

# OPERATION MANUAL

# IAQ55

Indoor Air Quality Meter  
CO<sub>2</sub>/Humidity/Temperature



CE

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## INTRODUCTION

Thank you for purchasing this portable CO<sub>2</sub> meter. The meter measures CO<sub>2</sub> level, air temp., dew point, wet bulb temp. and humidity and is an ideal instrument for indoor air quality (IAQ) diagnosis.

Poor indoor air quality is considered unhealthy because it causes tiredness, loss of ability to concentrate, and even illness(ex. Sick Building Syndrome). IAQ monitoring and survey, especially on CO<sub>2</sub> level and air ventilation become widely applied in public areas such as offices, classrooms, factories, hospitals and hotels. It is also suggested in regulations of industrial hygiene in some countries. (Appendix)

The portable CO<sub>2</sub> meter uses NDIR (non-dispersive infrared) technology to ensure the reliability and long term stability. It's useful in verifying HVAC system performance and air ventilation control.

### **Features:**

- Triple displays of CO<sub>2</sub> level, temp. and humidity
- Stable NDIR sensor for CO<sub>2</sub> detection
- Statistics of weighted averages  
TWA (8 hours weighted average)  
STEL (15 minutes weighted average)
- Backlight for working in dark area
- Audible CO<sub>2</sub> warning alarm
- Battery and adaptor power supply
- Easy manual calibration on CO<sub>2</sub> and humidity
- PC connect via RS232 interface

## MATERIAL SUPPLIED

This package contains:



- ✓ Meter
- ✓ 4pcs AA batteries
- ✓ Operation manual
- ✓ Hard carrying case

Optional accessory:

## POWER SUPPLY

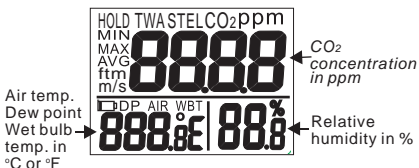
The meter is powered by either 4 AA batteries or a DC adaptor(9V/1A output).

Install the batteries into the battery compartment on the rear and make sure they are in correct polarity and good contact. When an adaptor is used, it will cut off the power supply from batteries. The adaptor can't be used as a battery charger.

When battery voltage gets low,  and "Lob" will appear on the LCD (Fig.1). And beeper sounds. The CO<sub>2</sub> sensor can't work under low voltage, so it beeps to indicate failed CO<sub>2</sub> measurement (press any key but  to stop the beeps) and the readings won't be displayed. Please replace with fresh batteries or connect with an adaptor.



## LCD DISPLAY



## Symbols

TWA	Time weighted average ( 8 hours)
STEL	Short-term exposure limit (15 minutes weighted average)
HOLD	Readings are frozen unchanged
MIN/MAX	Minimum/Maximum readings
	Low battery indicator
DP	Dew point temperature
AIR	Air temperature
WBT	Wet bulb temperature
%	Unit of relative humidity
°E (C/F)	Celsius/Fahrenheit
AVG/ftm/m/s	Unit icons in these models

## KEYPAD

- Turns on and off the meter.  
Enters setup mode.  
Sets as non-sleep mode with .
- Exits setup page/mode.  
Enters CO<sub>2</sub> calibration with .
- Enters RH calibration with .
- Freezes the current readings.  
Cancels data hold function.
- Activates or cancels the backlight.  
Selects unit or increases value in setup.
- Selects AIR, DP, WBT temps display.  
Selects unit or decreases value in setup.
- Activates MIN, MAX, STEL, TWA function.  
Saves and finishes settings.

## OPERATION

### POWER ON/OFF


Press  to turn the meter on and off. At power up, it emits a short beep and performs 30 seconds countdown (Fig.2) for meter warm up, then enters normal mode with current CO<sub>2</sub>, temperatures, and humidity readings displayed (Fig.3).



Fig. 2




Fig 3

Model IAQ55

### TAKING MEASUREMENT

The meter starts measurement when power on and update readings every second. In the condition of operating environment change (ex. from high to low temp.), it takes 30 sec to respond for CO<sub>2</sub> sensor and 30 minutes for RH. **NOTE:** Do not hold the meter close to faces in case exhalation affects CO<sub>2</sub> levels.

### AIR, DP, WBT

Press  to switch temperatures display. The lower left display will cycle from air temperature, dew point temp. (Fig.4), and wet bulb temp. (Fig.5).

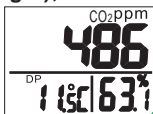


Fig.4



Fig.5

### DATA HOLD

Press **HOLD** to freeze the readings, "HOLD" icon is displayed on the left top of LCD(Fig.6). All current readings are kept unchanged, except STEL and TWA. Press **HOLD** again to cancel the hold function.

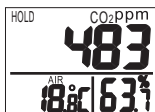


Fig.6

### BACKLIGHT

Hold down **MODE** for more than 1 second to activate and cancel backlight function.

### MIN,MAX,STEL,TWA

Under normal mode, press **M<sup>N</sup>/AV** to see the minimum, maximum, and weighted average readings. Each press of **M<sup>N</sup>/AV**, it displays MIN, MAX, STEL, TWA in sequence and returns to normal mode.

In MIN and MAX modes, it shows the minimum and maximum readings of CO<sub>2</sub> on main display and of AIR or DP or WB temperatures and humidity on the lower displays. (Fig.7)

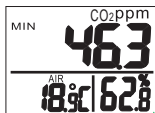


Fig.7

In STEL and TWA modes, the main display shows the weighted average of CO<sub>2</sub> readings for the past 15 minutes (STEL) and 8 hours (TWA). The lower displays are the current AIR, DP/WB temperatures and humidity. (Fig.8)



Fig.8

**NOTE:**

- 1.If the meter is turned on for shorter than 15 minutes, the STEL value will be the weighted average of readings taken since power on. Same for TWA values appear before 8 hours.
- 2.It takes at least 5 minutes to calculate STEL and TWA. The display shows "----" (Fig.9) during the first 5 minutes from power on.



Fig. 9

- 3.While all readings are held unchanged, STEL and TWA will keep updating every 5 minutes.

**ALARM**

The meter features audible alarm to give warnings when CO<sub>2</sub> concentration exceeds the limit. (See P1.0 in setup for setting alarm threshold). It emits beeps(Abt.80dB)when CO<sub>2</sub> level goes over the set value and stops when any key (but **⓪SET**) was pressed or readings fall below the set value. It beeps again when value goes over the limit. Restart the meter if beeper can't be stopped.

**AUTO POWER OFF**

The meter turns off automatically after 20 minutes of inactivity. To override the function, hold down **⓪SET** and **⓪HOLD** for 2 seconds to turn on the meter until "n" appears. **NOTE:** Auto sleep function will be disabled during calibration mode.

## SETUP

Hold down  $\text{D}_{\text{SET}}$  under normal mode for more than 1 sec to enter setup mode. To exit setup, press  $\text{CAL}_{\text{Esc}}$  in P1.0 or P3.0 and it returns to normal mode.

**Note:** P2.0 is not applicable in these models but for future model with CO and CO<sub>2</sub> measurement.

### P1.0 CO<sub>2</sub> ALARM

When entering setup mode, P1.0 and "AL" (Fig. 10) are displayed on the LCD. Press  $\text{M}_{\text{AV}}$  to go into P1.1 for setting CO<sub>2</sub> alarm threshold. The current set value will be blinking on LCD (Fig. 11).

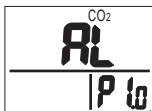


Fig. 10



Fig. 11

Press  $\text{MODE}_{\uparrow}$  to increase the value or  $\text{DP/WBT}_{\downarrow}$  to decrease. Each press tunes 100 ppm and the alarm range is from 100 to 9900 ppm. When the preferred alarm value is set, press  $\text{M}_{\text{AV}}$  to save the setting or  $\text{CAL}_{\text{Esc}}$  without saving and return to P1.0.

### P3.0 TEMPERATURE SCALE

Press  $\text{MODE}_{\uparrow}$  or  $\text{DP/WBT}_{\downarrow}$  in P1.0 to access P3.0 for setting up temperature scale (Fig. 12). Press  $\text{M}_{\text{AV}}$  and it goes into P3.1 with blinking °C or °F current set (Fig. 13) on the lower left display. To switch °C or °F, press  $\text{MODE}_{\uparrow}$  and  $\text{DP/WBT}_{\downarrow}$ . Then press  $\text{M}_{\text{AV}}$  to save the setting or  $\text{CAL}_{\text{Esc}}$  without saving and return to P3.0.



Fig. 12



Fig. 13



## CO<sub>2</sub> CALIBRATION

The meter is calibrated at standard 400ppm CO<sub>2</sub> concentration in factory. It's suggested to do manual calibration regularly to maintain good accuracy.

### **CAUTION:**

Do not calibrate the meter in the air with unknown CO<sub>2</sub> concentration. Otherwise, it will be calibrated as 400ppm by default and leads to inaccurate measurements.

The manual calibration is suggested to be done in fresh outdoor air that is well ventilated and in sunny weather.



Place the meter in the calibration site. Turn on the meter and hold down  and  simultaneously to enter CO<sub>2</sub> calibration mode (Fig.14). 400ppm and "CAL" are blinking on the LCD while performing calibration.



Fig. 14

Wait about 5 minutes until the blinking stops and the calibration is completed automatically and back to normal mode.

To abort the calibration, turn off the meter at any time.

### **NOTE:**

Ensure the batteries are with full voltage during the calibration to prevent from interruption or failed calibration.



## RH CALIBRATION

The meter defaults to be calibrated the humidity with 33% and 75% salt solution. The ambient condition is recommended to be at 25°C and stable humidity (better to be close to the calibrating value). To abort calibration, just turn off the meter.

### **CAUTION:**

Do not calibrate the humidity without the default calibration salt. Otherwise, it will cause permanent damage.

### **33% calibration**

Plug the sensor probe into 33% salt bottle. Hold down  and  under normal mode to enter 33% calibration (Fig.15). "CAL" and calibrating value (32.7% if at 25°C) are blinking on the LCD with current temperature at the left.

Meter is now calibrating, and will finish in about 60 minutes when "CAL" and humidity stop blinking. (Fig.16)



Fig. 15



Fig. 16

### **75% calibration**


After 33% calibration, plug the sensor probe into 75% salt bottle, then press  to enter 75% calibration (Fig.17).






Fig.17

Calibration Salt Solutions are not available through SUPCO.


“CAL” and calibrating value (75.2% if at 25°C) are blinking on the LCD with current temperature at the left. Meter is now calibrating. Wait about 60 minutes until blinking stops, then calibration is completed and it returns to normal mode.

### **NOTE:**

Users can also calibrate either point. To calibrate 33% only, press  and exit when 33% calibration is completed. To calibrate 75% only, press  or  within the 5 minutes while initializing 33% calibration.

## **TROUBLESHOOTING**

### **? Can't power on**

Press  for more than 0.3 seconds and try again. Check whether batteries are in good contact and correct polarity, or the adaptor is well plugged.

### **? Fixed readings**

Check whether data hold function was activated. (HOLD icon at the left top)

### **? Slow response**

Check whether the air flow channels on the rear were blocked.

### **? Error messages**

E01: CO<sub>2</sub> sensor damaged.

E02: The value is under range.

E03: The value is over range.

E04: The original data error results in this error (DP, WB)

E07: Too low voltage to measure CO<sub>2</sub>.

Replace batteries or use an adaptor.

E11: Retry humidity calibration.

E17: Retry CO<sub>2</sub> calibration.

E31: Temperature sensor damaged.

E34: Humidity sensor damaged.

## PC CONNECTION

The meter can do PC link for on-line logging and data analysis via RS232 interface and software.

The protocol is as follows.

A.9600 bps, 8 data bits, no parity.

### Model IAQ55

Cxxxxppm:Txxx.xC(F):Hxx.x%:  
dxxx.xC(F):wxxx.xC(F) LRC CRLF  
Description: \$CO<sub>2</sub>:Air:RH:DP:WBT LRC  
CRLF

## SPECIFICATION

### IAQ55

CO <sub>2</sub>	
Range	0-2000ppm, Accuracy $\pm 75$ ppm $\pm 5\%$ Reading 2001-9999 Accuracy (not specified)
Resolution	1 ppm
Pressure	+1.6% reading per kPa deviation
Dependence	from normal pressure, 100kPa
Temperature	
Range	14°F-140°F (-10.0-60.0°C)
Resolution	0.1°F / 0.1°C
Accuracy	$\pm 0.9$ °F / $\pm 0.6$ °C
Humidity	
Range	0.0-99.9%
Resolution	0.1%
Accuracy	$\pm 3\%$ (10-90%) $\pm 5\%$ (others)
Warm Up	30 seconds
Operating	32°F-106°F (0-50°C), 0-95%RH (avoid condensation)
Storage	68°F-140°F (-20-60°C), 0-99%RH (avoid condensation)
Power	4 pcs AA batteries, DC adaptor
Battery Life	24 hours 9Alkaline)

## **CO<sub>2</sub> LEVELS AND GUIDELINES**

### **Non-Enforced Reference levels**

#### **NIOSH recommendations**

**250-350 ppm:** normal outdoor ambient concentrations

**600 ppm:** minimal air quality complaints

**600-1000 ppm:** less clearly interpreted

**1000 ppm:** indicates inadequate ventilation; complaints such as headaches, fatigue, and eye/throat irritation will be more widespread. 1000 ppm should be used as an upper limit for indoor levels.

**EPA Taiwan: 600ppm and 1000ppm**

**Type 1 indoor areas such as department stores, theaters, restaurants, libraries, the acceptable CO<sub>2</sub> concentration of 8 hours average is 1000ppm.**

**Type 2 indoor areas with special requirements of good air quality such as schools, hospitals, day care centers, the suggested CO<sub>2</sub> level is 600ppm.**

### **Regulatory exposure limit**

**ASHRAE Standard 62-1989: 1000ppm**

**CO<sub>2</sub> concentration in occupied building should not exceed 1000ppm.**

**Building bulletin 101 (BB101): 1500ppm**

**UK standards for schools say that CO<sub>2</sub> at averaged over the whole day (i.e. 9am to 3.30 pm) should not exceed 1500ppm.**

**OSHA: 5000ppm**

**Time weighted average over five 8-hour work days should not exceed 5000ppm.**

**Germany, Japan, Australia, UK...: 5000ppm**

**8 hours weighted average in occupational exposure limit is 5000ppm.**

## **WARRANTY**

The meter is warranted to be free from defects in material and workmanship for a period of two years from the date of purchase. This warranty covers normal operation and does not cover misuse, abuse, alteration, neglect, improper maintenance, or damage resulting from leaking batteries. Proof of purchase is required for warranty. Warranty is void if the meter has been opened.