

GREENSPAN



PH-1000A

pH SENSOR

PRODUCT USER MANUAL



CONTENTS

1	Introduction	3
1.1	System Description	3
1.2	How to Use the Manual.....	3
1.3	Certification	4
1.4	Unpacking and Inspection	4
1.5	Serial Number	4
1.6	Warranty Policy	5
1.7	Factory Service & Repair.....	5
1.8	Contact Details	6
2	Sensor Overview.....	7
2.1	Theory of Measurement.....	7
2.2	Applications	7
2.3	Instrument Details	8
2.3.1	Sensor Design	8
2.4	Cable Details	9
2.4.1	Mechanical Specifications	9
2.5	Options and Accessories.....	10
2.5.1	Cable Options	10
2.5.2	Replacement Electrode Kit (Part #570-0230)	10
2.5.3	Accessory Kit (Part # 5PH-AK1).....	10
2.5.4	Copper Inner Shroud (Part # 092-1034)	10
3	Sensor Operation	11
3.1	Wiring & Connections	11
4	Calibration & Maintenance.....	12
4.1.1	Quick check	12
4.1.2	Calculating Gain and Offset Correction Factors.....	12
5	Installation.....	14
5.1	Shipping and Storage Cap	14
5.2	Field Deployment Considerations.....	14
5.2.1	Cabling Considerations.....	14
5.2.2	Typical Sensor Installations	14
5.2.3	Field Installation must ensure:	15
5.2.4	Other Considerations.....	15
5.3	Guidelines for cleaning sensor.....	15
5.4	Replacing Reference Protection Ring.....	16
5.5	Electrode storage.....	16
5.6	Electrode replacement	16
6	Appendix A -Additional Information	18
6.1	PH1000 Specifications	18

1 Introduction

1.1 System Description

Thank you for purchasing the Greenspan pH Sensor. This manual provides a guide to the configuration, operation and maintenance of the sensor to provide long term reliable and accurate monitoring.

The PH-1000 probe uses a combination, glass pH and reference electrode in the one body. This electrode is field replaceable by the user. When placed in an aqueous solution a voltage is developed which varies depending on the pH of the solution. This voltage is compared against the voltage from the reference electrode which is stable. The reference consists of a specially coated wire in a salt filled cavity. This cavity makes electrical contact with the outside aqueous solution through a small porous wick. A common cause for premature pH sensor failure is the chemical or biological contamination or fouling of the wick or salt filled cavity. Added protection for the reference electrode is provided by a reference protection ring constructed of porous PTFE that is impregnated with a special conductive gel. It is placed over the reference wick and should prevent most contaminants from reaching the wick, while still allowing good electrical contact with the sample. If the low cost protection ring is contaminated or fouled it can be simply replaced, extending the life of the combination electrode.

Designed for applications where an analogue output is required. The sensor provides a 3 wire 4-20mA output. The sensor requires power from a stable DC source between 11 and 13.2 Volts.

The Sensor is packaged in an Acetal body, with double o-ring seals for the cable and sensor head. This fully submersible sensor design is rugged and well proven and can withstand the harsh conditions found in remote field applications including groundwater, salty or acidic water conditions.

1.2 How to Use the Manual

Along with this manual, there are several other documents that may assist in the successful configuration and operation of the Greenspan PH-1000A Sensor. These should be maintained on file as a permanent reference as to the features, applications and use of the PH-1000A.

Greenspan PH-1000A – Specifications Brochure

Greenspan PH-1000A – Certificate of Conformance

Greenspan PH-1000A – Quick Start Guide

1.3 Certification

The pH probes are assembled and tested in accordance with Greenspan's ISO 9001 Quality Certified System. Each Sensor is individually manufactured and certified against a traceable Standard.

Following calibration the sensors undergo a range of additional control processes to ensure that all specifications are consistent and documented.

The instrument is visually inspected, marked and labelled.

The complete sensor calibration record is archived for reference, and batch number information is kept on file for statistical analysis.

An individual Certificate of Conformance is issued to the customer.

1.4 Unpacking and Inspection

All Greenspan Sensors are made to order and are individually calibrated and inspected. This ensures that they leave the factory in a working condition. On receipt, the customer should inspect the packaging and contents for any signs of damage during transportation. The customer should also check that all items on the delivery note have been received.

Please contact the factory in case anything is missing or damaged. A full set of documentation including Certificate of Conformance, Quick Start Guide, and User Manual will be provided with all equipment – either in hard copy format or in electronic format on the USB shipped with the goods.

1.5 Serial Number

Checking the Model Number and Range

Before installing your Greenspan PH-1000A sensor check the information on the label is correct to confirm you have received the instrument you have ordered. The label will look similar to this.

MODEL PH-1000A

RANGE 0 –14pH

S/N 012345

The customer is advised to keep a record of the serial numbers in case the sensor is lost or the label damaged. Greenspan keeps records of all sensors sold including a calibration history.

1.6 Warranty Policy

Greenspan warrants all new products against defects in materials and workmanship for **12 months** from the date of invoice. Products that prove to be defective during the warranty period will be repaired or replaced at the discretion of Greenspan.

Under Greenspan warranty conditions; it is the responsibility of the customer to cover shipping charges back to the factory. Upon repair/replacement Greenspan will cover the return shipping charges to the customer.

This warranty does not apply to products or parts thereof which have been altered or repaired outside of the Greenspan factory or other authorised service centre; or products damaged by improper installation or application, or subjected to misuse, abuse neglect or accident. This warranty also excludes items such as reference electrodes and Dissolved Oxygen membranes that may degrade during normal use.

Greenspan will not be liable for any incidental or consequential damage or expense incurred by the user due to partial or incomplete operability of its products for any reason whatsoever or due to inaccurate information generated by its products.

All Warranty service will be completed as soon possible. If delays are unavoidable customers will be contacted immediately.

Any sensor should not be dismantled unless under instruction from Greenspan Technical Service staff. Incorrect handling will void the warranty.

1.7 Factory Service & Repair

The correct choice of sensor and assistance with field installation can be provided by Greenspan and their sales offices. A correct choice of equipment, together with technical advice and field experience should result in long term success in the field. **Greenspan Technical Services** is dedicated to customer support and provides assistance in the selection, installation, deployment and commissioning of sensors with a full range of consulting services. All Greenspan products are designed, developed and manufactured in Australia and can be supplied at short notice.

If for some reason sensors are required to be returned to our factory or your sales representative, please note the model and serial number, Describe the problem, including how and under what conditions the instrument was being used at the time of malfunction. Clean the product and cable. Decontaminate thoroughly if used in toxic or hazardous environment. Carefully pack product in original packaging if possible & include a statement certifying product and cable have been decontaminated with supporting information. Products returned for repair must be accompanied by a completed GRA (Goods Return Advice) form. All sensors returned for service and repair work must be properly decontaminated prior to return. A cleaning charge may be applied to sensors that require further decontamination. Service work will not commence until the quotation has been accepted by the customer. A purchase order for all repair and service work will be required before work is carried out.

2 Sensor Overview

2.1 Theory of Measurement

The Greenspan PH-1000A sensor uses a robust, gel filled, industrial pH electrode for field monitoring in a variety of environments.

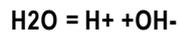
The pH electrode consists of a pH sensitive glass membrane attached to a sealed insulating tube containing a solution of fixed pH in contact with a silver-silver chloride half cell. The potential developed across the membrane is compared to a stable reference potential e.g. a silver-silver chloride half cell in contact with an electrolyte containing chloride. Completion of the circuit is by means of a porous constriction (the salt bridge) which allows the reference electrolyte to slowly flow into the sample.

pH gives an indication of the acidity/alkalinity of a solution and is defined as:

$$pH = -\log (H^+)$$

and covers a scale from 0 (acid) to 14 (alkaline) where H^+ is the hydrogen concentration in solution, at ordinary temperatures.

E.g. pH of water



The concentration of each type of ion is 10^{-7} mole/litre and hence the pH of pure water is:

$$pH = -\log 10^{-7} = 7$$

2.2 Instrument Details

Sensor Design

The Greenspan pH Sensor consists of the following primary elements:

Field replaceable pH electrode (fitted with reference protection ring)

Protective Shrouds (removable for cleaning)

Temperature compensated electronics with 4-20mA output

Acetal Body

Moulded cable entry

Fitted cable

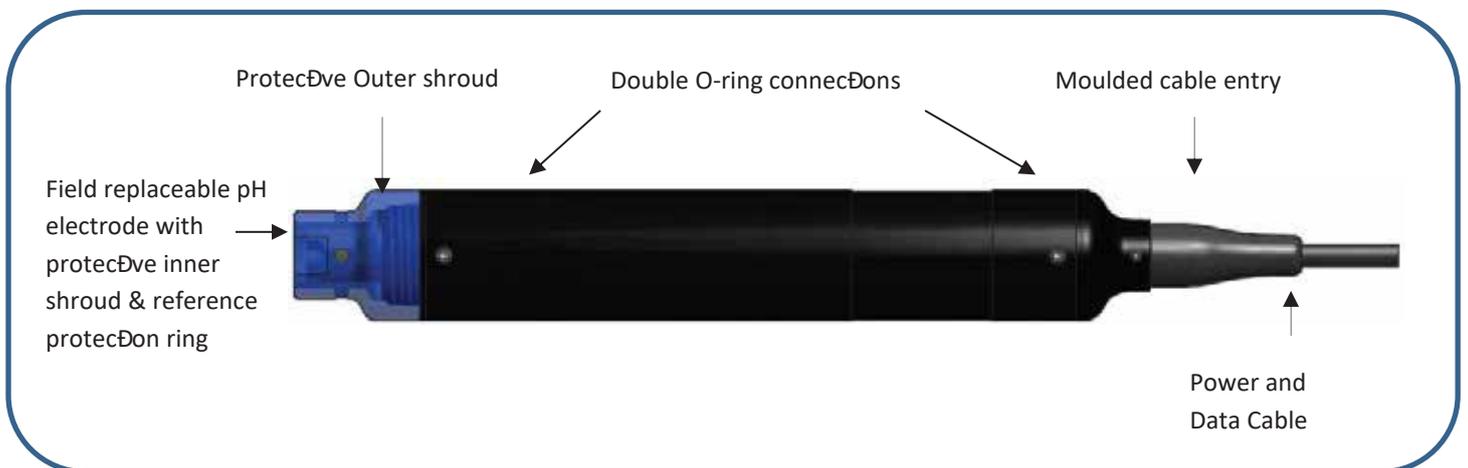
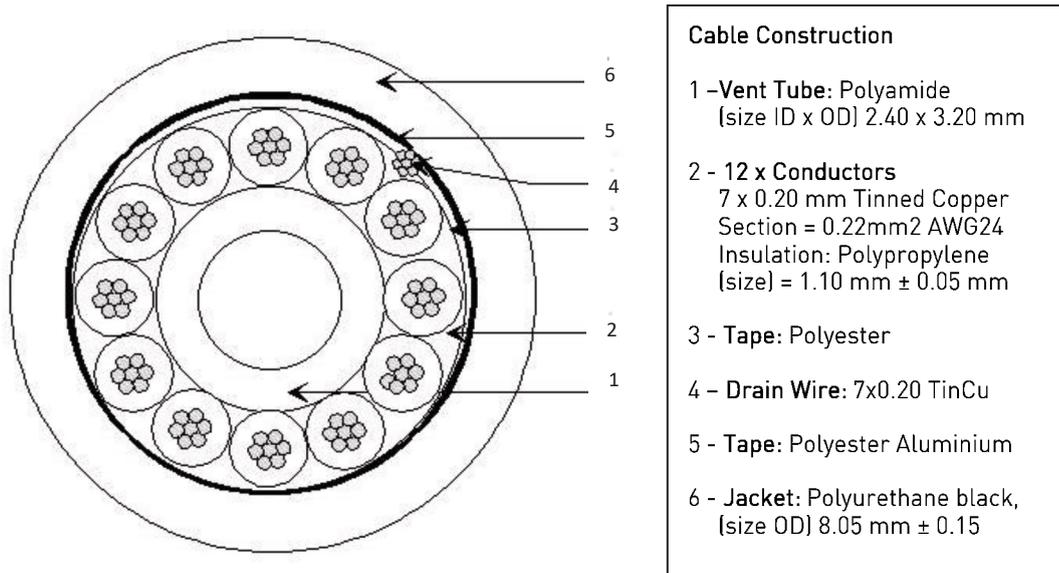


Figure 1 - PH-1000A Primary Elements

2.4 Cable Details

All Greenspan Sensors utilize a specially designed Polyurethane Cable. The cable contains 12 x conductors, 1 x drain wire, and an internal vent tube. The outer jacket is made from UV stabilized Polyurethane and is suitable for all external, underwater or harsh environment applications. This common cable construction is utilized for vented and non-vented sensors and all Greenspan Water Quality Sensors. Cables are generally factory fitted at time of manufacture in specified lengths. Cables can be joined or repaired in the field providing a waterproof connection can be maintained. Alternatively, cables can be terminated in waterproof junction boxes where cabling to other devices or longer cable runs are required.



2.4.1 Mechanical Specifications

Specially Manufactured Greenspan Cable with 12 cores and Internal Vent

High chemical resilience and abrasive resistance

Conductor cross section : AWG 24,

Electrical Resistance 9 ohm per 100m (per conductor)

Operating temperature: 85°C (max.),

Bending radius (static) : 6 ,

Bending radius (dynamic) 12.

Max Operating voltage : 250V

Jacket Printing (white colour each meter)

Conductor colour codes : green, yellow, white, black, brown,

turquoise, violet, pink, red, blue, grey

Tensile Strength is sufficient to self-suspend the Greenspan Sensor to depths of 300m.

Long term creep due to temperature effects or tensile loading is negligible.

The moulded cable is fitted to the sensor using a double o ring seal and located using 2 x grub screws. The length of the cable is not critical to the long term calibration and operation of the sensor (provided the electrical requirements such as minimum supply voltage are maintained).

2.5 Options and Accessories

2.5.1 Cable Options

The sensor in its standard configuraDon is supplied with a fixed moulded cable and bare wire terminal connecDon. Special connectors can be fitted to the cables to suit specific applicaDons, by request. Please contact your sales agent for pricing and further informaDon.

2.5.2 Replacement Electrode Kit (Part #570-0230)

A kit containing a replacement combinaDon electrode, spare reference protecDon ring and cleaning tool is available. Contact your Greenspan sales representative for pricing and details.

2.5.3 Accessory Kit (Part # 5PH-AK1)

A kit containing a reference protecDon ring and cleaning tool is available. Contact your Greenspan sales representaDve for pricing and details.

2.5.4 Copper Inner Shroud (Part # 092-1034)

A protective copper inner shroud can be fitted to inhibit biological or marine growth on the sensor electrode. Contact your Greenspan sales representaDve for pricing and details.

3 Sensor Operation

3.1 Wiring & Connections

The PH-1000A is a 3 wire, 4-20mA output sensor.

The following diagram illustrates the typical wiring arrangement for the PH-1000A

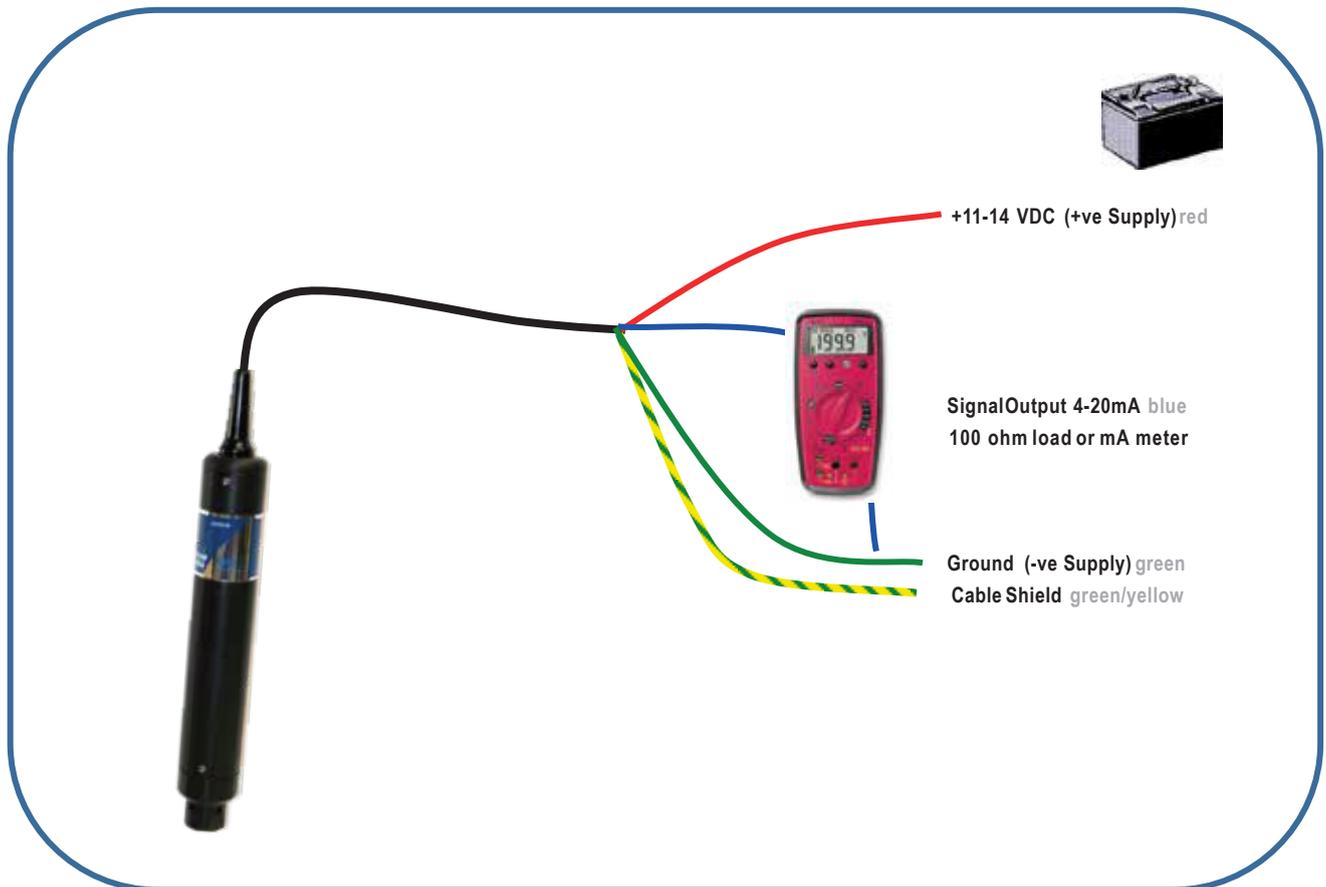


Figure 2 - PH-1000A Primary Elements

4 Calibration & Maintenance

To maintain high quality control over monitoring programs, it is recommended pH calibration is checked every 3-6 months. The PH-1000A has no facility to adjust the analogue outputs. If any gain or offset correction is required the factors should be entered into the datalogger or measuring device. Alternatively sensors may be returned to an authorised Greenspan agent for re-calibration.

The sensor can be checked by use of known pH standards (buffer solutions).

4.1.1 Quick check

1. Remove the sensor from the water, ensure the sensor is clean. Dirty electrodes could be a key source of calibration errors.
2. Connect the sensor to a DC power source and a meter to measure the sensor output.
3. Place the sensor in a low level pH buffer (eg. pH 4) so that the electrode is fully submerged and free from trapped air bubbles. Record the measured output value.
4. Carefully rinse the electrode in water and shake off any attached droplets.
5. Place the sensor in a high level pH buffer (eg. pH 10) so that the electrode is fully submerged and free from trapped air bubbles. Record the measured output value.
6. The pH sensor should output a value that is proportional to the full scale range of the sensor.

4.1.2 Calculating Gain and Offset Correction Factors

Most dataloggers or SCADA devices have the ability to enter gain (or multiplier) and offset factors to correct for small changes in the sensor output. If the quick check values are outside allowable tolerances, correction factors can be calculated and entered into the measuring device or used to post process any data recorded.

E.g. A quick check was done on a PH-1000A with the current output connected to an ammeter. The results recorded were 8.48 mA in pH 4.00 buffer and 14.82 mA in a pH 10.01 buffer.

Expected readings are calculated by:

Expected reading (mA) = (pH value x sensor output range / sensor pH range) + 4

$$\begin{aligned} \text{i.e. Expected reading in pH 4 buffer} &= (4.00 \times (20-4) / (14-0)) + 4 \\ &= 8.57 \text{ mA} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Expected reading in pH10 buffer} &= (10.01 \times (20-4) / (14-0)) + 4 \\ &= 15.44 \text{ mA} \end{aligned}$$

The gain correction can be calculated with the formula-

$$\text{Gain correction} = \frac{(\text{expected reading at high pH} - \text{expected reading at low pH})}{(\text{Reading at high pH} - \text{Reading at low pH})}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Gain correction} &= (15.44 - 8.57) / (14.82 - 8.48) \\ &= 1.0836 \end{aligned}$$

The offset correction can be calculated with the formula –

Offset correction = expected value at low pH – (reading at low pH x Gain correction)

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Offset correction} &= 8.57 - (8.48 \times 1.0836) \\ &= -0.619\end{aligned}$$

5 Installation

5.1 Shipping and Storage Cap



The PH-1000A sensor is shipped with a rubber cap covering the pH electrode. This cap contains a small amount of 3M KCl solution and is in place to prevent the electrode from drying out during shipping and storage. **This cap must be removed prior to installation.** The cap should be retained so that it can be placed back on the electrode if the sensor is to be removed.

5.2 Field Deployment Considerations

The sensor should always be completely submerged and positioned such that the possibility of air bubbles becoming entrapped on the electrode is minimised. Trapped bubbles may cause errors in the output. The sensor should be periodically inspected for fouling, and can be cleaned with fresh water and damp cloth. In marine environments crustaceans may need removal at regular intervals.

The sensor should always be fully immersed to ensure the electronic module is at water temperature. Sensors should generally be installed such that they can be easily and safely removed for cleaning and servicing. For environmental applications the sensor can often be mounted inside a section of PVC or steel pipe that enters the water body. The sensor can then be slid down inside the pipe until the sensor head just protrudes into the water body. This provides a high degree of protection for the sensor from environmental (sunlight, heat, flood debris etc) as well as from other influences such as cable, vandalism etc. Most sediment transport occurs during storm events and flood conditions. Protection from floating debris damage is an important consideration along with adequate tethering of sensors.

Another widespread application is to hang the sensors in the water body from a fixed structure or a floating buoy or pontoon. Generally in lakes or estuary applications the sensor can hang on its own cable, and be easily retrieved for routine servicing.

5.2.1 Cabling Considerations

Care should be taken with installation and field servicing to ensure the cable is not subjected to persistent pulling, snagging or severe compression. Cyclic loading of the cable should also be avoided through careful sensor deployment. Additional stalling wells or mounting brackets may be required to prevent sensor movement. Where cable runs are required which may be subject to environmental influence (heat, water movement, sunlight, flood debris etc) it is advisable to protect the sensor cable inside a slightly larger diameter conduit such as PVC, steel or polyethylene. This also allows the sensor cable to be pulled out – should a sensor change-over be required at the site. Maximum cable runs up to several hundred meters are possible without affecting electrical signals.

5.2.2 *Field Installation must ensure:*

The sensor is anchored or held in position or located so it is not subject to any movement during normal operations.

Sensor is protected from direct sunlight to avoid high temperature fluctuations.

Sensor is protected against high turbulence and possible debris loading during flow events.

The rubber storage cap is removed from the electrode.

5.2.3 *Other Considerations*

Environmental compatibility should be checked before using the sensors and advice sought from Greenspan if any doubt exists. The sensor utilises some 316 stainless components that are suitable in a majority of situations but care should be taken against possible corrosion in high Chloride, Sulphate or Ferric solutions. The sensor should always be totally immersed to ensure that the sensor is at water temperature and to also avoid any possible anodic/cathodic action taking place on the components at the water-air interface. If using clamps to mount the sensor – these should be of a type that evenly clamps the sensor body without excessive loading that could damage the sensor body.

5.3 Guidelines for cleaning sensor



The sensor and electrode may be cleaned using a soft cloth, mild detergents and warm water. If the sensor shows signs of marine growth a light biocide can be used to clean and kill any biological growth on the sensor. Sensors are supplied with a removable shroud that provides added protection for the electrode. This shroud unscrews for cleaning.

The sensor must be cleaned with the electrode in place. The sensor will be damaged by the ingress of water or other solutions into the electrode cavity. The electrode should only be removed when it is to be replaced. To assist in cleaning the glass electrode, the PH-1000A is provided with a special tool. A few drops of a mild detergent can be placed in the cleaning tool which is then pushed over the glass pH bulb. Carefully rotating the tool by hand should remove most contamination. For heavy scaling or contamination a cleaner that contains some abrasive can be used. Rinse the electrode in clean water prior to installing sensor or checking calibration.

5.4 Replacing Reference Protection Ring



The reference protection ring can be removed and/or replaced (with the electrode still in place in the sensor) by unscrewing the plastic shroud on the end of the electrode. The white protection ring can be slid off the glass electrode.

5.5 Electrode storage



pH electrodes should be stored in such a way to prevent the electrode from drying out. A rubber cap is provided with the electrode for this purpose. A small amount of liquid should be placed in this cap prior to the cap being placed over the electrode. 3M KCl is the preferred storage solution however, tap water should be used if not available. Soaking in pH 4 buffer solution overnight may restore some electrodes that have been allowed to dry out, although some calibration drift can be expected until the electrode is fully re-hydrated.

5.6 Electrode replacement

IMPORTANT NOTE: Applying power with no electrode fitted may damage sensor electronics. Always remove power from the sensor prior to removal of an electrode.

pH electrodes will require periodic replacement. How long they last is dependent on the environment and to a lesser extent the cleaning and maintenance. In a typical environment, electrode life between 1 and 3 years is quite possible. The electrode is sealed in its mount with 2 o-rings on the electrode body. The electrode is removed by unscrewing it from the housing. Spanner flats are machined on the electrode to assist.



Take care when handling the pH electrode, that it is not handled by the gold contacts. Contamination of this area may degrade the performance and expected life of the electrode.

Prior to removal of an electrode the sensor must be thoroughly cleaned and dried. Care must be exercised to ensure that no liquids or other contaminants enter the electrode cavity. The PH-1000A sensor should not be stored or transported without an electrode. Immersion of a PH-1000A without an electrode will likely cause damage to the sensor.

With the old electrode removed the electrode cavity should be carefully inspected. A small ring of contamination may be present at the mouth of the cavity. This contamination should be removed with a clean cloth in such a way so that

the contamination is not pushed inside the cavity. Do not flush the cavity with water or other cleaning solvents as damage to the electronics inside the sensor could occur.

Once clean, a new electrode can be screwed into the electrode mount. It is recommended that the calibration of the new electrode be checked prior to re-deployment.



6 Appendix A -Additional Information

6.1 PH-1000A Specifications

Measurement technique	Gel-filled glass electrode with internal Ag/AgCl reference Field Replaceable electrode
Sensor range (factory calibrated)	0-14 pH (4mA = 0pH, 20mA = 14pH)
Sensor output	Analogue 4-20mA
Accuracy	+/-0.2pH
Cable type	Polyurethane sheathed cable, OD 8mm, Aramid reinforced, moulded entry, bare wire connection
Cable lengths	10, 20, 30, 50, 100, 150 m (32, 65, 100, 165, 325, 490 Ö)
Non-standard cable lengths	Yes (Extra cable moulding time may be required)
Power supply	11-13.2 VDC (at sensor)
Reverse polarity protection	Yes
Surge current protected	To 2kV
Warm up time to stable reading	2 sec
Current consumption	10mA to 30mA while turned on
Operating temperature	0-50°C
Storage temperature	-5°C - +60°C
Depth rating (water column)	100m
Weight	500g plus cable weight (665g per 10m length)
Dimensions (L x OD)	364.20mm x 47mm (14.35" x 1.85")
Wetted materials	Acetal, Teflon, 316 Stainless Steel, polyurethane, viton

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