

Flow Meter

Description

General

This Electronic digital meter features a turbine measurement system, designed for precise measuring of low viscosity fluids. It is divided into two using macrogroups:

1. With body made of inconductive plastic material of light color, designed to be used with water/urea solution.
2. With body made of conductive plastic material of dark color (assessed resistance: 50 ohm), designed to be used with DIESEL FUEL, WATER and windscreen fluids.

The circuit board can be rotated with respect to its housing, thus allowing easy display reading in any position. The circuit board housing, easily accessible, is enclosed by a plastic cover sealed through a rubber guard acting as a gasket as well. The whole unit can be easily removed by unscrewing the 4 screws securing the circuit board and the cover.(Fig.2)

Turbine Measurement System

The turbine is placed inside a hole through the body of 8424, fitted with threaded inlet and outlet. The body of 8424 is made of a plastic material that allows several types of threads with relevant combinations. 8424 has two rubber guards which are designed to act as gaskets thus reducing the number of its components.

The liquids compatible with 8424 must be at low viscosity, namely: Diesel fuel, Water, Water/urea solution, Kerosene, Windscreen, Petrol.



Figure 1 Flow Meter Model 8424

Display



WARNING

When repositioning the circuit board, make sure the battery contact cable is not placed above the circular housing of the bulb.

Operating Modes

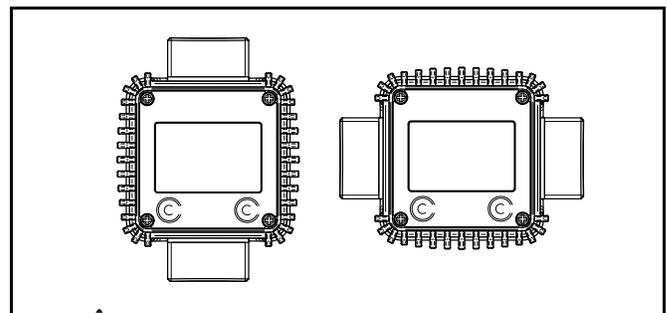


Figure 2 Flow Meter 8424 (Housing Rotated)

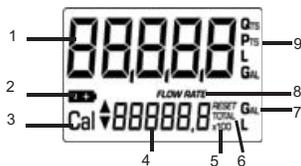
The user can choose between two different operating modes:

1. Normal Mode: Mode with display of Partial and Total dispensed quantities.
2. Flow Rate Mode: Mode with display of Flow Rate, as well as Partial dispensed quantity.

The meter features a non-volatile memory for storing the dispensing data, even in the event of a complete power break for long periods. The measurement electronics and the LCD display are fitted in the top part of the 8424 which remains isolated from the fluid-bath measurement chamber and sealed from the outside by means of a cover.

LCD Display

The “LCD” of the METER features two numerical registers and various indications displayed to the user only when the applicable function so requires.



1. Partial register (5 digits with moving decimal FROM 0.1 to 99999) indicating the volume dispensed since the reset button was last pressed;
2. Indication of battery charge;
3. Indication of calibration mode;
4. Totals register (6 digits with moving decimal point FROM 0.1 to 999999), that can indicate two types of Total: General Total that cannot be reset (TOTAL) Resettable total (Reset TOTAL)
5. Indication of total multiplication factor (x10/x100)
6. Indication of type of total, (TOTAL/Reset TOTAL);
7. Indication of unit of measurement of Totals:
8. Indication of Flow Rate mode
9. Indication of unit of measurement of Partial:

User Buttons

The 8424 features two buttons (reset and cal) which individually perform two main functions and, together, other secondary functions. The main functions performed are:

1. For the reset key, resetting the partial register and resettable total (reset total)
2. For the cal key, entering instrument calibration mode.

Used together, the two keys permit entering configuration mode, useful for changing the units of measurements and calibration factor.

Battery Housing

The 8424 is powered by two standard type 1.5 V batteries (size AAA). The battery housing, easily accessible, is closed by a metal cover sealed through a rubber guard acting as a gasket. The whole unit can be easily removed by unscrewing the 4 screws securing the cover and the guard to the body.

Installation

8424 features a threaded, inline inlet and outlet (1” gas or NPT male and female). It has been designed to be easily installed in any position: fixed in-line or mobile on a dispensing nozzle. In order to improve the life of the turbine, it is recommended to fit a strainer before the meter itself.



WARNING

At the female inlets, tighten the couplings at a max. torque of 55N/m. At the female inlets, tighten the couplings at a max. torque of 55N/m. With The Gas-female Inlets, Do Not Use Conical Threaded Couplings.

Daily Use

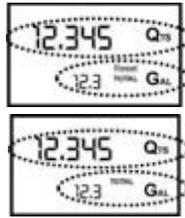
The only operations that need to be done for daily use are partial and/or resettable total register resetting. Occasionally the meter may need to be configured or calibrated. To do so, please refer to the relevant sections.

Below are the two typical normal operation displays. One display page shows the partial and reset total registers. The other shows the partial and general total. Switch over from resettable total to general total display is automatic and tied to phases and times that are in factory set and cannot be changed.



Dispensing in Normal Mode

Normal mode is the standard dispensing. While the count is made, the partial and resettable total are displayed at the same time (reset total).



Should one of the keys be accidentally pressed during dispensing, this will have no effect.

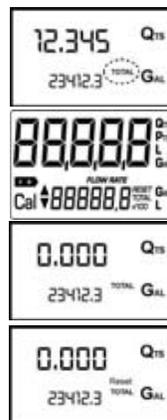
A few seconds after dispensing has ended, on the lower register, the display switches from resettable total to general total: the word reset above the word total disappears, and the reset total is replaced by the general total. This situation is called standby and remains stable until the user operates the 8424 again.

Partial Reset

The partial register can be reset by pressing the reset key when the meter is in standby, meaning when the display screen shows the word "TOTAL".

After pressing the reset key, during reset, the display screen first of all shows all the lit-up digits and then all the digits that are not lit up.

At the end of the process, a display page is first of all shown with the reset partial and the reset total.



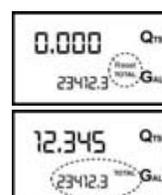
After a few moments, the reset total is replaced by the non resettable Total.

Resetting the Reset Total

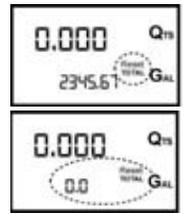
The reset total resetting operation can only be performed after resetting the partial register. The reset total can in fact be reset by pressing the reset key at length while the display screen shows reset total as on the following display page:

Schematically, the steps to be taken are:

1. Wait for the display to show normal standby display page (with total only displayed)
2. Press the reset key quickly



3. The meter starts to reset the partial
4. While the display page showing the reset total is displayed Press the reset key again for at least 1 second.
5. The display screen again shows all the segments of the display followed by all the switched-off segments and finally shows the display page where the reset Reset Total is shown.



Dispensing with Flow Rate Mode display

It is possible to dispense fluids, displaying at the same time:

- The dispensed partial
- The Flow Rate in [Partial Unit/minute]
- As shown on the following display page:



Procedure for entering this mode:

- Wait for the Remote Display to go to Standby, meaning the display screen shows Total only
- Quickly press the CAL key.
- Start dispensing

The flow rate is updated every 0.7 seconds. Consequently, the display could be relatively unstable at lower flow rates. The higher the flow rate, the more stable the displayed value.



WARNING

The flow rate is measured with reference to the unit of measurement of the Partial. For this reason, in case the unit of measurement of the Partial and Total being different, as in the example shown below, it should be remembered that the indicated flow rate relates to the unit of measurement of the partial. In the example shown, the flow rate is expressed in Qts/min. The word "Gal" remaining alongside the flow rate refers to the register of the Totals (Reset or NON Reset) which are again displayed when exiting from the flow rate reading mode.



To return to "Normal" mode, press the CAL key again.

If one of the two keys RESET or CAL is accidentally pressed during the count, this will have no effect.

Note: Even though in this mode they are not displayed, both the Reset Total and the General Total (Total) increase. Their value can be checked after dispensing has terminated, returning to “Normal” mode, by quickly pressing CAL.

Partial Reset

To reset the Partial Register, finish dispensing and wait for the Remote Display to show a Flow Rate of 0.0 as indicated in the illustration then quickly press RESET.



Calibration

Calibration factor or “k factor”: Multiplication factor applied by the system to the electrical pulses received, to transform these into measured fluid units.

Factory K Factor:

Factory-set default factor. It is equal to 1,000. This calibration factor ensures utmost precision in the following operating conditions:

- Fluid:** Diesel Exhaust fluid
- Temperature:** 20°c
- Flow rate:** 10-120 liters/min. (2.6-31.7 gal/min)

Even after any changes have been made by the user, the factory k factor can be restored by means of a simple procedure.

User K Factor:

Customized calibration factor, meaning modified by calibration.

Why Calibrate?

When operating close to extreme conditions, such as for instance with fluids close to acceptable range extremes (like diesel exhaust fluid at low temperatures) or in extreme flow rate conditions (close to minimum or maximum acceptable values), an on-site calibration may be required to suit the real conditions in which the 8424 is required to operate.

Calibration Procedure

8424 permits making quick and precise electronic calibration by changing the calibration factor (k factor).

There are 2 different ways of calibration:

1. On-site calibration, performed by means of a dispensing operation.
2. Direct calibration, performed by directly changing the k factor.

To enter the calibration phases it is necessary to press and hold down the “cal” button. Why enter the calibration phases?

- Display the currently used calibration factor
- Return to factory k factor after a previous calibration with user k factor
- Change the calibration factor using one of the two previously indicated procedures.

In calibration mode, the partial and total dispensed quantities indicated on the display screen take on different meanings according to the calibration procedure phase. During the calibration, the 8424 cannot perform any normal dispensing operations. In calibration mode, the totals are not increased.

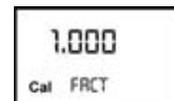


WARNING

The 8424 features a non-volatile memory. It keeps the calibration and dispensing data stored even after replacing batteries or long periods of inactivity.

Display Of Current “K Factor” And Restoring “Factory K Factor”

By pressing the cal key while the appliance is in standby, the display page appears showing the current calibration factor used.



If you are using 8424 with “factory k factor”, the display page shown in the diagram will be displayed, with the word “fact”.



If “user k factor” has been set, the calibration factor set by the user (in our example 0.998) will be displayed.

8. LONG RESET KEY KEYING - 8424 is informed that the calibration procedure is finished. Before doing this, make sure the DISPLAYED factor is the ACTUAL factor. 8424 calculates the new USER K FACTOR.



This calculation could require a few seconds, depending on the correction to be made. During this operation the arrow disappears but the CAL indication remains. If this operation is performed after operation (5), without changing the indicated value, the USER K FACTOR would be the same as the FACTORY K FACTOR, thus it is ignored.

9. NO OPERATION - At the end of the calculation, the new USER K FACTOR is shown for a few seconds, after which the restart cycle is repeated to finally achieve standby condition. **ATTENTION:** From now on, the indicated factor will become the calibration factor used by the meter and will continue to remain such even after a battery change.



10. NO OPERATION - 8424 stores the new calibration factor and is ready for dispensing, applying the newly defined USER K FACTOR.



Direct Modification of K Factor

This procedure is especially useful to correct a “mean error” obtainable on the basis of several performed dispensing operations. If normal 8424 operation shows a mean percentage error, this can be corrected by applying to the currently used calibration factor a correction of the same percentage. In this case, the percentage correction of the USER K FACTOR must be calculated by the operator in the following way:

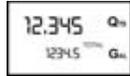
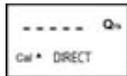
$$\text{New K Factor} = \text{Old K Factor} * \frac{(100 - E\%)}{100}$$

Example:

Error percentage found E% - 0.9%
CURRENT calibration factor 1,000
New USER K FACTOR 1,000 * [(100 - (-0,9))/100]=
1,000 * [(100 + 0,9)/100] = 1.009

If the meter indicates less than the real dispensed value (negative error) the new calibration factor must be higher than the old one as shown in the example. The opposite applies if the meter shows more than the real dispensed value (positive error).

Operation

- NONE - 8424 in STAND BY: not in counting mode. 
- LONG CAL KEY KEYING - 8424 enters calibration mode, shows “CAL” and displays the calibration factor being used instead of the partial. The words “Fact” and “USER” indicate which of the two factors (factory or user) is currently being used. 
- LONG RESET KEY KEYING - 8424 shows “CAL” and the partial at zero. 8424 is ready to perform on-site calibration by dispensing. 
- LONG RESET KEY KEYING - We now go on to Direct change of the calibration factor: the word “Direct” appears together with the Currently Used calibration factor. In the bottom left part of the display, an arrow appears (upwards or downwards) defining the direction (increase or decrease) of change of the displayed value when subsequent operations 5 or 6 are performed. 
- SHORT RESET KEY KEYING - Arrow direction changes. The operation can be repeated to alternate the direction of the arrow. 
- SHORT/LONG CAL KEY KEYING - The indicated value changes in the direction indicated by the arrow
 - one unit for every short CAL key keying
 - continually if the CAL key is kept pressed. The speed increase rises by keeping the key pressed. If the desired value is exceeded, repeat the operations from point (5).
- LONG RESET KEY KEYING - 8424 is informed that the calibration procedure is finished. Before performing this operation, make sure the indicated value is that required. 
- NO OPERATION - At the end of the calculation, the new USER K FACTOR is shown for a few seconds, after which the restart cycle is repeated to finally achieve standby condition. **ATTENTION:** From now on, the indicated factor will become the calibration factor used by the meter and will continue to remain such even after a battery change. 

9. NO OPERATION - The 8424 stores the new work calibration factor and is ready to begin dispensing, using the USER K FACTOR that has just been calculated.



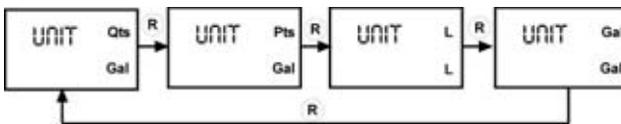
Meters Configuration

8424 features a menu with which the user can select the main measurement unit, Quarts (Qts), Pints (Pts), Liters (Lit), Gallons (Gal); The combination of the unit of measurement of the Partial register and that of the Totals is predefined according to the following table:

| Combination | Unit of Measure of the Partial Register | Register Unit of Measure of the Totals Register |
|-------------|---|---|
| 1 | Liters (L) | Liters (L) |
| 2 | Gallons (Gal) | Gallons (Gal) |
| 3 | Quarts (Qts) | Gallons (Gal) |
| 4 | Pints (Pts) | Gallons (Gal) |

To choose between the 4 available combinations:

- Wait for 8424 to go to Standby,
- Press the CAL and RESET keys together. Keep these pressed until the word “UNIT” appears on the screen together with the unit of measurement set at that time (in this example Liters/Liters)
- Press the reset key to select the desired combination of unit of measurement, amongst those shown below.
- Save the new combination by pressing the cal key at length. 8424 will pass through the start cycle and will then be ready to dispense in the set units.



WARNING

The Resettable Total and Total registers will be automatically changed to the new unit of measurement. NO new calibration is required after changing the Unit of Measurement.

Maintenance

8424 has been designed to require a minimum amount of maintenance. The only types of maintenance required are the following:

1. Battery change – necessary when the batteries have run down.
2. Cleaning of the turbine with washing or mechanically-handling.

Battery Replacement

8424 is complete with 2 x 1.5 V. alkaline batteries SIZE AAA. 8424 features two low-battery alarm levels:

1. When the battery charge falls below the first level on the LCD, the fixed battery symbol appears.

In this condition, 8424 continues to operate correctly, but the fixed icon warns the user that it is ADVISABLE to change the batteries.



2. If 8424 operation continues without changing the batteries, the second battery alarm level will be reached which will prevent operation. In this condition the battery icon starts to flash and is the only one to remain visible on the LCD.



WARNING

Do not discard the old batteries in the environment. Refer to local disposal regulations.

To change the batteries, with reference to the exploded diagram positions, proceed as follows:

- Press RESET to update all the totals
- Loosen the 4 screws securing the lower cover
- Remove the old batteries
- Place the new batteries in the same position as the old ones
- Close the cover while positioning the rubber guard as a gasket
- 8424 will switch on automatically and normal operation can be resumed.

The 8424 will display the same Reset Total, the same Total and the same Partial indicated before the batteries

were changed. After changing the batteries, the meter does not need calibrating again.

Cleaning

Only one operation is necessary to clean the 8424. After removing 8424 from its installation, any residual elements can be removed by washing or mechanically-handling. If this operation does not restore a smooth rotation of the turbine, it will have to be replaced.



WARNING

Do not use compressed air onto the turbine in order to avoid its damage because of an excessive rotation.

Disposal

The components must be given to companies that specialize in the disposal and recycling of industrial waste.

Disposal of Packaging - The packaging consists of biodegradable cardboard which can be delivered to companies for normal recycling of cellulose.

Disposal of Metal Components - The metal components, both painted and stainless steel, are usually recycled by companies that are specialized in the metal-scraping industry.

Disposal of Electric and Electronic Components - these have to be disposed by companies that are specialized in the disposal of electronic components, in accordance with the instructions of 2002/96/EC (see text of Directive below).

Environmental Information for Customers in the European Union - European Directive 2002/96/EC requires that the equipment bearing this symbol on the product and/or its packaging must not be disposed of with unsorted municipal waste. The symbol indicates that this product should be disposed of separately from regular household waste streams. It is your responsibility to dispose of this and other electric and electronic equipment via designated collection facilities appointed by the government or local authorities.

Disposal of Other Parts - The disposal of other parts such as pipes, rubber seals, plastic components and cables should be entrusted to companies that special in the disposal of industrial waste.

| Meter Indications | Possible Problems | Solution |
|---|---|---|
| LCD - No indication | 1. Bad battery contact. | 1. Check battery contacts |
| Not enough measurement precision | 1. Wrong K Factor 2. The Meter works below acceptable flow rate. | 1. Check the K Factor 2. Increase the flow rate until an acceptable flow rate range has been achieved. |
| Reduced or zero flow rate | 1. Turbine blocked | 1. Clean turbine |
| The meter does not count but the flow rate is correct | 1. Incorrect installation of gears after cleaning. 2. Possible electronic circuit board problems | 1. Repeat the reassembly procedure 2. Contact your dealer |

Changes Since Last Printing
Initial Release