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SB, Auto Mower, Operating two Auto Mowers from a single charging station, 2001-11

With effect from models made in the year 2000 and equipped with version 3.74 of the software, it is possible for two mowers to share a single charging station (dual mower operation). This operating mode is primarily suited to large open areas measuring 1500-3000 m². It is not so well suited to large, complex areas, where searching for the charging station takes more time.

Dual mower operation works on the principle that one mower is charging while the other is mowing. If the charging station is occupied when a mower (AM1) gets there it will reverse, stop and wait. When the charging mower (AM2) leaves the charging station it turns through 180°, collides gently with AM1 then drives off to continue mowing. A few seconds after AM1 has registered the gentle collision with AM2 it continues into the charging station. If AM1 does not register a collision it will still attempt to drive into the charging station every 20 minutes.

The advantage of dual mower operation over running two separate installations is that there is no need to synchronise both installations (see separate service bulletin). Because one less charging station is required it means that dual mower operation is also slightly cheaper.

The following settings must be entered on **both** mowers:

Activate dual mower operation: *8#1# Deactivate dual mower operation: *8#0#

To ensure optimum performance you should consider the following three points:

- 1. The last 2 m of the incoming search wire must run straight towards the charging station (1 m for normal operation).
- 2. Avoid using the timer. If you need to limit the mowing time it is better to switch off one of the mowers a day or so at a time.
- 3. Dual mower operation cannot be combined with variable departure angles from the charging station.

Also note that if the Auto Mower collides with anything while it is following the search wire, such as the other Auto Mower while that is busy mowing, it will stop, reverse and wait. After around 20 minutes it will continue along the search wire towards the charging station.