



Model 1430 Microtector® Electronic Point Gage

Installation and Operating Instructions



Model 1430 Microtector® Portable Electronic Point Gage combines modern, solid-state integrated circuit electronics with a time-proven point gage manometer to provide fast, accurate pressure measurements.

SPECIFICATIONS AND FEATURES

- Accurate and repeatable to $\pm .00025$ inches water column
- Pressure range: 0 - 2" w.c., positive, negative, or differential pressures
- Non-toxic and inexpensive gage fluid consists of distilled water mixed with a small amount of fluorescein green color concentrate
- Convenient, portable, lightweight and self-contained, the unit requires no external power connections and is operated by a 1.5 volt penlight cell
- A.C. detector current eliminates point plating, fouling and erosion
- Micrometers are manufactured in accordance with ASME B89.1.13-2001, and are traceable to a standard at the National Institute of Standards and Technology
- Three-point mounting, dual leveling adjustment, and circular level vial assure rapid setup
- Durablock® precision-machined acrylic gage body
- Sensitive 0 - 50 microamp D.C. meter acts as a detector and also indicates battery and probe condition
- Heavy 2" thick steel base plate provides steady mounting
- Top-quality glass epoxy circuit board and solid-state, integrated circuit electronics
- Electronic enclosure of tough, molded styrene acrylonitrile provides maximum protection to components yet allows easy access to battery compartment
- Rugged sheet steel cover and carrying case protects the entire unit when not in use
- Accessories included are (2) 3-foot lengths Tygon® tubing, (2) 1/8" pipe thread adapters and 3/4 oz. bottle of fluorescein green color concentrate with wetting agent

Maximum pressure: 100 psig with optional pipe thread connections.

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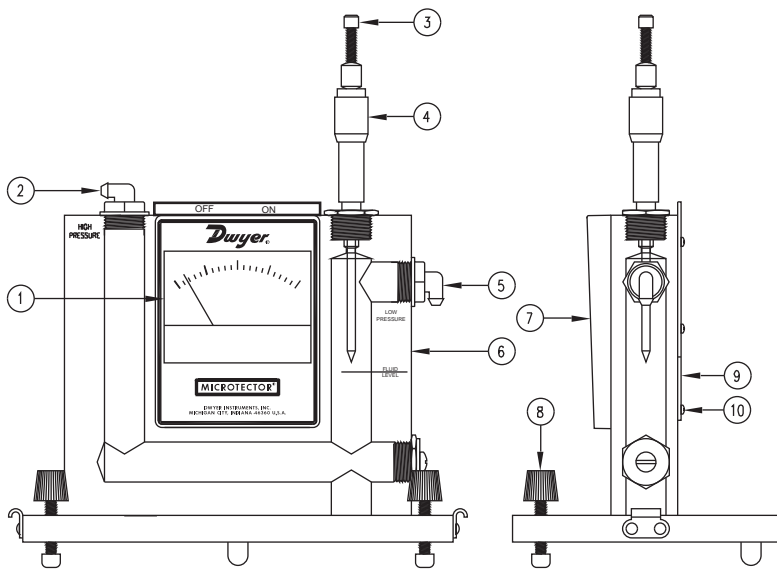
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Microtector® Gage

Precision Pressure Measurement

The Microtector® Gage combines the time-proven principles of the Hook Gage type manometer and modern solid-state integrated circuit electronics. It provides an inexpensive means of achieving accuracy and repeatability within $\pm .00025$ inches water column throughout its 0 to 2 inches w.c. range. It is truly a new standard in precision measuring devices.

Principles of Operation

A pressure to be measured is applied to the manometer fluid which is displaced in each leg of the manometer by an amount equal to $1/2$ the applied pressure. A micrometer mounted point is then lowered until it contacts the manometer gage fluid. The instant of contact is detected by completion of a low-power A.C. circuit. Current for this circuit is supplied by a 1.5 volt penlight cell feeding two semiconductor amplifiers which act as a free-running multivibrator operating at a frequency of approximately two kilohertz. Completion of the A.C. circuit activates a bridge rectifier which provides the signal for indication on a sensitive (0 to 50 microamps) D.C. microammeter.

On indication of contact, the operator stops lowering the point and reads the micrometer which indicates one half the applied pressure. By interpolating eight divisions (each being $.000125$ w.c.) between $.001$ micrometer graduations, a total accuracy of $.00025$ can easily be achieved. The micrometer complies with Federal Specification GGG-C-105A and is traceable to a master at the NIST.

Locating and Opening

Stand the Microtector® Gage and case on a firm flat level surface. Remove cover by releasing the latches and lifting it straight up. If it is necessary to move the gage without case, handle only the base plate or clear acrylic block. **(CAUTION: Do not handle gage by grasping meter-electronic package housing Item 7 on drawing.)**

Fluid Level

Level the gage by adjusting the two front leveling screws (Item 8 on drawing) until the bubble in the spirit level is centered in the small circle. After leveling the gage, open both rapid shut-off valve tube connectors (Items 2 and 5). Back off the micrometer (Item 4), if necessary, to make sure that the point is not immersed in the gage fluid. The fluid level in the gage should now coincide with the mark on the right hand bore (Item 6) plus or minus approximately 1/32 inch. If the level of fluid is too high, fluid can be removed with an eye dropper pipette or carefully poured out of the right connection (Item 5).

If the level is too low, remove the top left rapid shut-off valve tube connector (Item 2) and add distilled water pre-mixed with the proper amount of green concentrate. (See maintenance instructions for proportions. After correcting the fluid level, re-install the rapid shut-off connectors and, with these in the open position, re-level the Microtector® Gage. The gage is now ready to be zeroed.

Zeroing

Turn the Micrometer barrel (Item 4) until its lower end just coincides with the zero mark on the scale and the zero on the barrel scale coincides with the vertical line on the internal scale. Note that the internal scale is graduated every .025" from 0 to 1.00 inch and the barrel scale is graduated in one thousandths from 0 to .025". Turn the meter circuit switch at the top of gage to the "on" position. While holding the barrel at the zero position (and with gage level), raise or lower the point by turning the knurled knob (Item 3) until the point is above, but near, the fluid.

Check to be sure that the meter registers zero. Watch the meter, hold the barrel, and lower the point slowly by turning the top knurled knob. As the knob is turned, the point will contact the fluid and the meter pointer will move from zero to some upscales position.

After making contact, turn the point out of the fluid by turning the micrometer barrel counter-clockwise to a reading of .010 or more. Again, watch the meter and, this time, lower the point by turning the micrometer barrel. The point position where the meter pointer begins to move up scale is the zero position. This position should correspond to the zero reading on the micrometer. Adjust the point in relation to the micrometer barrel by turning the top knob while holding the barrel steady. Repeat lowering the point, watching the meter for contact, and adjusting the point until the zero position and zero reading exactly coincide. The gage is now zeroed and should not be moved.

An alternative method of zeroing and reading can be used wherein, instead of zeroing the gage completely, a zero correction reading is taken and recorded, then subtracted from the final reading. Comparable results can be obtained with either method.

Positive Pressure Measurement

With the fluid at its proper level, a pressure of 2.0" water column maximum can be measured. Positive pressure should be applied to the top left connection (Item 2) with the micrometer zeroed as described above. This will permit a simple direct reading to be taken.

After an unknown pressure has been applied at the top left connection, the fluid level will drop in the left bore and rise over the point in the right bore. Note that the indicating meter point has moved upscales because the point is immersed in the fluid. Turn the micrometer counter-clockwise until the point leaves the fluid as indicated by the meter pointer dropping to zero on its scale. Then slowly turn the micrometer down until its point just touches the fluid surface, causing movement of the meter pointer. Withdraw the point and repeat several times, noting each time the micrometer reading where the meter pointer begins. The average of these readings multiplied by two is the pressure applied to the gage. (Avg. reading x 2 = pressure applied in inches w.c. The degree of uncertainty for the operator is indicated by the difference in these readings.

When the readings are complete, the pressure should be removed and the zero setting of Microtector® Gage rechecked. Any change in the zero position will indicate inaccurate readings. Should this happen, the zero-set and pressure measurement procedure should be repeated.

Negative Pressure or Vacuum Measurement

Zero the gage. Connect the source of vacuum or negative pressure to the right-side gage connection (Item 5) and proceed as described under Positive Pressure Measurement section. Remember that the pressure measured in this way is negative.

Differential Pressure Measurement

Differential pressures may be measured by connecting the higher (more positive) pressure to the left connection (Item 2) and the lower pressure to the right connection (Item 5).

Storage

Turn meter circuit switch to "off" position and withdraw the point well clear of fluid (by turning micrometer clockwise) when gage is not in use. This will conserve the batteries and minimize build-up of oxides, etc., on the point. Keep the unit covered and in an area free of strong solvent fumes.

Maintenance

When the meter reading becomes reduced or the pointer movement gets sluggish (with the circuit on and the point in fluid), the following should be done:

(1) Remove the point (by unscrewing) and clean the tip lightly using fine crocus cloth. Wipe off all grit and dirt with a clean rag; reassemble and recheck meter operation.

(2) If the meter operation continues to be sluggish, replace the size AA, 1.5 volt battery. (Replace the battery at least once a year to avoid deterioration of battery and damage to gage. Leakproof alkaline battery is recommended.)

To replace the battery, remove center screw (Item 10) located in the back of the electronic enclosure. Cover (Item 9) will come off, exposing the battery. Pull the old battery out and push a new battery into the battery holder with the positive (center) terminal to the right (to the end marked with + on the holder).

If the fluid becomes contaminated and requires replacement: empty old fluid from gage; flush out with clear water and replace with distilled water and A-126 fluorescein green color concentrate mixed with 3/4 oz. concentrate to each quart of water.

CAUTION:

1. Do not substitute other gage fluids, as proper gage operation depends on use of the specified gage fluid to provide proper surface tension, wetting ability and electrolyte capability with unity specific gravity.

If the gage bore is very dirty, a mild soap solution may be used to aid in cleaning prior to flushing with clear water.

2. Do not clean with liquid soaps, special solvent, de-greasers, aromatic hydrocarbons, etc. Such cleaners and solvents may contain chlorine, fluorine, acetone and related compounds that will permanently damage the gage and prevent proper operation.