

HG-1 Humidity Calibrator User's Manual



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Safety

The manufacturer has designed this equipment to be safe when operated using the procedures detailed in this manual. The user must not use this equipment for any other purpose than that stated. Do not apply values greater than the maximum value stated.

This manual contains operating and safety instructions, which must be followed to ensure the safe operation and to maintain the equipment in a safe condition. The safety instructions are either warnings or cautions issued to protect the user and the equipment from injury or damage. Use competent personnel using good engineering practice for all procedures in this Manual.

Electrical Safety

The instrument is designed to be completely safe when used with options and accessories supplied by the manufacturer for use with the instrument.

Toxic Materials

The use of hazardous materials in the construction of this instrument has been minimized. During normal operation it is not possible for the user to come into contact with any hazardous substance which might be employed in the construction of the instrument. Care should, however, be exercised during maintenance and the disposal of certain parts.

Repair and Maintenance

The instrument must be maintained either by the manufacturer or an accredited service agent. Refer to Appendix B for details of Michell Instruments' worldwide offices' contact information.

Calibration

The recommended calibration interval for the HG-1 is one year. The instrument should be returned to the manufacturer, Michell Instruments, or one of their accredited service agents for re-calibration.

Safety Conformity

This product meets the essential protection requirements of the relevant EU directives. Further details of applied standards may be found in the product specification.

Abbreviations

The following abbreviations are used in this Manual:

А	Ampere	
AC	alternating current	
bar	pressure unit (=100 kP or 0.987 atm)	
٥C	degrees Celsius	
٥F	degrees Fahrenheit	
dp	dew point	
DC	direct current	
ft/sec	feet per second	
g/kg	grams per kilogram	
g/m ³	grams per cubic meter	
in	inch(es)	
kg	kilogram(s)	
lb	pound	
l/min	liters per minute	
m	meter(s)	
mA	milliampere	
max	maximum	
min	minimum	
mm	millimeters	
m/sec	meters per second	
%	percentage	
PSI	pounds per square inch	
RS232	serial data transmission standard	
RS485	serial data transmission standard	
SCFH	standard cubic feet per hour	
temp	temperature	
V	Volts	
Ω	Ohms	

Warnings

The following general warnings listed below are applicable to this instrument. They are repeated in the text in the appropriate locations.



Recycling Policy



Michell Instruments is concerned with the protection of the environment. It is our commitment to reduce and eliminate from our operations, wherever possible, the use of substances which may be harmful to the environment. Similarly, we are increasingly using recyclable and/or recycled material in our business and products wherever it is practical to do so.

The product that you have purchased may contain recyclable and/or recycled parts and we will be happy to provide you with information on these components if required.

WEEE And RoHS Compliance

The Waste Electronic and Electrical Equipment (WEEE) Directive, and the Restriction of Hazardous Substances (RoHS) Directive place rules upon European manufacturers of electrical and electronic equipment. The directives' aim is to reduce the impact that electronic devices have on the environment.

Michell products are currently exempt from the RoHS directive, however all future products will be developed entirely using compliant materials. Furthermore, Michell is taking active steps to remove non-compliant materials and components from existing products wherever possible.

Michell is in full compliance with the WEEE Directive (Registration No. WEE/JB0235YW). Customers may be required to return certain instruments for treatment at the end of their working life.

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Calibration Facilities

Michell Instruments' calibration facilities are among the most sophisticated in the world and have been recognized for their excellence.

Traceability to the National Physical Laboratory (NPL) UK is achieved through our UKAS Accreditation (Number 0179). This covers dew point over the range -90 to $+90^{\circ}$ C (-130 to $+194^{\circ}$ F) and also Relative Humidity.

Dew-point calibrations are also traceable to the National Institute for Standards & Technology (NIST) USA over the range -75 to +20°C (-103 to +68°F).

NOTE: Standard traceable calibration certificates for instruments and sensors are not issued under our UKAS accreditation. UKAS certificates are usually to special order and are clearly identified.

Manufacturing Quality

Michell Instruments is registered with the British Standards Institute for Quality Assurance to:

BS EN ISO 9001: 2008

Rigorous procedures are performed at every stage of production to ensure that the materials of construction, manufacturing, calibration and final test procedures meet the requirements laid down by our BSI approved Quality System.

Please contact Michell Instruments if the product does not arrive in perfect working order.

Warranty

Unless otherwise agreed, the Supplier warrants that, as from the date of delivery for a period of 12 months the goods and all their component parts, where applicable, are free from any defects in design, workmanship, construction or materials.

The Supplier warrants that the services undertaken shall be performed using reasonable skill and care, and of a quality conforming to generally accepted industry standards and practices.

Except as expressly stated, all warranties, whether express or implied, by operation of law or otherwise, are hereby excluded in relation to the goods and services to be provided by the Supplier.

All warranty services are provided on a return to base basis. Any transportation costs for the return of a warranty claim shall reside with the Customer.

Return Policy

If a Michell Instruments' product malfunctions within the warranty period, the following procedure must be completed:

- 1. Notify a Michell Instruments' distributor, giving full details of the problem, the model variant and the serial number of the product.
- 2. If the nature of the problem indicates the need for factory service then the instrument should be returned to Michell Instruments, carriage prepaid, preferably in the original packaging, with a full description of the fault and the customer contact information.
- 3. Upon receipt, Michell Instruments will evaluate the product to determine the cause of the malfunction. Then, one of the following courses of action will be taken:
 - If the fault is covered under the terms of the warranty, the instrument will be repaired at no cost to the owner and returned.
 - If Michell Instruments determines that the fault is not covered under the terms of the warranty, or if the warranty has expired, an estimate for the cost of the repairs, at standard rates, will be provided. Upon receipt of the owner's approval to proceed, the product will be repaired and returned.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 General

The Michell Humidity Calibrator is a high precision, yet simple to operate, humidity calibration system designed for calibrating relative humidity instruments over the range 2 to 90%RH (-30 to 20°Cdp (-22 to 68°Fdp) at ambient temperature and atmospheric pressure.

A Michell Optidew Dew-Point Transmitter is utilized to function as a reference instrument.

The Humidity Calibrator consists of the following:

- a mini compressor and gas drying unit (to provide its own dry gas supply) or alternatively an external dry compressed air supply
- flowmeters including valves (to indicate and mix gas flows)
- a saturator system (to provide the wet gas supply)
- a calibration test chamber (for housing humidity instruments under test) or alternatively a gas outlet port (for feeding the generated sample gas to an external humidity instrument under test)

The generated humidity is visible through the instrument display and analog outputs.

Humidities are generated by the proportional mixing of wet and dry gas flows through calibrated flowmeters and fine metering valves. The generated sample gas is measured by the Optidew cooled mirror dew-point sensor situated within the calibration test chamber along with other humidity measuring 'instruments under test'.

The Humidity Calibrator is a fully portable, self-contained instrument requiring only mains power and an occasional top-up of the saturator with distilled water for operation. Access for maintenance is made available through the removable top and rear panel of the instrument.

1.2 Calibration

A Certificate of Dew-Point Calibration is provided with the instrument, which means that the instrument has been calibrated against Michell Calibration Standards. It is also possible to provide a UKAS Calibration Certificate giving direct calibration traceability of the instrument to NPL Standards. Please contact Michell Instruments for further details.

2 INSTALLATION

The Humidity Calibrator is supplied with a power cable. Please check that all items listed on the packing check list have been received.

The Humidity Calibrator enclosure is designed for bench top mounting in a laboratory environment. Allow sufficient clearance at the rear of the enclosure for maintenance and ventilation.

2.1 Filling the Saturator

Before operation, the saturator requires filling with distilled water.

Carefully unscrew and remove the filling port knurled nut and red plastic cap located on the rear panel of the unit.

Fill the saturator with clean distilled water to a level indicated on the label (viewed through the rear panel). The water level should be kept between the minimum and maximum marks on the label. Too little water will reduce the efficiency of the saturator, too much will cause erratic operation.

Replace the filling port red plastic cap and knurled nut.

2.2 Gas Connections

All gas connections to/from the calibrator are 6mm OD Swagelok[®] tube fittings.

2.3 Electrical Connections

2.3.1 Power Supply

A single phase mains power supply is required to operate this unit as indicated by the yellow label located on the front panel of the unit. The user cannot change the power supply voltage as this involves replacing internal electromechanical parts.

The power supply connection is a 3-pin IEC plug located on the front panel of the unit.

A 3-core power cable is provided, the free end of which should be wired to a suitable earthed plug or directly via a fused power spur. Power cable conductors are color coded according to the convention:

Brown	
Blue	
Green/Yellow	

L (Live) N (Neutral) E (Earth)



WARNING This instrument must be connected to electrical earth for safety

2.3.2 Current Outputs

There are two current source outputs which can be set to either 4-20 or 0-20 mA and scaled by the user over the range -200 to +1000 by use of the supplied Optidew application software. Factory set default is 4-20 mA over the range 0 to $+100^{\circ}C$ (+32 to $+212^{\circ}F$).

The Channel 1 mA output can be set for dew point, RH, g/m^3 , g/kg, temperature or $\Delta(t - tdp)$. Channel 2 outputs temperature only.

The connections for both of these outputs are via the 15 way ${\bf \dot{D}'}$ type connector. Connection details are as follows:

Pin number	Current Output	
1	Channel 1 - dew point, %RH, g/m ³ , g/kg, temperature, Δ (t - tdp)	
2	Channel 1 – 0 V	
3	Channel 2 - temperature	
4	Channel 2 – 0 V	

 Table 2.1
 Channel 1 and 2 Output Connections

2.3.3 Relay Outputs

Two sets of relay outputs are available via the 15 way D type connector. They are the optics fault/alarm relay and a status relay.

The optics fault/alarm relay changes state either to indicate that the Optidew sensor mirror and optics require cleaning or when the process variable exceeds the alarm set-point value.

The status relay changes state when the instrument is in **DCC** (Dynamic Contamination Control), **DATA HOLD**, or if the system has an optics fault.

Pin number	Current Output	
9	Optics Fault / Alarm Relay N/O	
10)ptics Fault / Alarm Relay COM	
11	Optics Fault / Alarm Relay N/C	
12	Status Relay N/O	
13	Status Relay COM	
14	Status Relay N/C	

Table 2.2Relay Output Connections

2.3.4 Digital Communications

The 9 way 'D' connector is used to communicate with the Optidew via the application software or by an ASCII terminal program.

The communication interface is RS232 as standard or RS485 as a factory settable option.

Pin number	RS232	RS485
2	Тх	В
3	Rx	А
5	GND	GND

Table 2.3RS232/RS485 Connections

3 OPERATION

Check all connections are in accordance with the installation instructions.

3.1 Operating Overview



The combined flowmeter and metering valves on the front panel indicate and control the humidity output of the unit. By mixing the wet and dry gas flows in different ratios, different humidities can be generated. After mixing, the gas flows into the test chamber and over the sensors under test. The Optidew Cooled mirror sensor is also installed in the chamber, and provides a reference dew-point measurement.

To the right of the display is a multi function button marked **'DISPLAY CONTROL**', which allows the user to scroll through the different measurement parameters available.

In order to communicate digitally with the instrument, through the RS232 output, it is necessary to change the display to **`REMOTE MODE**'. This can be achieved by holding the **`DISPLAY CONTROL**' button down for 7 seconds - the mode change will then be confirmed on the display. To continue using the display, hold down the button for a further 7 seconds - the display will then switch back to **LOCAL** mode.

3.2 Dynamic Contamination Correction (DCC)

Dynamic Contamination Control (**DCC**) is a unique compensation system that eliminates loss of measurement accuracy, due to mirror surface contamination. **DCC** consists of a self-learning prediction algorithm that adapts itself to its operating conditions in order to achieve optimum performance at all times. Although fully automatic, fine-tuning is possible to suit extreme operating conditions.

At switch-on, the system initiates a **DCC** to measure the surface condition of the mirror. During this phase, the mirror surface is heated above the dew point and the instruments' status is indicated by the display status LED and the setting of Channel 1 mA output to 23 mA. The end of the **DCC** duration will result in the system cooling the mirror surface to form condensation. Once system control is reached, the measurement phase will begin, indicated by the change in status of the instrument and reflection of the measured parameter in Channel 1's mA value.

The system will remain in the measurement phase until the end of the measurement time, after which a DCC will initiate, while maintaining Channel 1's mA value. During this, and any subsequent DCC, the new level of mirror contamination is compared with the one before and, if above a predetermined level, will initiate an increase in the mirror temperature to drive off any residual condensate before recording the new level of contamination. The duration of the increased mirror temperature can be up to four times the DCC duration, depending upon conditions.



Figure 3.1Graphical representation of system phases

3.3 Data Hold Phase

During **DATA HOLD**, the level of the Channel 1 mA output is held and the Status Relay and Status LED are energized and illuminated respectively, until the system has stabilized onto the measured dew point. The **DATA HOLD** phase will finish when the following two conditions are met:

- the minimum hold time has expired, and
- the system is stable to within a specified stability band

The minimum hold time is nominally set to 4 minutes, and generally, under most conditions, the system will be stable within this time period. However, there may be some conditions where the system may take longer to stabilize, so under these conditions an adaptive hold algorithm takes over to determine when stability is reached. If, under extreme conditions, the system fails to stabilize within the set stability band, the **DATA HOLD** phase will terminate when the maximum hold time is reached.

When the **DATA HOLD** finishes - the Status LED will turn off, the Status Relay will de-energize and the hold on Channel 1 mA output will be released. The system will now be in its continuous measurement phase, where it will remain until the measurement time has elapsed and the next **DCC** cycle initiates.





3.4 Display Screens

Below is a description of the parameters and system status information shown on each screen.

Screen 1: Displays the status of the Optidew

It will show **DCC**, **DATA HOLD**, **OPTICS ALARM** or **MEASURE** according to the current status of the Optidew instrument.

Screen 2: Peltier power and the Mirror condition

Peltier power indicates how much the heat pump is depressing in order to measure the dew point. When the peltier power has a value of 100% and does not reduce over an extended period of time, it means that the heat pump is at maximum depression. In normal operation this indicates that the dew point is lower than the present mirror temperature and therefore cannot be measured. Reducing the sensor ambient temperature by use of additional cooling will increase the measurement range of the instrument in applications where the peltier power >95%.

Alongside the peltier power value is an indicator that shows the control stability. When this indicator shows **CNTRL**, it indicates the system is controlling the mirror temperature on the dew point. **COOL** indicates the system is depressing the heat pump in order to form dew on the mirror surface. **HEAT** indicates a rapid increase in dew-point level, whereby the system needs to increase the temperature of the mirror surface to read this new dew-point value.

The Mirror condition indicates the amount of signal received back from the mirror which includes both the level of moisture and contamination on the mirror surface. In **DCC** mode this display will only show the amount of mirror contamination and, if greater than 80% after a **DCC**, will initiate an optics alarm condition.

Screen 3: Humidity in %RH and ambient temperature

Screen 4: Humidity in dew-point and ambient temperature

Screen 5: Humidity in gkg⁻¹ and ambient temperature

Screen 6: Humidity in gm⁻³ and ambient temperature

Screen 7: The first line in this screen displays Δ (t – t_{dp}). This is the difference between ambient temperature and dew point. Note that this parameter will be equal to 0 if the dew point is higher than the ambient temperature (e.g. during a **DCC** cycle). The second line displays the ambient temperature.

Screen 8: The first line displays a_{W} which is equivalent to RH/100. The second line displays ambient temperature.

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Figure 3.3 Optidew Display Screens and Navigation

3.5 **Operating Procedure**

The procedure is as follows:

- 1. Switch the Gas Supply Selection Valve to either internal/external supply.
- 2. Switch on the power to the Humidity Calibrator. The Optidew instrument will enter **DCC** mode.
- 3. When power is applied the display will initially show test characters for approximately 0.5 seconds, after which the start-up banner will be displayed for approximately 7 seconds. The instrument will start up in **LOCAL** mode.
- 4. After the start-up banner has expired, the display will show screen 1. This displays the status of the Optidew Instrument. To scroll to screen 2, press and release the display control button. It is not possible to view any other screens until the DATA HOLD period is complete. NOTE: There may be a small delay before the display changes to the next screen; this is normal. After the DATA HOLD period has finished, screen 3 will appear. All eight screens can now be accessed by depressing the display control button.
- 5. Using the 'Wet Flow' and 'Dry Flow' metering valve and flowmeters set the humidity/dew-point temperature required. The following table shows the approximate flowrate settings required for generating various humidities/dewpoint temperatures. If a sequence of humidities/dew points are required, it is important to start at the driest and select progressively through the range, always moving from dry to wet. This will drastically reduce the time taken for the generator to stablize at each point. Allow sufficient time for the instrument to thermally stabilize before monitoring humidity/dew-point readings.

Required Relative Humidity (%)	Required Dew Point (°C)	Dry Flow Flowrate (I/min)	Wet Flow Flowrate (I/min)
10	-10	2.5	0.2
21	0	2.5	0.6
45	10	1.5	1.2
60	15	0.7	1.3
90	20	0	1.5

NOTE: These settings are only intended as a guide. The user will have to "fine tune" each setting for accurate humidities/dew points. These settings are calculated at an operating temperature of 23 °C. Therefore, if the operating temperature changes or the efficiency of the gas drying unit deteriorates then these settings will not be accurate.

Table 3.1 Guide to setting flowrates for required RH or dew point

- 6. When the dry gas supply from the gas drying unit deteriorates the **Dry Flow** setting will have to be increased and the **Wet Flow** setting decreased to compensate for the wetter supply gas. The compensation required will be greater at the lower humidities and eventually it will be impossible to generate the lower humidities. At this point the gas drying unit will need replacing/regenerating.
- 7. If the external dry compressed air supply is used the **Dry Flow** setting will have to be decreased and the **Wet Flow** setting increased to compensate for the dryer air supply.
- 8. Prior to shut-down, always return the calibrator to the **'Full Dry**' (<10% RH) setting and allow the generator to run for several minutes to purge out the moisture in the system.

4 MAINTENANCE

Routine maintenance of the Michell Humidity Calibrator is limited to the following tasks:

- Re-Filling the Saturator System
- Gas Drying Unit Replacement
- Cleaning the Optidew Cooled Mirror Sensor
- Re-calibration of the Humidity Calibrator

4.1 **Re-Filling the Saturator System**

The frequency of re-filling the saturator system is dependent on the humidities being generated. High humidities will consume far more water than low humidities. The efficiency of the saturator system will reduce if the level of water is allowed to reduce. Michell Instruments recommends that the saturator level is checked prior to use on a daily basis.

Fill the saturator system following the steps below:

- 1. Disconnect the power supply to the calibrator.
- 2. Carefully unscrew and remove the filling port knurled nut and red plastic cap located on the rear panel of the unit.
- 3. Fill the saturator with clean distilled water to a level (viewed through the rear panel). The water level is not critical but should be kept above the minimum level and below the maximum level.
- 4. Replace the filling port red plastic cap and knurled nut and resume normal operation.

4.2 Gas Drying Unit Replacement

The calibrator is fitted with a desiccant dryer column to dry the air supply drawn from ambient. It is accessible from the rear panel of the unit.

The frequency of desiccant/dryer unit replacement is dependent upon the length of time in operation. Typically the gas drying unit can continually generate low humidities for a minimum period of 24 hours before replacement is required.

The desiccant provides an indication of its condition by a change in color: - blue represents a dry active condition whereas a deep pink represents a wet exhausted condition.

Michell Instruments recommends initially that the gas drying unit be examined on a daily basis, and then depending on the condition, increase/decrease the maintenance period accordingly. Replacement Gas Drying Unit type - Aldrich type Z11287-9.

To replace the gas drying unit follow the steps below:

- 1. Disconnect the power supply to the calibrator and remove the rear panel.
- 2. Locate and release the gas drying unit from its retaining clips and remove the tubing from the gas ports at each end of the unit. Regenerate the desiccant or replace with a new/regenerated gas drying unit.
- 3. To regenerate the desiccant, remove it from the acrylic column and spread evenly on a tray. Heat for 1 hour at about 200°C. The desiccant should then be cooled in an air tight container before refilling back into the acrylic column. The felt filters should also be dried out at about 100°C for 30 minutes.
- 4. Re-assemble the gas drying unit into the calibrator and replace the rear panel and resume normal operation.

4.3 Cleaning the Cooled Mirror Sensor

Throughout the life of the Optidew Cooled Mirror Sensor, periodic cleaning of the mirror surface and optics window may be required, depending upon operational conditions and exposure of the sensor to contamination.

Sensor cleaning is mandatory if the instrument indicates an optics fault. The cleaning procedure is as follows:

- 1. Switch the instrument off, or, if it is required to leave it on, a **DCC** cycle must be performed. Remove the test chamber cover.
- 2. Clean the mirror surface and optics window with a cotton bud soaked in distilled water. If the sensor has been exposed to oil based contamination then use one of the following solvents: methanol, ethanol, or isopropyl alcohol.
- 3. When cleaning is complete, replace the test chamber cover and switch the instrument on if necessary and observe the mirror contamination value during the **DCC** phase. If this value is not 0%, then remove the lid of the case and adjust the potentiometer until this value is reached, ensuring that the adjustments are made ONLY during the **DCC** phase. If this value is under-range the display will flash 0%, indicating that a positive adjustment is required.

NOTE: There will be a delay of approximately 5 seconds between the actual adjustment and the displayed value changing.

NOTE: If the mirror contamination value displays 'low' next to 0% (on display), or flashes 0% (through PC interface), this indicates that the value is below 0%, and needs positive adjustment.



Figure 4.1Potentiometer Location

4.4 **Re-Calibration of the Humidity Calibrator**

The Optidew is inherently drift free by design. However, as with any high quality measuring instrument, regular re-calibrations against standards are recommended.

This work can only be done by exposure of the Optidew Cooled Mirror Sensor to sample gases of known moisture content using calibrated test equipment traceable to national standards.

Michell Instruments recommends that the Optidew Dew-Point Transmitter is re-calibrated on an annual basis to ensure its accuracy.

5 APPLICATION SOFTWARE

The application software is an interface to the Optidew that provides a display of the measured and calculated parameters, system status, charting and logging, statistical information and a facility to view and change the system parameters.

5.1 Virtual Hygrometer

The **Virtual Hygrometer** window provides a display for the instrument by showing the measured parameters and status.

Virtual Hygrometer	
Humidity Change Units Change Units C dew point	Peltier Power
Hold display in DCC mode	DCC 🌰 DCC Initiate Hold 🍊 Max Cool On
Temperature	Fault Chart / log
ਿ⊒⊡∘⊂	Alarm

Figure 5.1 Virtual Hygrometer window

The **Humidity** display has the ability to show dew point (°C/°F), %RH, gm⁻³, gkg⁻¹, Δ (t – t_{dp}) or a_w by clicking on the '**Change Units**' button. Selecting one of these options will show the measured or calculated value, but will not change the Channel 1 mA output of the instrument, as this can only be done via the parameter set-up window, see Section 5.2. When the software is executed, it will default to the present setting of Channel 1 mA output. The ambient temperature is constantly shown in the lower display. **NOTE: The Humidity display will blink if the dew point is higher than the temperature. This is normal and not a fault.**

Mirror Condition indicates the amount of signal received back from the mirror, which includes both the level of moisture and contamination on the mirror surface. In **DCC** mode this display will only show the amount of mirror contamination and, if greater than 80% after a **DCC**, an optics alarm condition will initiate.

Instrument status is shown via the five colored indicators. In DCC (initiated automatically or by the 'DCC Initiate' button), both the DCC and Hold indicators will illuminate showing the DCC status and the hold on Channel 1 mA output. When the DCC period ends, the DCC indicator will turn off leaving only the Hold indicator illuminated until the system enters the measurement phase. The Fault indicator will illuminate after a DCC if cleaning of the mirror surface is required. Refer to Section 4 for details of mirror cleaning.

The **Alarm** indicator will illuminate when the measured variable exceeds the alarm set point (if selected) (refer to Section 5.2).

Max Cool can be initiated by the **'Max Cool On'** button. Once initiated, the **Max Cool** indicator will illuminate and the system will drive the heat pump into maximum depression. This feature can be used to ascertain if the measured dew point is within the measurement capability of the instrument.

Clicking on the **`Statistics'** button allows maximum, minimum and average values of the measured parameters to be viewed. See Section 5.4.

Charting and logging of the measured values can be initiated by clicking on the 'Chart/log' button. See Section 5.3.

The **'Hold display in DCC mode**' check box stops the system from updating the display during **DCC**, when enabled. The display is held when **DCC** is initiated and is not updated until both **DCC** and **Hold** periods have expired.

5.2 Parameter Setup

The **Parameter Setup** window allows the setting and ranging of Channel 1 and 2 mA outputs, the duration for **DCC**, Measurement and **Hold**, and the values for atmospheric pressure and alarm set points.



Figure 5.2 Parameter Setup window

The Display Units and Channel 1 mA Output are selected by clicking the left hand mouse button in the relevant box. This will change the settings of both the instrument and the virtual hygrometer window. Changing the mA outputs from 4-20 mA to 0-20 mA & vice versa will change both Channel 1 & Channel 2 mA outputs.

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The maximum and minimum values of Channel 1 and Channel 2 are -200 to +1000 respectively, therefore allowing the range of the outputs to be anywhere between these limits. The values for Max and Min must be integer values with a difference between them of at least 1°C/F.

If Channel 1 is to be set for % RH, gm⁻³, gkg⁻¹ or Δ (t – t_{dp}), then the minimum value of Channel 1 Min should be 0, as a negative value for these parameters is not possible.

The pressure value is used to correct gm^{-3} and gkg^{-1} for atmospheric pressure. By entering the atmospheric pressure the display and Channel 1 mA output (if either gm^{-3} or gkg^{-1} is selected) will both be corrected accordingly.

The Alarm can be set to OFF or set to be active on any of the process variables i.e. dew point, ambient temperature, temperature difference, % RH, gm⁻³ or gkg⁻¹ as shown above. The set point needs to be an integer value between -200 and +1000, although negative set points are only valid for dew point and ambient temperature. If the process variable exceeds the set point, the **Alarm** indicator on the virtual hygrometer will illuminate and the Optics Fault/Alarm relay will change state.

To change any of the values, enter the required value and click on the return key. The background of the text box will change to yellow to indicate that the change is taking place. When confirmation has been received that the instrument has accepted the change, the background will change back to green.

NOTE: When the Parameter Setup window is open, the values in the Virtual Hygrometer window are frozen. The Parameter Setup window needs to be closed for the software to resume normal display mode.

5.3 Charting and Logging

Clicking on the **'Chart/log'** button in the **Virtual Hygrometer** window brings up the **Chart / log control panel** window.



Figure 5.3 Chart/Log Control Panel window

The chart, in its default configuration, displays dew point, temperature and % RH. However, gm^{-3} , gkg^{-1} and $\Delta(t - t_{do})$, can be added by clicking in the appropriate check box.

Within the **Global** section, you can select the charting and logging interval from a minimum of 5 seconds to a maximum of 1 hour. It offers the facility to log the temperature of the mirror while in **DCC** and **Hold**, or hold the measured value while in these modes and chart the held data values accordingly.

To log the measured and calculated humidity values to a data file for further analysis, click on the check box in the **Logging** section and specify a file name by clicking on the **'Browse'** button. If a log file is not required simply uncheck the box.

To Run, Pause and Stop the charting and logging facility, use the chart control buttons accordingly.

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Clicking on the **`Run'** button will bring up the chart as shown below. The chart shows the measured and calculated humidity values selected in the **Chart** section, with an assigned identifiable color for each value. It is possible to scale, zoom and scroll both X and Y axis of the chart by using the controls in the **Chart Settings** window, which can be activated by clicking on the **`Chart Settings'** button in the **Chart** window.



Figure 5.4 Chart window

The X & Y axes can be individually scaled. The X-axis can be scaled by using the **ZoomX** feature in the **Chart mode** section, while the Y-axis can be scaled by changing the min and max values, or selecting a parameter in the **Auto-scale** list, which scales the Y-axis to the actual values of the parameter.

There are a number of modes associated with the chart, which can be selected from the **Chart mode** list; Plot, Scroll (X, Y, & XY), Cursor, Zoom (X, Y, & XY) and Zoom Box. In order to use the scrolling and zooming modes, make your selection and click the left mouse button on the chart itself, moving the mouse across the chart accordingly with the left mouse button held down. This will zoom or scroll the chart accordingly.

Individual data points can be selected from the chart by using the cursor mode. Select the parameter in question by clicking on a legend on the right hand side of the chart (°C dew point is shown as selected above) and moving the cursor to the point of interest - the actual value with its time stamp will be displayed above the chart.

5.4 Statistics

Clicking on the **`Statistics'** button on the **Virtual Hygrometer** window will display the **Basic statistics** window as shown below:

Basic statistics					
		Maximum	Minimum	Average	
	Cdp	23.0	17.5	20.7	
	CTemp	23.6	23.5	23.6	
	%RH	96.7	68.7	84.7	
	gm ⁻³	22.99	16.23	20.10	
	gkg ⁻¹	17.76	12.54	15.53	
L	aw	0.97	0.69	0.85	
Reset					
	Last reset: 08:55:42 on 25-04-02				
Number of readings since reset: 7					
	Close				

Figure 5.5 Basic Statistics window

This window shows the maximum, minimum and average of each parameter since the program began taking readings from the instrument, or since the re-set button was pressed.

5.5 Control Parameters



The control parameters (protected by a password) should only be amended by trained personnel in order to adjust the system for operation in extreme conditions. Contact a Michell Technical Representative for details (see contact information in Appendix B).

5.6 Calibration Correction

Every Optidew is delivered with a Calibration Certificate detailing the deviation at each measurement point from a known reference value. Data provided on the Calibration Certificate is normally arranged as shown in the following extracts:

Extract from a UKAS Calibration Certificate:

Generated	Test Hygrometer				
Dew point °C	Dew-point Temperature °C	Sensor Temperature °C	Correction Required °C	Expanded Uncertainty °C	
-39.89	-40.11	-20	+0.22	±0.26	
-20.10	-20.31	0	+0.21	±0.22	
0.39	0.20	21	+0.19	±0.18	

Extract from a Standard Calibration Certificate:

Generated Dew point °C	Instrument Display °C
-40.1	-40.2
-20.1	-20.1
0.2	0.1

Figure 5.6 Extracts from Calibration Certificates

From time to time the Optidew may be calibrated by an external calibration agency, where similar data will be provided.

The **Calibration Correction** window is a utility that allows an authorized user to input calibration information in order to effect a real-time correction of the displayed, charted and logged data within the Opti-Soft application software.

Data for dew-point temperature and ambient temperature, both in units of °C, may be entered for correction purposes, along with the original Calibration Certificate reference number and date of calibration, providing full traceability of data. Once the correction data has been applied, by clicking on the check box, the main **Virtual Hygrometer** window will indicate that corrected data is being displayed and will show the Calibration Certificate number and date. This information is also saved to the **Log** file for data export.

Figure 5.7 on the next page shows the **Calibration Correction** window. Four sets of data may be entered:

DP Ref	Dew-point data for the reference hygrometer (sometimes called the actual dew point or the standard)	
DP Reading	Measured dew-point value of the Optidew under test	
Temp Ref	Temperature data from the reference thermometer	
Temp Reading	This is the measured temperature value of the Optidew under test	

Data can be entered for between 3 and 11 different dew-point and temperature calibration points. If no data is inserted, no calibration correction is possible. Data should be entered with the highest dew-point and temperature values at the top of the page, in descending value order to the bottom. If out-of-sequence data or spurious characters are entered, the software will raise a warning message and bad data must be re-entered.

The **Calibration Certificate Number** field is an optional entry field and is alphanumeric. Any information entered into this field will be displayed on the main **Virtual Hygrometer** window when calibration correction is enabled. In addition it will be saved to the **Log** file. Similarly, the date of calibration may be entered for display and logging when correction is enabled.

Once all necessary data has been entered in the **Calibration Correction** window, click on the **Use Calibration Date to Correct Measure Values** check box and then click on **Apply** and **Close** to return to the main **Virtual Hygrometer** display. Upon the next update, the corrections entered will be applied to all displayed and logged data, and a legend above the display will indicate this fact. To remove **Calibration Correction**, de-select the check box and click on **Apply**, then on **Close**.

V Dise Calibration Data to Collect Measured Values				
	DP Ref	DP Reading	Temp Ref	Temp Reading
1	20.0	20.1	50.1	50.2
2	10.1	10.0	40.1	40.2
3	-0.2	-0.1	30.2	30.3
4	-9.9	-10.0	19.9	20.0
5	-20.0	-19.9	10.0	10.0
6	-30.1	-30.2	-0.1	0.0
7	-40.2	-40.1	-10.1	-10.2
8			-20.1	-20.0
9				
10				
11				
Calibration Certificate Number cal 123				
Date of Calibration 29 01 04				
				Close

Figure 5.7 Calibration Correction window

NOTE: Enter the calibration data in descending order so the highest values are in row 1 as shown above.

5.7 Change of Password

The initial password is "Michell". This can be changed after entering the **Control and Calibration Data** windows. Selecting the **Change Password** menu item will display the following window where you can enter a new password with up to 20 alphanumeric characters. The password is not case sensitive.

Change Password		
Enter Password		

Confirm Password		

ОК		

Figure 5.8 Change Password window

Appendix A

Technical Specifications

Appendix A Technical Specifications

Humidity Calibrator			
Range	2 to 90% RH (-30 to +20°Cdp (-22 to +68°Fdp))		
	@ 21°C ambient		
Accuracy	Typically ±1% RH, ±0.2°Cdp, ±0.1°C temperature		
Measurement Units	dew point (°C/°F), % RH, temperature (°C/°F), g/m ³ , g/kg		
Display	2 x 20 character, vacuum fluorescent		
Resolution	0.1°C		
Outputs	analog: 4-20 mA or 0-20 mA over user settable output accuracy $\pm 0.2^{\circ}$ C 500 Ω Maximum Load Resistance digital: RS232 @ 9600 baud rate alarms: volt free contact, 2 A @ 30 V DC, 0.5 A @ 120 V AC		
Gas Inlet Pressure	1 to 8 bar (14 to 116 PSI)		
Gas Outlet Flow	0.5 to 4 I/min (1 to 8.5 SCFH) (dew point dependant)		
Saturator	Polycarbonate and porous polyethylene sinter		
Desiccant	1¼lb 8-mesh indicating 'Drierite'		
Power	100-120 V or 220-240 V, 50/60 Hz		
Power Consumption	60 V-A		
Power Supply Fuse	3.15 A (F) quick blow		
Operating Temperature	+18 to +24°C (+64 to +75°F)		
Enclosure	Painted aluminium 520 x 320 x 400mm (20 x 12.6 x 15.7in) (w x h x d)		
Weight	20kg (44lb) approximately		
Cooled Mirror Sensor			
Peltier	2 stage		
Photo Detection System	Single visible red spectrum		
Mirror	Gold plated copper		
Temperature Measurement	4 wire 100 Ω platinum resistance thermometer		
Sample Wetted Part	Acetal housing with glass optics window		
Operating Temperature	-40 to +90°C (-40 to +194°F)		
Flow Velocity	1 to 10 m/sec (3 to 32 ft/sec)		
Dew-Point Range	-60 to +90°C (-76 to +194°F)		
Temperature Range	-40 to +90°C (-40 to +194°F)		
RH Range	<0.5 to 100%		
Depression (@ 21°C ambient)	-45°C (-49°F)		



Figure A.1 HG-1 Set-Up Diagram



Figure A.2 HG-1 Flow Diagram

Appendix B

List of Worldwide Michell Instruments' Offices

Appendix B List of Worldwide Michell Instruments' Offices

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