintain the temperature inside the cabinet between 68° and 72°F. Call your Vigilant sales representative if you have questions about the proper temperature for your cigars.

- 1. Depress briefly the far-left scroll key to access the temperature set point adjustment menu.
- 2. The display will flash back and forth between "SP" and the current set point (originally your system was set at "70°").
- 3. To adjust temperature upward, depress the ↑ key until your desired level is reached.

- 4. To adjust temperature downward, depress the  $\downarrow$  key until your desired level is reached.
- 5. If you go beyond your desired level, you may reverse direction using the opposite arrow key.
- 6. Once the desired level has been selected, depress the = key on the far right to exit the set point menu. The actual temperature will now be displayed.

## **MAINTENANCE**

Your Armoire is more than just a cigar humidor; it is a fine piece of handcrafted furniture. Regularly dust the exterior of the cabinet with a soft cloth that has been lightly sprayed with a product like Endust. Please do not spray your cabinet directly with furniture polish.

When the red LED indicator light is on, the water reservoir is below one third full. Frequency of filling will vary according to climatic conditions (between 20 and 40 days).

#### TO FILL:

Pull the reservoir drawer and add distilled water to the reservoir.

Be sure to fill the reservoir with DISTILLED WATER ONLY. DO NOT OVER-FILL. Fill until the water level reaches to within one inch of the top edge of the reservoir.

#### CLEANING THE RESERVOIR AND WICK

As the reservoir and wick are constantly exposed to moisture, they must be cleaned periodically (approximately every 90 days). The wick will collect dirt from the circulating air and may have to be replaced at this time. Contact the Vigilant Parts Department at 888-812-4427 for wick re-fills.

- 1. Check the reservoir and wick every 90 days.
- 2. If the wick is brown or the sides of the reservoir have bacterial build-up on them, you will want to remove the reservoir from the cabinet for cleaning. Soiled reservoirs will impede proper evaporation and may create low humidity conditions.
- 3. Unplug the reservoir lead wire located on the top/right ceiling of the reservoir area and carefully slide it out into the cabinet area.
- 4. Rinse the reservoir and wick thoroughly with soap and hot water. DO NOT USE BLEACH. Wipe down the entire reservoir with a dry paper towel. If the wick does not wash clean, it should be replaced. Wicks should be replaced every 90-120 days and can be ordered directly from Vigilant.
- 5. Insert the wick into the reservoir and fill with distilled water up to one inch from the top edge.
- 6. Place the reservoir back into the reservoir area and plug the float switch lead back into the receptacle.

If water is spilled while refilling the reservoir, do not plug your cabinet back in until it is completely dry. Plugging the cabinet in before it is dry could cause failure of the controller and other electronic components

#### TROUBLESHOOTING

#### Armoire is not getting power:

- 1. Check the power to your power outlet. Plug a light that you know operates properly into the outlet. If the outlet works properly, move to the next step.
- 2. Check your fuse or breaker box for the circuit controlling the outlet. If the circuit is breached, the fuse or breaker may have to be exchanged for higher amperage. The armoire requires 20 amps at peak operating levels.

#### Armoire has trouble maintaining desired humidity level:

- 1. Unit is still brand new and will need to run longer to season interior cabinet.
- 2. Reservoir is empty. If red LED indicator did not light up, remove the reservoir and check the water level in the reservoir. Fill immediately.
- 3. Make sure fans and airflow intakes on each side of the reservoir are clear of any obstructions that can impede air circulation.
- 4. Make sure humidity wicks are vertically positioned at least one inch above the reservoir opening. **NOTE:** Replacement humidification wicks are available directly through Vigilant, Inc.

# Humidity reading is higher than desired:

Check the humidity setting by depressing the far-left scroll key. Follow above instructions for adjusting the set point.

## Cigars are too moist or too dry:

Your humidity set point is too high or too low. Remember, add 2% to the number you set on the display for your average humidity level. It is recommended that you start your Armoire at a setting of 70%. This will maintain an interior humidity level between 69% and 71%.

#### Cigars in bottom are too dry:

Make sure the humidity fans on the side wall are clear of any obstructions that can impede air circulation.

Check your set point adjustment on the controller in the top drawer.

#### Humidity fan does not work:

Check the humidity set point. If set point is below the humidity level of cabinet interior, the fan will not run.

#### Temperature is outside set point parameters:

Depress the left scroll key and check the set point. Readjust as necessary.

If the above troubleshooting recommendations do not correct the problem, please call Vigilant immediately at 1-888-812-4427. A service representative will help you.

**SPECIFICATIONS** 

Weight: 215 pounds Power: 110V AC to 24V DC

## **GUARANTEE**

#### Vigilant's 30-Day Unconditional Product Guarantee

Vigilant's philosophy has always been to manufacture the highest quality crafted products. We believe that our products achieve a level of satisfaction for our customers that no other product can. Of course we want you, our customer, to be the final judge of this. For your protection, we have a 100% unconditional guarantee on our standard products.\*

If for any reason you are not satisfied with your Vigilant purchase within the first 30 days of receiving it, return it to Vigilant in original condition and original packaging and be issued a full refund, less inbound and outbound freight. If you prefer, you may request a replacement product instead of a refund. We don't want you to have a Vigilant product that you are not proud to own.

\*Standard products covered under this guarantee do not include: custom designed or fabricated cabinetry or racking manufactured with custom woods and/or finishes; pre-hung entry doors; or custom-designed components or cabinets.

#### WARRANTY

#### Vigilant Limited Two-Year Electronics Warranty

Upon registering your product with Vigilant, your Vigilant electronics are covered under our limited two-year warranty. All Vigilant electronic products are guaranteed to be free from defects in materials and/or workmanship for up to two years from date of purchase. Vigilant, at its sole discretion, may repair or replace defective components or products within this two-year period.

Any and all component(s) determined to be defective by Vigilant, must be returned at the owner's expense to Vigilant along with a copy of the original sales receipt.

#### Conditions to Vigilant's Two-Year Electronics Warranty

Vigilant will not be held responsible for damage incurred during a product's return as a result of improper packaging. It is strongly suggested that all original packaging material from Vigilant be retained for returns. Vigilant will not be held responsible for any damage to property that results from the failure of a Vigilant product or product component.

Vigilant's warranty does not pertain to any customer-applied finishes, or any damage caused by neglect, abuse, misuse, improper operation, or unforeseen circumstances.

Vigilant's warranty is considered null and void if the online warranty registration is not completed within 60 days of receipt of your product.

Vigilant's warranty is non-transferable, and is valid for the original owner only.

Please contact Vigilant at 888-812-4427 if you have any questions about your warranty.

Vigilant is a reseller for many fine products within the industry. Products that are resold by Vigilant carry the original manufacturer's warranty.

# Vigilant Limited Lifetime Wood Products Warranty

Upon registering your warranty with Vigilant, your Vigilant wood products are covered under our limited lifetime warranty.

All Vigilant wood products are guaranteed to be free from defects in materials and/or workmanship under normal use for the life of the product under original ownership. Vigilant may, at its sole discretion, repair or replace a defective component or product free of charge.

Any and all component(s) determined to be defective by Vigilant, must be returned at the owner's expense to Vigilant along with a copy of the original sales receipt.

This warranty applies only to Vigilant standard wood products. Electronic components are not covered by this warranty.

#### Conditions to Vigilant's Limited Lifetime Warranty

Vigilant will not be held responsible for damage incurred during a product's return as a result of improper packaging. It is strongly suggested that all original packaging material from Vigilant be retained for returns. Vigilant will not be held responsible for any damage to property that results from the failure of a Vigilant product or product component.

Vigilant's warranty does not pertain to any customer-applied finishes, or any damage caused by neglect, abuse, misuse, improper operation, or acts of God.

Vigilant's warranty is considered null and void if submittal of your warranty registration online is not completed within 60 days from receipt of your product.

Vigilant's warranty is non-transferable, and is valid for the original owner only.

Please contact Vigilant at 888-812-4427 if you have any questions about your warranty.

Vigilant is a reseller for many fine products within the industry. Products that are resold by Vigilant carry the original manufacturer's warranty.

#### Wood Color Disclaimer

The photos of our wood finish options on our website and in printed catalogs are to be used for general reference of color and are not exact representations of the specific wood species and finishes used on our products. We cannot guarantee that your final product will be an exact match to the colors represented on our website or in printed materials. It is recommended that you request a sample of the finished wood from us for review and approval.

# Vigilant Inc.

85 Industrial Park Drive Dover, NH 03820 Toll Free: 888-812-4427 Phone 603-285-0400 | Fax 603-285-0420

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