Notes about the solar exhaust fan

All James Baroud hard shell roof-top tents of the EVO line are fitted with an exhaust fan.

While James Baroud is proud to manufacture all parts of their products, the fan is the only part outsourced.

The guarantee on the solar fan exhaust unit is 2 years, but there is no guarantee on the battery.

Usefulness of the fan:

1/ CONDENSATION: Our tents have a very unique, patented canvas. While it is totally waterproof (Schmerber 85cm - ISO811), it is also a breathing canvas (825l/dm²/min – ISO9237).
Even with these specification, like any tent, caravan, boat, house, it can get impressive condensation depending on conditions (brutal temperature change, breathing of the users, aeration). James Baroud designed the tents to combat as much as possible condensation (a lot of openings, with ventilation channels on the sides of the tents. Extra ventilation is also provided by the solar fan, which extracts heat from inside the tent, by creating air flow and therefore minimizing condensation.

2/ HEAT: our unique, patented canvas has got 6 coats of aluminium particle to get the best insulation from heat that a canvas can offer. In addition, the fan extracts the heat from inside the tent, creates a smooth airflow, allowing a nap in the middle of an Australian outback day while any other tent would be far too hot inside to do the same.

How to use the fan:

1/ GENERALITY: The fan can (should) always be "on" while travelling and using the tent.
2/ NOISE: ALL fans will make more or less some noise, depending on conditions:
. Pressure of air in the tent – *try leaving an opening in the tent*
. Outside wind
. Position of the blade in the fan (slowly slides down with usage) – *push it back in place*
. Normal wear of the axle

3/ BATTERY MANAGEMENT: Sunlight charges the battery, which then powers the fan for the night. Good battery management practice is to turn the fan "off" when not needed. By doing so, the solar panel will charge the battery when the sun is available, and you should have enough power in the battery for a night long use of the fan (maybe not during winter as there are long nights/short days).
VERY IMPORTANT: when you store the tent, DO NOT FORGET to switch "off" the fan. If not, the battery will drain to a stage that it cannot be recharged, and you will have to replace it.
A battery well maintained can last a few years, but it will slowly loose capacity. However, poor battery management can put a battery out of order in 3 days! (leaving the fan "on" without sunlight to activate/recharge the fan via solar panel)

When you think that your battery is becoming less efficient, first try to recharge it with the fan "off" and leaving it in the sun for 2 full days. If it does not charge well, you have to replace the battery. Please ask for instructions from your dealer, or even better, have it done by your dealer.

Different fans:

Tent models before 2017: there are 3 screws, and also 3 nuts on the top of the fan
Tent models from 2017: there are only 3 screws on the top of the fan

Before 2017, the fans had a thick seal at the junction of the fan and the shell. Badly maintained, we could have water ingress from the seal. If there is water ingress, it is necessary to gently tighten the 3 nuts, just enough to compress a bit more the seal and to stop the leak. Do not compress the seal by flattening it, otherwise it will lose its flexibility, damaging seal adjustment to pressure.

Since 2017, the fan is glued to the hull, thus stopping any possibility of a leak.

The process to replace the battery is different depending on these two models. Please contact your dealer for correct battery replacement process depending on the type of fan.