

5444 Sepulveda Blvd #216 Sherman Oaks CA 91411

T: (818) 606-0562

E: support@realtechcontrols.com W: https://realtechcontrols.com

S80 Calcium / Water Hardness Sensor Care and Calibration Addendum v1.1 (PLEASE READ – VERY IMPORTANT FOR CORRECT OPERATION)



Precautionary Notes:

- The packaging of the S80 sensors comes with a cap filled with KCl solution for sensor storage. The storage
 of the sensor or spare electrode is recommended for no longer than 6 months, and can be used after this
 for approximately another 6 months to 1 year. The life of the sensor tip (replaceable electrode) is
 approximately 6 months to 1 year in process. This screws off the sensor with a bayonet style fitting for
 easy replacement.
- 2. The **sensor tip should always remain submerged** as if left dry for even a few hours, the electrolyte will harden inside the membrane and render the sensor faulty.
- 3. Beware of the maximum temperature and pressure specifications, and we recommend operation to be well within these ranges for 0°C to 40°C (32°F to 104°F), at 0-50 PSI (0 3.5 bar).
- 4. The flow rate past the sensor is recommend around 0.25 to 5 GPM, and we recommend the EMEC NPED3 flow cell to keep the sensor tip submerged, and can be installed in-line or in a side stream sample line.

Installation / Commissioning Notes:

- 1. Remove the main sensor cap carefully, and also remove the orange small sensor tip protection cap prior to installation in the water line.
- 2. Keep these items in a safe place, in case of future sensor storage / transportation.
- 3. Be careful not to damage the tip by colliding this with other parts of the installation.
- 4. Always keep the sensor tip submerged in water, or else this will dry out and fault.
- 5. It is recommended to set the "Range Lock" in the controller to PPM, as the controller's default is autorange and switches between PPB and PPM for lower ranges.
- 6. It is recommended to set the "DAMP" (damping) on the controller to 100, to stabilize the reading, if need be as the sensor reads instantaneous values and may fluctuate too much depending on the process.
- 7. You are able to set the "Sensor Type" to either Water Hardness (CaCO3) or Calcium (Ca++) for either measurement.



5444 Sepulveda Blvd #216 Sherman Oaks CA 91411

T: (818) 606-0562

E: support@realtechcontrols.com W: https://realtechcontrols.com

Calibration Notes (see instruction manual for procedures):

- 1. It is necessary to let the sensor settle in the process (polarization), and is specified to reach 90% of the real value within 10 seconds and increase in accuracy in the time thereafter, as per the data sheet. However, generally let the sensor remain in process for around 10-30 minutes after initial installation.
- 2. Calibration frequency is generally determined by the process, and as water chemistry varies with all processes, the effect on the reading will also vary over time. A general rule of thumb would be to initially check the calibration the next day, and decrease calibration frequency based on how the values correlate to the lab test. Typical calibration frequencies are anywhere from weekly in harsh processes to once every 2 months for clean water applications.
- 3. The sensor calibration is stored inside the sensor, so you are able to calibrate this on a lab / bench ETX transmitter, and then remove and install the sensor in the field on another ETX transmitter if required.
- 4. The sensor is normally supplied pre-calibrated. If necessary, firstly perform a "STAND" calibration to match your actual process reading. This is an offset or single-point calibration once stabilized in the process, and can be compared to a lab / or hand-held tester.
- 5. The ETX transmitter also has an "AUTO" calibration feature which is a two-point calibration performed with a low and high value solution of known PPM (either as Ca or CaCO3). Calibration should always be performed with the low value solution first, and thereafter with the high value solution, always being a decade (x10) from the low value solution. For example, if you calibrate with 25ppm solution for the low range, the high range solution should be 250ppm etc. See the instruction manual for how to calibrate.
- 6. The time it takes for an "AUTO" calibration with your calibrations solutions handy is around 2 minutes.
- 7. The "MANUAL" calibration feature is to manually input Slope and Offset values, if calibration solutions are not available or to reset the controller to its initially calibrated default values. (generally supplied on a separate document with the purchase of an ETX Controller with S80 sensor).
- 8. Please contact us for your buffer solution requirements, which will depend on your measurement range of either Calcium, or Water Hardness.

Interfering Ions

- 1. Lead ions strongly interfere with the measurement, 2 Lead ions = 1 Calcium ion. This means for every 2 ppm Lead ions, the Calcium reading will be affected by 1ppm error on the measurement.
- 2. Mercury, Iron, Copper, Nickel, and Ammonium interfere at 1000–3000 : 1 so generally this is a very low / non-consequential interference.
- The pH also interferes with low level measurements, keep the pH > 4 for concentrations < 1ppm Ca++.
 Hydroxide, carbonates, fluorides, phosphates, sulfates all complex with calcium ions. Adjusting the pH < 7 eliminates carbonate and hydroxide issues.

Please contact us for your application, and we can assist further.