GE Sensing

Features

- Rapid speed of response to both wet up and dry down conditions comparable to high-end analyzers
- Accurate moisture measurement from 0 to 100 ppb
- Innovative measurement technique using newly patented aluminum oxide sensor technology
- Simplified, compact “flow-through” tee sample cell design
- Stainless steel VCR fittings
- CE certification and UL 508
- Easy-to-read large display
- Analog and digital outputs for full integration
- Compatible with PanaView™ interface software
- Installs out of the box in minutes

Applications

HygroTrace uses a newly patented technique to provide accurate and reliable measurement at trace moisture levels. Combining over 70 years of experience in aluminum oxide sensor technologies by Panametrics and General Eastern, this robust sensor provides the sensitivity and speed of response in the ppb range matched only by traditionally expensive analyzers.

- Ultra high purity (UHP) nitrogen and argon
- Cylinder, tank and truck filling applications
- Gas distribution systems in semiconductor fabrication facilities
- Tool and machine manufacturers

HygroTrace
Ultra-Low Moisture Transmitter

HygroTrace is a new addition to the extensive Panametrics and General Eastern product lines for ultra-low PPB moisture applications.
HygroTrace is a compact moisture transmitter designed to meet the technical requirements of the semiconductor industry. HygroTrace offers accuracy not commonly found in a transmitter and the speed of response of a full-featured analyzer at a fraction of the cost. Now you can monitor multiple points of measurements for less than the cost of one analyzer and without installation constrictions. HygroTrace’s unique and innovative sensor measurement technique responds to wet up and dry down conditions in minutes, minimizing moisture intrusion in your process.

HygroTrace is designed for installation where space is at a premium. The sensor is mounted on a “flow-through” tee sample cell that can be installed directly into the process stream or on a bypass leg of a gas distribution network. No custom machining is required. The sample cell uses a small volume sample and is composed of components that minimize moisture adsorption that adversely effects measurements.

HygroTrace features an integral backlit display to provide easy viewing and a keypad to configure the display, outputs, and other user functions and diagnostics. The RS485 interface enables the transmitter to be fully integrated into existing systems for OEM applications and networks.

**Patented Sensor Measurement Technique**

Traditionally, aluminum oxide sensors have not been widely used for measuring trace levels of moisture (<100 ppbv) due to sensor response time and calibration stability at these levels. However, aluminum oxide sensors offer many benefits to users, including a wide measurement range, simple installation and minimal temperature, pressure or gas composition effects. By further investigating aluminum oxide moisture sensor technology, GE Sensing has developed a new sensor, manufactured with semiconductor techniques, that applies a temperature pulse to ‘dry’ the sensor. Then the re-adsorption rate is measured while holding a constant sensor temperature. This measurement is proportional to the moisture concentration in the sample gas.

The short measurement window length effectively filters the long time constant variations in hardware and sensor response. Only short time constant, oxide surface adsorption contributes to the measurement. The end product is a robust thin film sensor design that provides the sensitivity and response time needed to effectively measure parts per billion levels of moisture.

**Wet Up Response**

![Wet Up Response Graph]

**Dry Down Response**

![Dry Down Response Graph]
HygroTrace Specifications

Measurement Range
0 to 100 ppbv with trend indication beyond the calibrated range

Compatible Gases
Nitrogen and argon

Process Gas Temperature Range
14ºF to 95ºF (-10ºC to 35ºC)

Storage Temperature
-40ºF to 158ºF (-40ºC to 70ºC)

Warm-Up Time
Meets specified accuracy within 24 hours, after sensor exposure <72 hours @ 25ºC and 60% RH

Calibrated Accuracy @ 77ºF (25ºC)
±20% of reading or ±5 ppbv, whichever is greater

Response Time
Less than 20 minutes for 95% of 25 ppbv step change

Electrical

Power
20 to 28 VDC, 20 watts
Output: 4 to 20 mA analog, RS485 digital
Output Resolution: 14 bits

Display
128 X 64 LED backlit LCD
Display one measurement parameter and diagnostics

Mechanical

Sample Connection
In-line flow, ¼ inch (6.35mm) VCR process connection

Sample Flow Rate
1 to 4.3 SCFH (0.5 to 2 SLM)

Operating Pressure
0 to 10 psig (0 to 0.69 bar)

Proof Pressure
3000 psig (207 bar)

Enclosure
Aluminum construction; black color; powder coated finish

Dimensions: (h x w x d)
Overall: 7.3 in x 4.6 in x 2.5 in (185 mm x 117 mm x 63.5 mm)
Weight: 2.5 lbs (1.13 g)

Certifications
UL 508
Moisture Sensor

Sensor Type
Thin-film aluminum oxide moisture sensor

Calibration
Each sensor is individually computer-calibrated against known moisture concentrations

Calibration Interval
Sensor recalibration by GE is recommended every 6 to 12 months depending on application