

**User Manual**

# TABLE FRAME SUPPORT



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# 1 Warranty

Newport Corporation warrants that this product will be free from defects in material and workmanship and will comply with Newport's published specifications at the time of sale for a period of one year from date of shipment. If found to be defective during the warranty period, the product will either be repaired or replaced at Newport's option.

To exercise this warranty, write or call your local Newport office or representative, or contact Newport headquarters in Irvine, California. You will be given prompt assistance and return instructions. Send the product, freight prepaid, to the indicated service facility. Repairs will be made and the instrument returned freight prepaid. Repaired products are warranted for the remainder of the original warranty period or 90 days, whichever first occurs.

## LIMITATION OF WARRANTY

The above warranties do not apply to products which have been repaired or modified without Newport's written approval, or products subjected to unusual physical, thermal or electrical stress, improper installation, misuse, abuse, accident or negligence in use, storage, transportation or handling. This warranty also does not apply to fuses, batteries, or damage from battery leakage.

THIS WARRANTY IS IN LIEU OF ALL OTHER WARRANTIES, EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING ANY IMPLIED WARRANTY OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR USE. NEWPORT CORPORATION SHALL NOT BE LIABLE FOR ANY INDIRECT, SPECIAL, OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES RESULTING FROM THE PURCHASE OR USE OF ITS PRODUCTS.

## 2 General Information

### 2.1 Introduction

The Newport Table Frame Support System provides an ideal working platform for vibration influenced devices such as interferometers, microscopes, and balances. Sensitive instruments such as these will show significant improvements in resolution and repeatability when isolated from floor motion by the Table Frame Support pneumatic suspension system. Special care was taken to ensure excellent performance in the 10-50 Hz floor vibration frequency range corresponding to dominant ambient vibration frequencies common to multi-floor buildings. The INT pneumatic isolators provide excellent protection against both vertical and horizontal floor motions.

These optical table systems integrate Newport's rigid, laminated honeycomb panel damping technology and pneumatic isolation systems to provide a mounting platform which is rigid, yet thin and lightweight. The system accommodates high-center-of-gravity loads with exceptional stability. Optional casters make the system easy to move without heavy equipment. It is possible to tailor the system to a wide variety of applications using the range of sizes and the optional storage accessories.

### 2.2 Getting started

Please read this instruction manual thoroughly before assembling the vibration control system. The individual components have been assembled at the factory and require only final system assembly and performance adjustment.

### 2.3 Unpacking and Inspection

The components of your Newport Vibration Control System are packed in individual, labeled boxes.

### 2.4 Safety Considerations

Carefully inspect all components for shipping damage. Report any shipping damage immediately to the shipping company and Newport.

The following terms are used in this manual that relate to your safety.

Definitions of, NOTE, CAUTION, WARNING and DANGER messages used throughout the manual.

#### NOTE

The NOTE sign denotes important information. It calls attention to a procedure, practice, condition, or the like, which is essential to highlight.

#### CAUTION

The CAUTION sign denotes a hazard. It calls attention to an operating procedure, practice, or the like, which, if not correctly performed or

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adhered to, could result in damage to or destruction of all or part of the product.

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### **WARNING**

The **WARNING** sign denotes a hazard. It calls attention to a procedure, practice, condition, on the like, which, if not correctly performed or adhered to, could result in injury to personnel.

---

### **DANGER**

The **DANGER** sign Indicates an imminently hazardous situation that, if not avoided, will result in death or serious injury.

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## 2.5 System Placement

To ensure optimal performance from your Table Frame Support System, it should be located on a level surface. Uneven floors or mounting surfaces may cause difficulty if their irregularity is outside of the range of the leveling feet. The INT isolators must be mounted so that its axis is not more than 0.5 degrees from vertical. This is necessary for the isolator to function properly in the horizontal mode.

Note: 0.5 degrees is equal to 0.05 (1.3 mm) inches in 6.0 inches which is the isolator base dimension.

A typical spirit level will easily measure 0.5 degrees and can be used to check the vertical alignment of each isolator.

If the floor where the isolators are being mounted has a depression of more than 0.05 inches under one side of the base, then the floor should be grouted or shimmed level at this location.

If the system is not located on the ground floor of the building, it should be located near primary vertical structures such as exterior walls or support columns. By locating the table near these structures, the effects of low frequency floor motion will be minimized, thus increasing isolator performance. It is also advisable to avoid locations adjacent to major sources of vibration from operating machinery such as elevators, air conditioning plants, or factory equipment.

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### **WARNING**

The payload is not attached to the isolators. In the event of an earthquake, the system may collapse. For areas susceptible to earthquakes, we recommend that earthquake restraints be installed on each vibration control system.

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## 2.6 Air Supply Requirements

A constant supply of air must be connected to the isolators during operation. After initial setup and filling, the isolators consume air only when the leveling valves adjust the pressure to compensate for changes in the load on the table.

Bottled nitrogen or mechanically compressed air may be used. The required pressure is determined by dividing the total load, including table weight, by the total isolator diaphragm area (9.5 in<sup>2</sup> per isolator) plus 5-10 psig.

For example, if the table plus load is 1850 pounds and will be mounted on 4 isolators, the required pressure is:

$$\frac{1850 \text{ lbs}}{4 * 9.5 \text{ in}^2} + 10 \text{ psig} = 59 \text{ psig}$$

Note that the maximum operating pressure for the system is 90 psig (6.3 kg/cm<sup>2</sup>).

The Newport Model ACWS or ACGP air compressor is an extremely quiet source of clean, pressure regulated air. If another compressor or plant air is used, the Newport model ARF Air Regulator/Filter should be used to ensure maintenance free operation. These filters prevent water and dirt from getting into the leveling valves and causing the valves to fail due to clogging.

The supply should include a shut off valve so that the air may be shut off during maintenance or extensive setup when the load is changed drastically.

### CAUTION

**Bottled carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) is not recommended since “icing” can occur during rapid filling of the isolators.**

## 3 Assembly

### 3.1 Unpacking and Inspecting

Unpack the Table Frame Support leg assemblies, the cross-braces and all of the hardware. Inspect all of the parts for shipping damage. There are 2 different versions of the Table Frame Support system; rigid and isolated. The parts shipped with your Table Frame Support system are shown below.

#### NOTE

Do not discard any packing materials unless you have completed your inspection and are sure the unit arrived safely.

Table 1: Rigid (-N) Version Parts

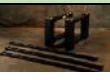
























	Description	Qty
	Cross braces and leg weldments	3 braces, 2 leg weldment
	1 1/8 open end frame leveling wrench	2
	Hex head screws	24
	Black flat washer	24
	1/4" locking washer	24
	7/16" wrench	1
	Black hole plugs	100
	Bubble level	1

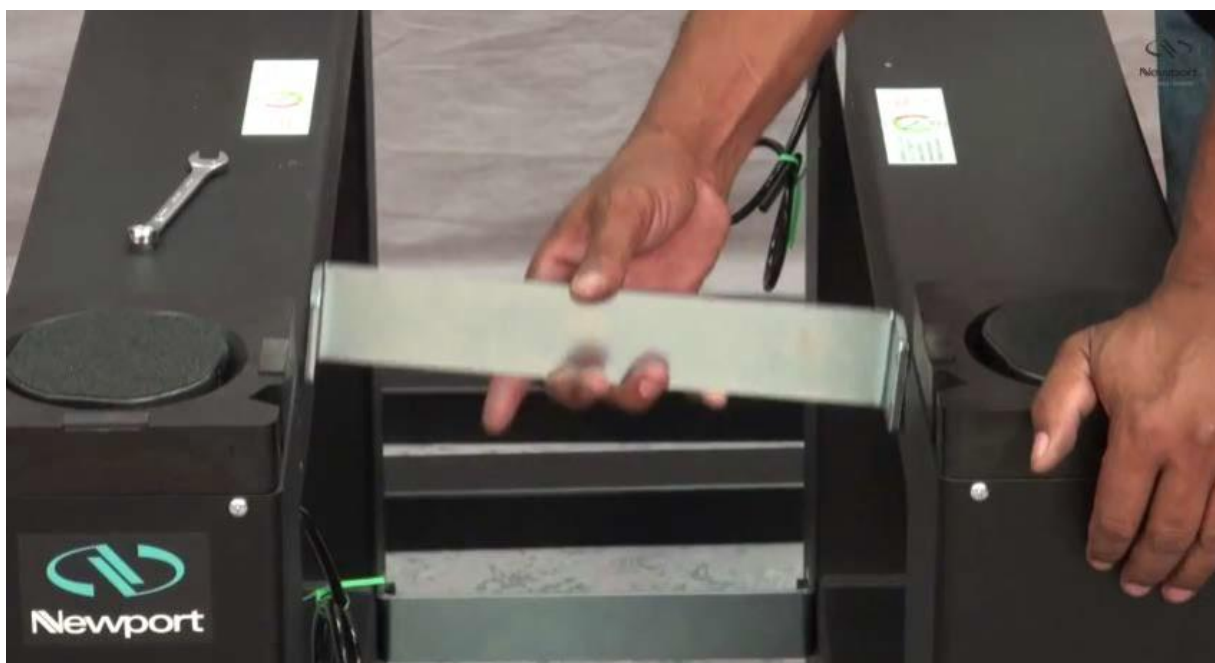
Table 2 Isolated (-A) Version Parts

	Description	Qty
	Cross braces and leg weldments	3 braces, 2 leg weldments
	IPV Leveling valve kit	3
	ARF Air regulator and mounting bracket	1
	1/4" translucent air line tubing	40 feet
	Tee connector	3
	1/4-20 7/16 Hex head screws	24
	Black flat washer	24
	1/4" locking	24
	7/16" wrench	1
	Bubble level	1
	Tubing mounting clips	10
	1 1/8" open end frame leveling wrench	2
	Black hole plugs	100
	1/4" Black tubing	40 feet
	1/4 NPT male tubing adaptor	1
	3/8" wrench	1
	M5 x 0.8 SHCS	6 (36mm) 2 (10mm)

## 3.2 Frame Assembly

The Table Frame Support leg assemblies are shipped bolted together via two shipping brackets. These brackets keep the leg assemblies upright during shipping.

Remove the two shipping brackets using the 7/16" wrench included with your system. Each bracket has 4 bolts that must be removed.



*Figure 1: Leg weldment with shipping bracket being removed.*

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### **WARNING**

Two people will be required to safely assemble the frame.

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*Figure 2: Leg weldments and cross-brace positioning.*

Roughly position the leg assemblies. The distance between the assemblies should be about the length of the cross-braces. Cross-brace length is roughly 5, 7, 9 feet depending on the size of your system.

The cross-brace used on top (2 pcs.) each has 2 holes drilled in it. These holes are used to mount the leveling valve brackets and should be positioned outward. The cross-brace used on bottom (1 pc.) has multiple 8-32 holes drilled in it for users to mount accessories and should be facing upward (see Figure 3).

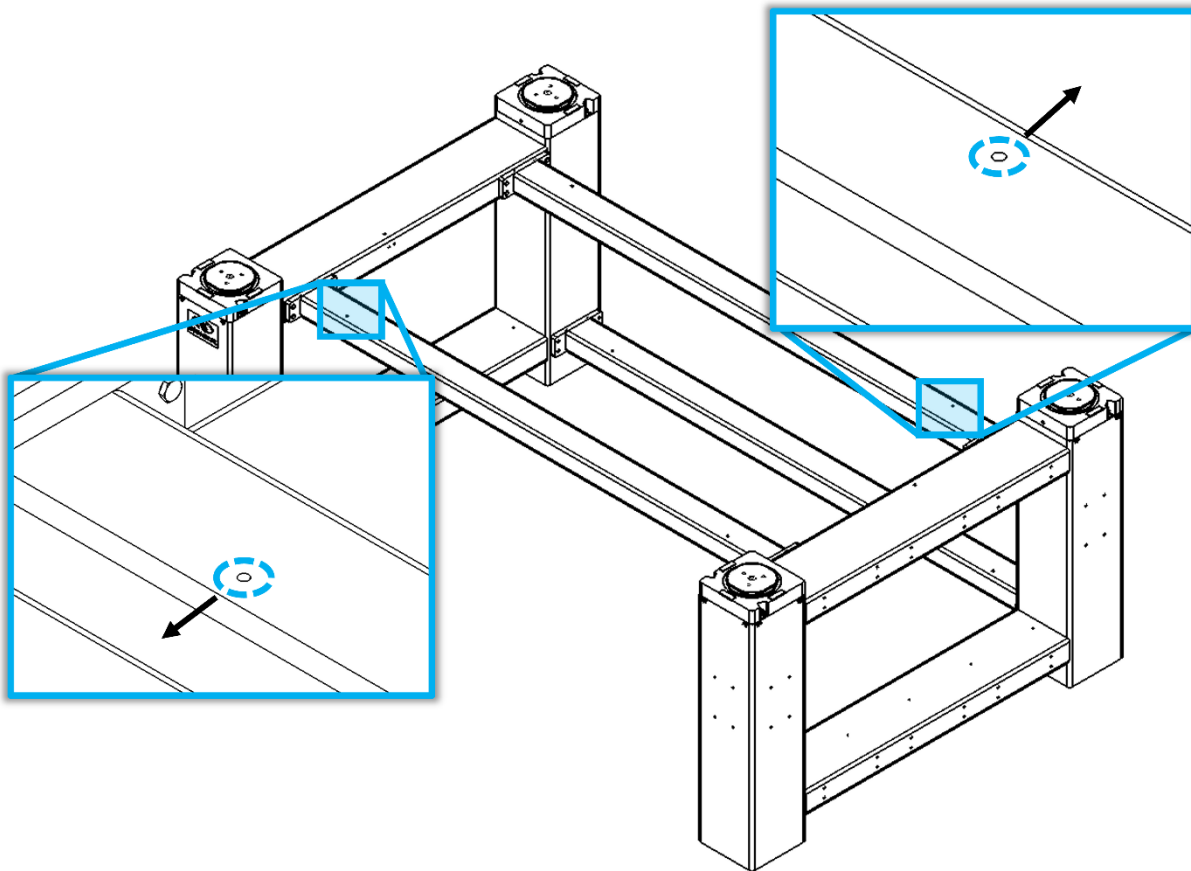


Figure 3: Leveling valve mounting holes located on the cross brace should be positioned outward and facing up toward the top of the frame.



*Figure 4: Connecting cross-braces to leg weldments.*

Bolt the cross braces, one at a time, to the frame assembly using the  $\frac{1}{4}$ " bolts, washers and lock washers provided with the frame. Use the  $\frac{7}{16}$ " wrench to tighten the bolts to a torque of 6 ft-lbs.





*Figure 5: Tightening the cross-brace bolts to the leg weldment.*

### **CAUTION**

Do not over tighten. The bolts can be stripped if excessive force is used. Tighten to a torque of 6 ft-lbs.



After all the cross braces are tightened, place bubble level on both sides of the frame and adjust the leveling feet as needed (see Figure 6 and Figure 14).



*Figure 6: Completed frame assembly.*

### 3.2.1 Installing Leveling Valves

If your frame is the non-isolated (-N) version you do not have leveling valves. Please skip this section of the assembly instructions. Go to section 3.3.

If your system is the isolated version (-A) three leveling valves will need to be mounted to the frame. Note that only three leveling valves are needed since three points define a plane. The diagram in Figure 7 shows the location for the leveling valves.

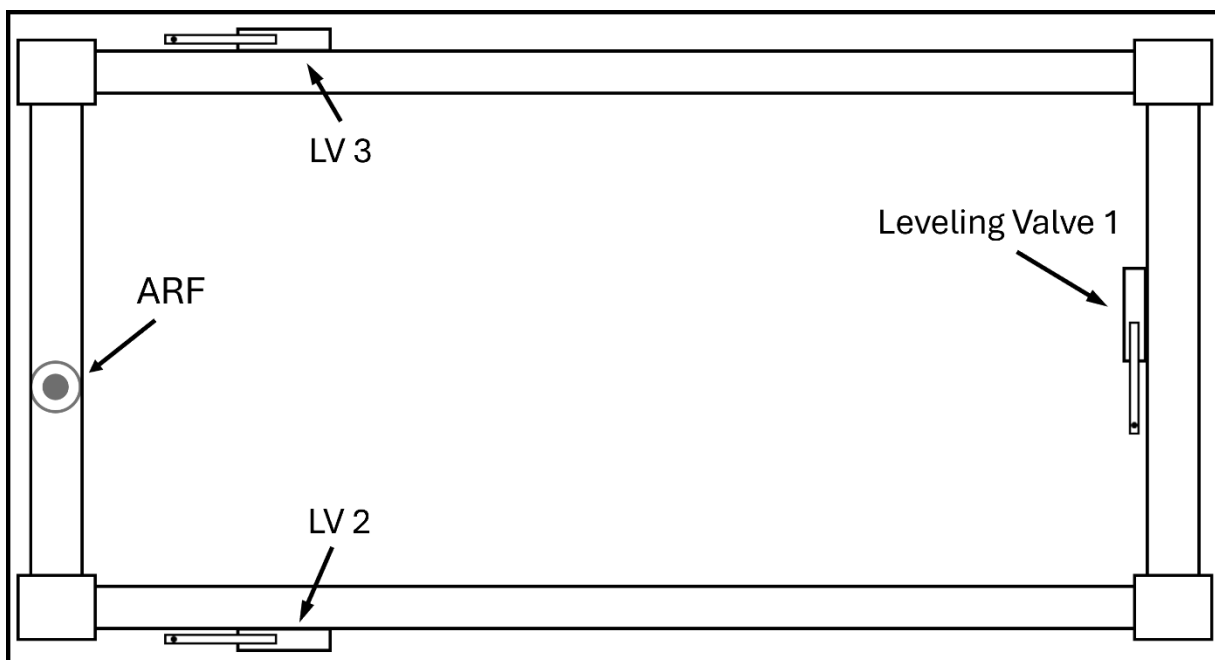


Figure 7: Leveling valve location.

Two sets of holes have been pre-drilled and tapped in the frame cross braces. One set has been drilled in the leg weldment. Attach brackets using 3/8 wrench first. Attach the leveling valves to the bracket and use a 4mm allen wrench to tighten the M-5 socket head cap screws that came with the leveling valves. See Figure 7 for valve location.

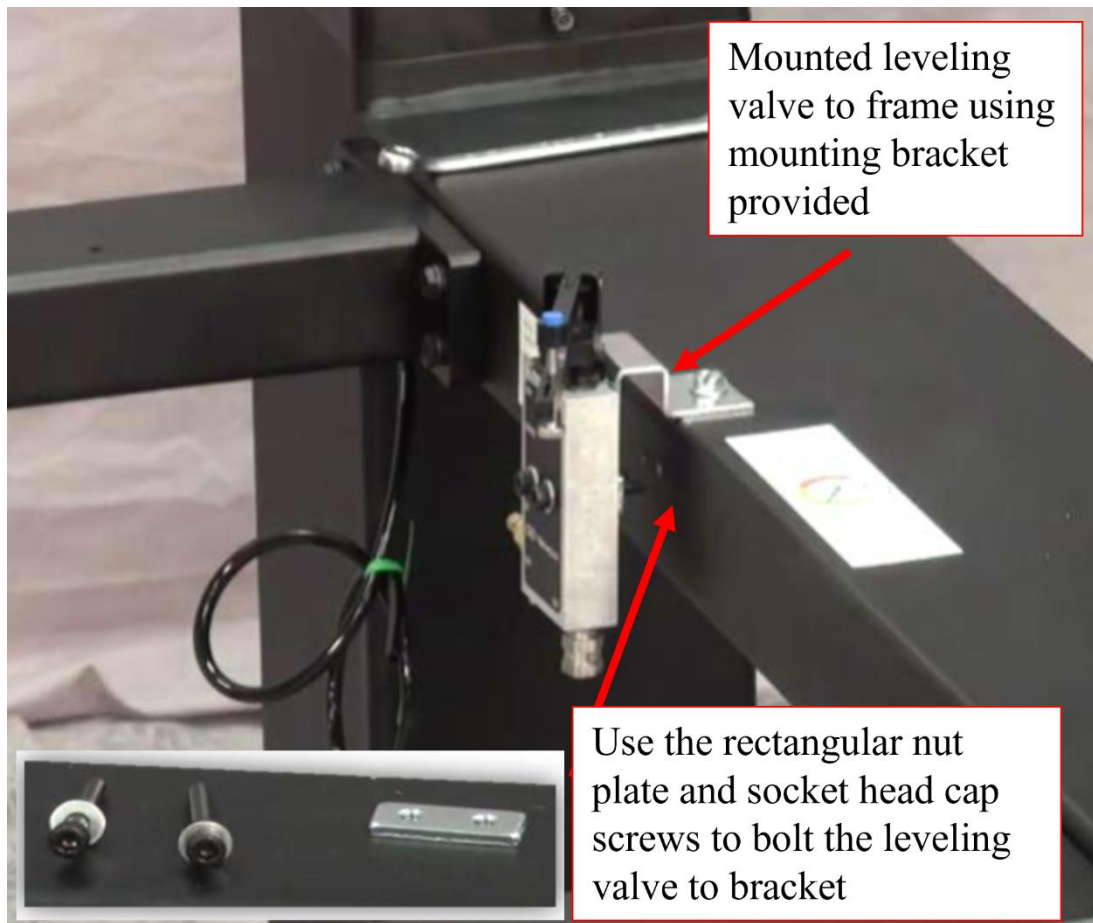


Figure 8: Master Leveling valve installed on cross brace.

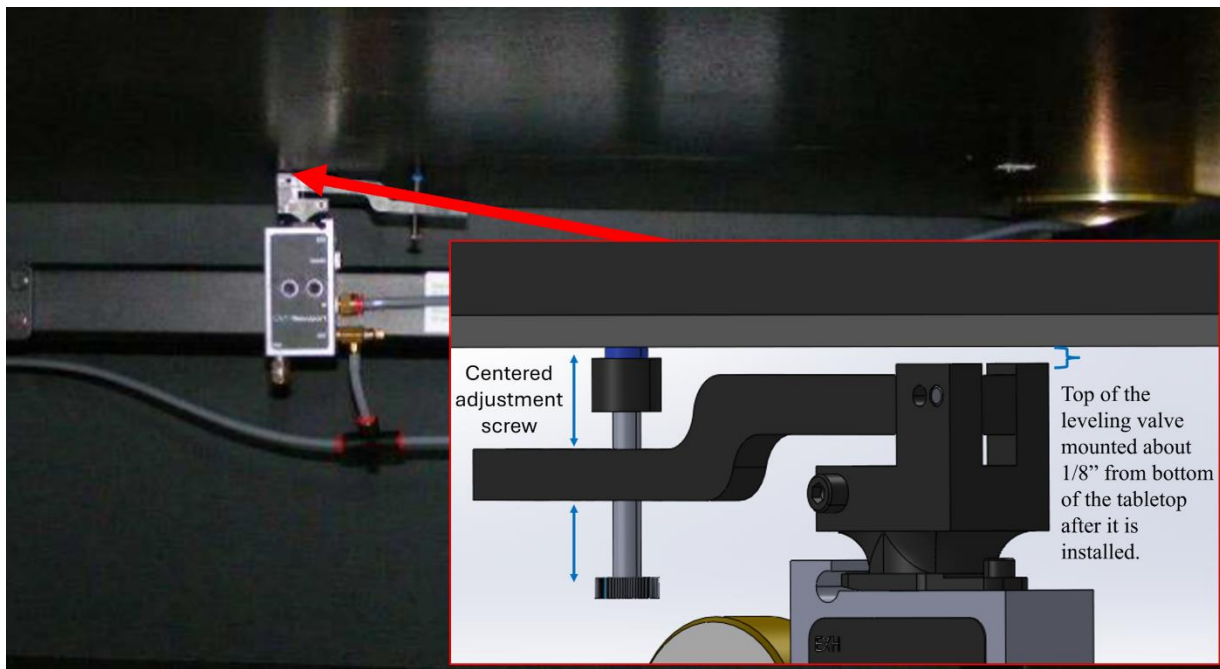


Figure 9: Location of master-slave valve.

### 3.2.2 Installing Air Filter Regulator (AFR)



*Figure 10: Air regulator filter (ARF) being installed on leg weldment.*

Attach the ARF air regulator to the mounting bracket. Attach the mounting bracket to the leg assembly (Figure 7 and Figure 10). Use the 4mm allen wrench to tighten the two M-5 socket head cap screws.

Connect air lines to the isolators as shown in Figure 11, Figure 12 and Figure 13. When cutting tubing, be sure the ends are round and cut squarely. This is best done with a single edge razor blade (scissors will deform the tubing, causing leaks). The connections are detailed in Figures 11, 12 and 13.

Use translucent tubing to connect the air supply to the ARF. Be sure the connections are firm by tugging on the tube.

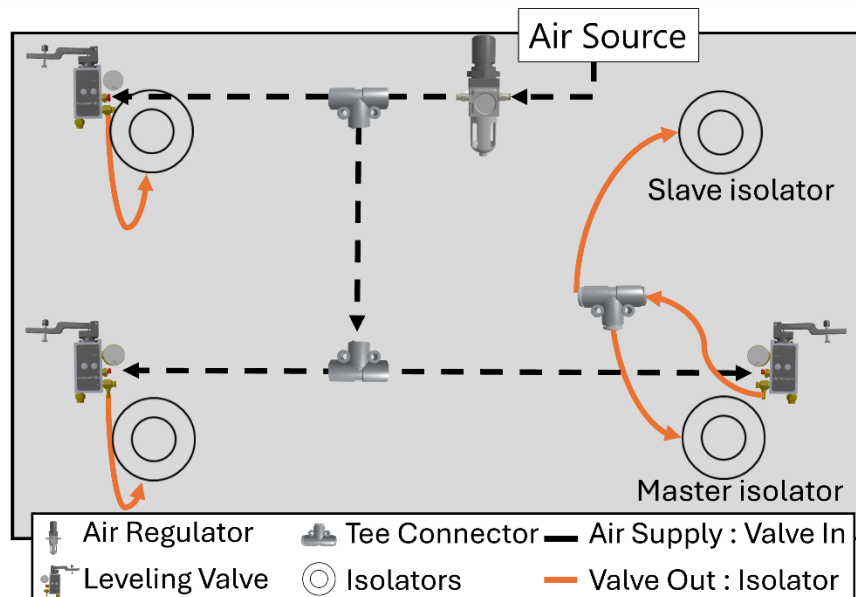


Figure 11 Pneumatic plumbing diagram for isolated table frame support version..

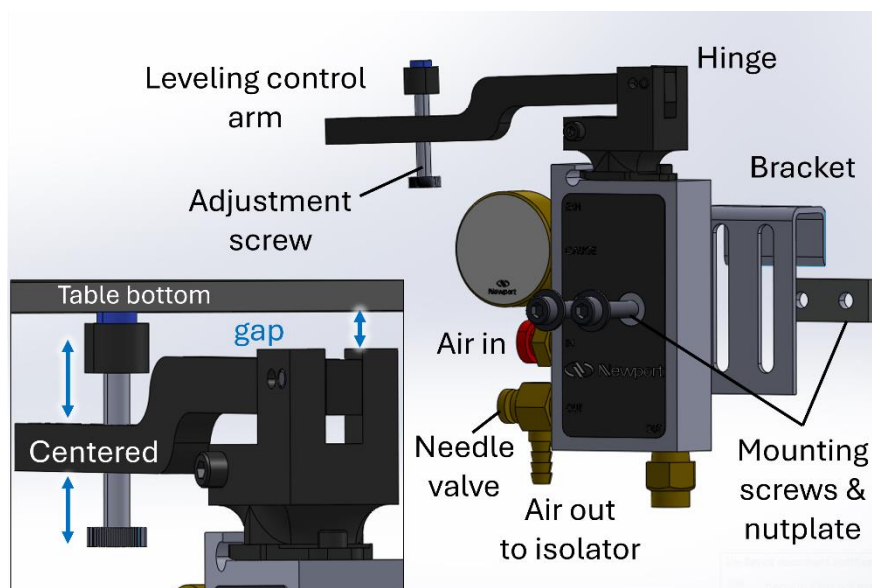


Figure 12 Leveling valve components..



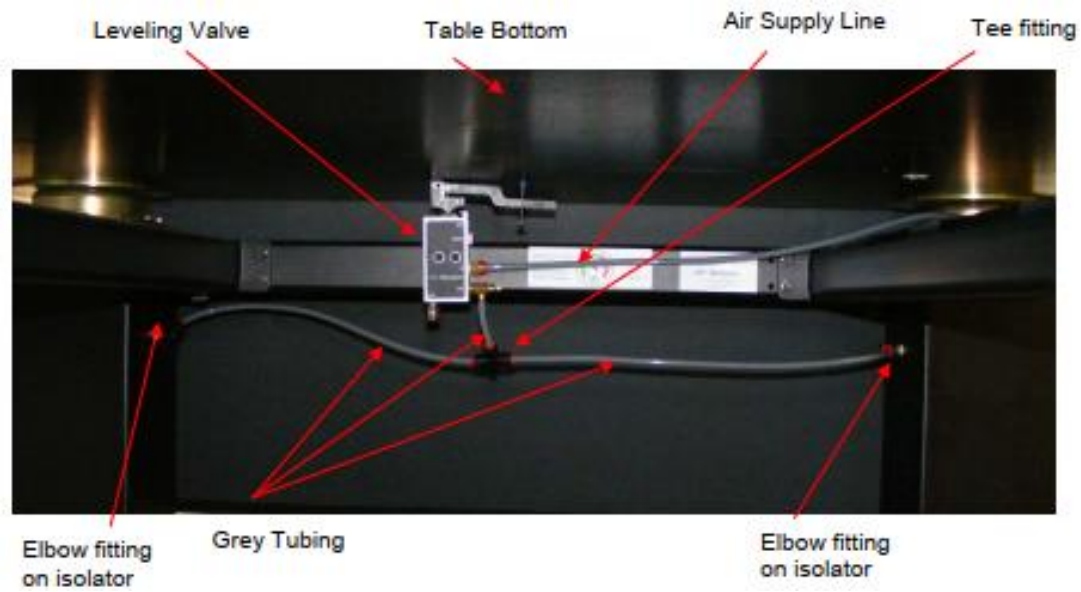


Figure 13: Tubing connection for master-slave isolator.

### 3.3 Squaring and Leveling the Frame

#### 3.3.1 Leveling the frame for the rigid (-N) and isolated (-A) versions

Place the bubble level on the frame as shown in Figure 14. The level measures if the frame is level in the X-Y plane. Use the  $1\frac{1}{8}$ " open end wrenches provided to adjust the four leveling feet until the frame is level (Figure 15). One wrench is used to hold the lock nut while the other is used to rotate the bolt. This will either raise or lower the table depending on the direction the screw is rotated. Adjust the leveling feet until the frame is level.



Figure 14: Leveling the frame.



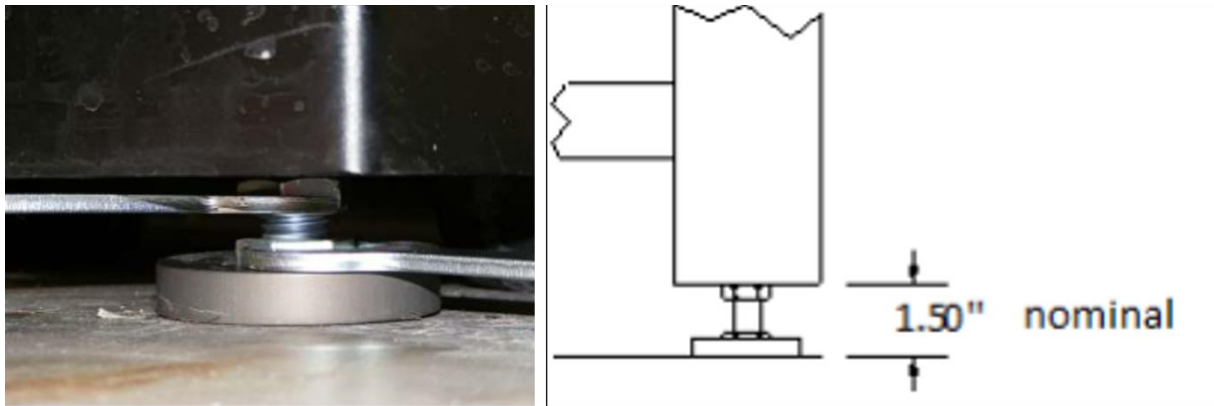


Figure 15: Closer up of leveling feet used to level the frame..

### 3.4 Installing the Table

With the frame assembled and leveled, raise the table and position it above the frame.

#### **WARNING**

Payloads are heavy! Use a forklift or other appropriate equipment. Be sure to use proper lifting procedures to avoid severe personal injury.

#### **CAUTION**

When lowering the payload on to the isolators, do not allow the payload to shift sideways. Doing so could damage the isolators.

## 3.5 Leveling the Table on the Frame

### 3.5.1 Leveling the Table on the frame support

Make sure the table is resting on all four table support plates and does not rock when pressed down on at any of the four corners. Make sure all 4 isolator leveling feet are still in contact with floor.

If the table is not in contact with all four support plates and rocks, adjust the appropriate leveling foot until the table support is in contact with the bottom of the table.

## 3.6 Floating the Table

1. Close the metering needle valve (figure 12) on each isolator then open it  $\frac{1}{4}$  turn.
2. Turn on the air supply and adjust the regulator for the pressure calculated using the formula given in Section 2.6. This pressure must not exceed 90 psig (6.3 kg/cm<sup>2</sup>).
3. Check all connections for leaks. Correct or repair any leaks before proceeding. If the table does not float within several minutes, increase the air pressure until the table floats or adjust the valve height sensors to hold the control arms further down. Confirm that the needle valves are open  $\frac{1}{4}$  turn per isolator supplied. In clean room applications the "EXH" (exhaust) port on the valves may be connected to the clean room vacuum system to capture the valve exhaust. NOTE: Exhaust must be routed to a vacuum system. Backpressure in the tubing will cause the exhaust air to leak from the valve.

## 3.7 Adjusting Leveling Valve Sensors

1. After the system floats, check the position of the top of the isolator. The isolator should rise about  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch (6 mm). If the isolator rises close to  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch it means the isolator is fully extended and at the end of its travel range. The leveling valve sensors should be adjusted accordingly.
2. Adjust the control arm adjustment screw of each valve (Figure 12) as required to obtain floating height. When all isolators are adjusted, re-check the level of the payload. NOTE: this step should require only minor adjustments. Do not move the small set screw near the pivot of the valve control arm.
3. Verify that the table is freely floating on the isolators. Move the table gently from side-to-side about  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch. You should not encounter any resistance. Re-check by moving the

table up and down the same amount. Again, there should be no restriction of movement.

4. Push one corner of the table down approximately 1/8" and release it. The table should return to the original position within less than 4 seconds. Response time may be adjusted as described in Section 4.2.2.
5. If the table rocks back and forth (oscillates vertically) without settling down, close all of the needle valve adjustment screws. Then re-open the screw by 1/8 to 1/4 turn.
6. In each corner of the table gently push down on the table top. The table should lower and then return to its starting position. Gently pushup from the bottom of the table. The table should slightly rise then return to its original position. If the table does not move freely either up or down adjust the height adjustment screws in the leveling valves until the table moves freely.

## 4 Operation

### 4.1 Principles of Operation

Newport Isolators provide one of the best methods of vibration isolation for critical applications. The system operates on the principle of air pistons, which are equivalent of soft springs. The main advantage of the Newport system over other designs are low vertical resonant frequency with low amplification at resonance (Q) and a Pendulum™ horizontal decoupling system for effective isolation from low amplitude vibration.

The leveling valves provided with the system control the height of the table to within  $\pm 0.01$  inch (0.3mm) accuracy. This tolerance is adequate for most applications. More accurate valves are available for specialized applications.

### 4.2 Performance Adjustments

Once the system is assembled and floating, it is possible to make minor adjustments to suit your individual needs. These adjustments involve the system air pressure, the control arms, and needle valves.

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#### **WARNING**

Once the system is floating, keep fingers away from the area between the support plate and the top of the isolators. Any object between these points may be caught if the load or air supply changes. Personal injury may result.

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#### 4.2.1 Stabilizing high center-of-mass loads

If your load has a high center of mass or if the load is particularly heavy, the system may oscillate. In this case, lower the air pressure or close the needle valves slightly. This may improve stability and reduce the oscillation or “hunting”.

A rule of thumb for determining high center of gravity (CG) system stability is shown in Figure 16. If the combined center of gravity of the payload is within the “stable region”, the system will be stable. If the combined CG is inside the “may be stable region”, the system may be stable. If the combined CG is outside both regions, the system will probably be unstable.

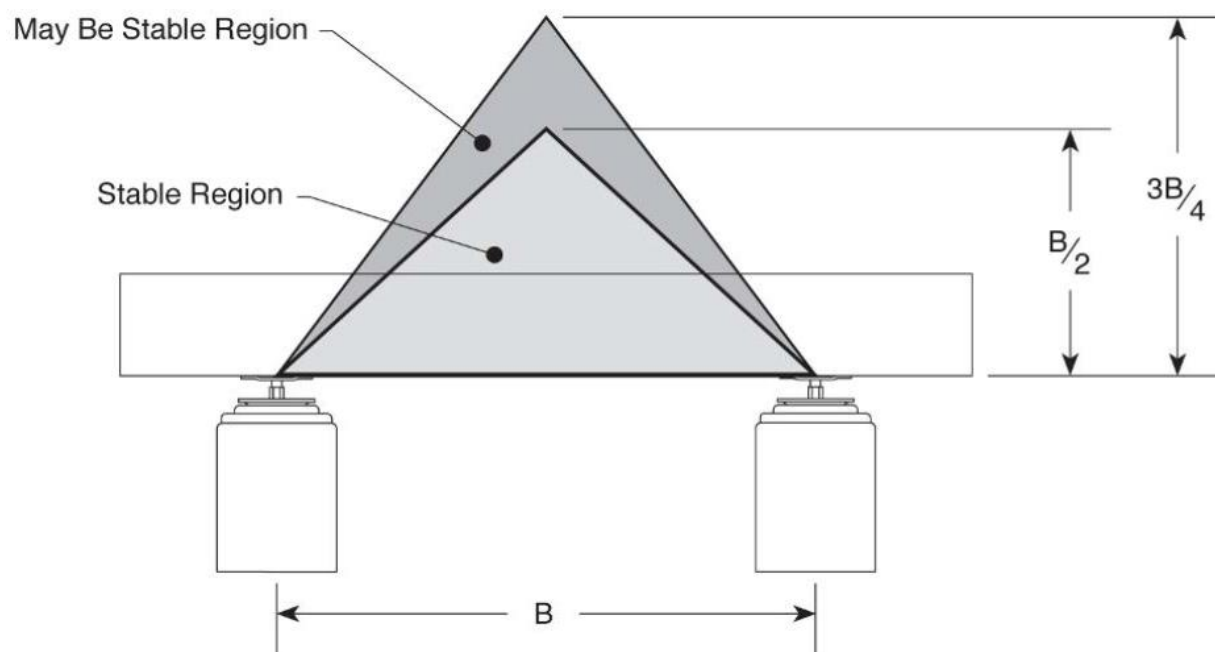


Figure 16: System stability diagram.

#### 4.2.2 Improving leveling response times

If the system is stable, the re-leveling response time may be decreased by increasing the system pressure. In addition, the needle valves may be opened until the system oscillates and then closed slightly. This is desirable if components are moving over the surface of the table.

For systems where the loads are seldom changed, slower re-leveling may be beneficial. This is accomplished by closing the needle valves slightly and/or decreasing the system pressure.

Needle valves should be opened the same amount for each master isolator that they supply, for the master-slave side valve the needle valves should be opened twice the amount to supply air to both isolators on that side.

#### 4.2.3 Table Loads and/or load positions change

If the loads are moving or changing significantly, the control arms may require adjustment. Each time the load is changed, check the relationship of the support plate to the top of each isolator. If the desired 1/4 inch is not maintained, adjust the overall system pressure and/or the sensor positions.

## 4.3 Maintenance

Newport isolation systems require little maintenance. No periodic maintenance is required.

### 4.3.1 Cleaning

Newport isolators are painted, powder coated, or zinc plated steel. This coated material is relatively corrosion resistant. It may be cleaned by applying non-abrasive liquid household cleaner to a rag and wiping the isolator. Avoid abrasive cleaners.

### 4.3.2 Air Quality

Oil, water, or debris in the air supply may contaminate the leveling valves or isolator damping system and degrade performance. Use of the Newport model ARF Air Regulator and Filter in the air supply will prevent this occurrence. The filter does require occasional cleaning.

Drain your air compressor frequently to make sure that moisture trapped inside is drained. Please refer to your air compressor manual for detailed instructions.

## 5 Troubleshooting

### 5.1 System Does Not Float

Use the following procedure if the system does not float, when pressure is applied to the isolators.

1. Ensure that the supply pressure is 5–10 psig (0.4–0.7 kg/cm<sup>2</sup>) above the pressure reading of any of the leveling valves. If the load is increased, the pressure should be increased to maintain the difference between supply and valve pressure. Refer to Section 2.6.
2. Check to see if all air lines are connected properly and the supply pressure is adequate (see step A). Refer to Figures 10, 11 and 12.
3. Be sure that the needle valves are not closed completely.
4. Check each leveling valve for clogging. To do this, press the control arm down. Air should flow into the isolator, accompanied by the familiar sound of moving air. Repair or replace any clogged valve. Use the ARF filter/regulator to prevent this situation.

### 5.2 Poor Isolation Performance

The following may lead to poor isolation performance of your system.

1. Vibration may be transmitted to the table through direct physical contact of equipment with external sources of vibration including cables.
2. Isolators that float too high, too low, or are not centered may conduct floor vibration to the table top. Centered isolators will remain centered unless the payload and isolators are moved relative to each other.
1. Equipment on the payload may be vibrating at a resonant frequency of other components. Improve the rigidity of the mounting for that equipment or remove that item from the system.
2. Air currents or pressure fluctuations may be disturbing components on the payload.

### 5.3 System Oscillates

If the system oscillates or “hunts”, you may have a set up with a high center of mass, or the needle valve opening may be too much. Refer to the information in Section 3.7, Section 4.2.1 or consult your Newport representative or Newport Corporation for further assistance.

### 5.4 System Leaks Air Constantly

All Newport isolators and valves are pressure leak tested prior to shipment.

Check all tubing connections for leaks with soapy water. Tubing that is crushed out of round or that is not cut squarely may not seal in the push-in fittings. Use a single edge razor blade to cut the tubing cleanly. If testing with soapy water indicates that either the isolator or valve are leaking contact Newport Customer Service.

## 6 Factory Service

### 6.1 Obtaining Factory Service

To obtain information concerning factory service, contact Newport Corporation or your Newport representative. Please have the following information available.

1. Model number.
2. Purchase order number.
3. Complete description of the problem.

If components are to be returned to Newport Corporation, you will be given a Return Number, which you should reference in your shipping documents. Please fill out the service form located on the next page, and have the information ready when contacting Newport Corporation. Include the completed service form with any parts or components that are returned.



## 7 Service Form

Vibration Control Products	Description
Name	RETURN AUTHORIZATION # (Please obtain prior to return of item)
Company	
Address	
Country	Date
P.O. Number	Phone Number
Item(s) Being Returned:	
Model #	Serial #

Reason for return of goods (please list any specific problems)

Please Describe the Problem:

(Attach additional sheets as necessary)

Where is the equipment installed?

(factory, controlled laboratory, outdoors, etc.)

Maximum Air pressure available?      Regulated?    Yes    No

Any additional information. (If special modifications have been mae by the user, please describe below).

Newport Corporation  
1791 Deere Avenue Irvine, CA 92606 United States  
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