



A Halma company



**OPERATION MANUAL  
FOR IS-MAX AND IS-PRO  
INTRINSICALLY SAFE DEVICES**  
DOC-MANUAL-IS-OPERATION

## Thank you for purchasing your Alicat Device.

If you have any questions, or if something is not working as expected, please contact us. We are eager to help you in any way possible.

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## NRTL, IECEx, and ATEX certified.

Please visit [alicat.com/certifications](http://alicat.com/certifications) to view Alicat's certifications.

## Recalibrate your device every year.

Annual calibration is necessary to ensure the continued accuracy of readings, and to extend the Limited Lifetime Warranty. Fill out the Service Request Form at [alicat.com/service](http://alicat.com/service), or contact us directly when it is time to send in your device for recalibration.

## Lifetime Warranty

For information about our limited lifetime warranty, visit [alicat.com/warranty](http://alicat.com/warranty).

Serial #: \_\_\_\_\_

Next Calibration: \_\_\_\_\_



This device comes with a NIST-traceable calibration certificate.



This device conforms to the European Union's Restriction of Use of Hazardous Substances in Electrical and Electronic Equipment (RoHS) Directive 2011/65/EU.



This device complies with the requirements of the Low Voltage Directive 2014/35/EU and the EMC Directive 2014/30/EU and carries the CE Marking accordingly.



This device complies with the requirements of the Electrical Equipment (Safety) Regulations 2016 and the Electromagnetic Compatibility Regulations 2016 and carries the UKCA marking accordingly.



This device complies with the requirements of the European Union's Waste Electrical & Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Directive 2002/96/EC

DOC-MANUAL-IS-OPERATION REV 0, Aug, 2023

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# Introduction

For installation instructions, pinouts, safety considerations, and connection configurations, please reference the **Safety and Installation Manual for IS-Max and IS-Pro Intrinsicly Safe Devices** found at [alicat.com/manuals](http://alicat.com/manuals).

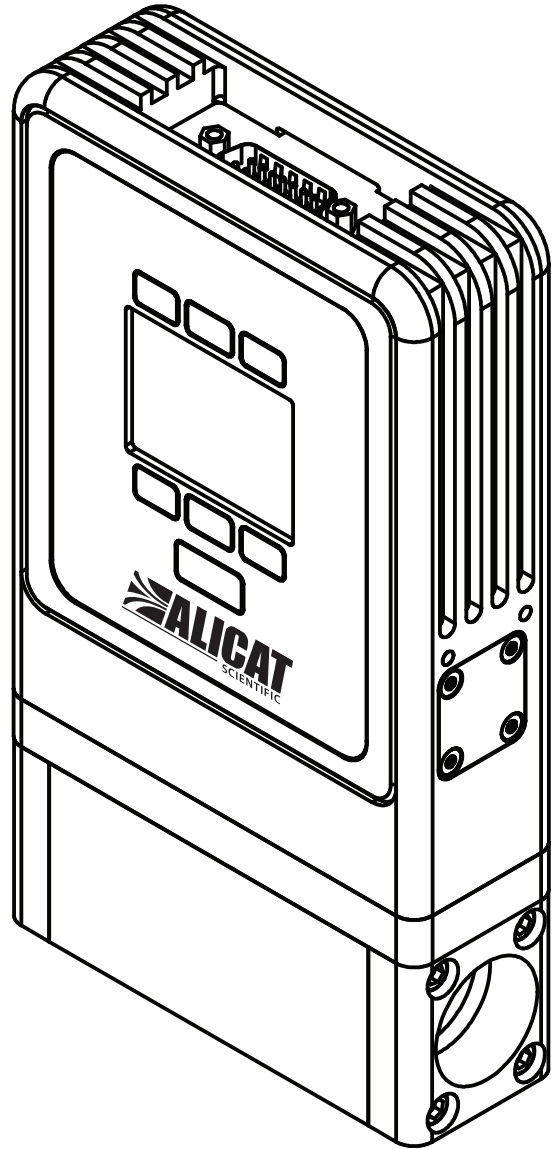
Depending on the model, Alicat devices have a variety of features:

- **1000 readings per second** guarantees high resolution data.
- **High-accuracy performance for all your flow.** Use the mass flow devices with any of the 98+ gases included with Gas Select™ ([page 17](#)).
- **Control pressure while monitoring flow rate.** Set the closed loop control algorithm to pressure control on your flow device ([page 14](#)).
- **Control either gas or liquid** with your pressure controller.
- **Monitor live pressure and temperature** in mass flow or liquid processes ([page 5](#)).
- **Monitor humidity** within the process using an optional humidity sensor that measures relative humidity, the dew point, and the percent of water vapor.
- **Backlit display with adjustable contrast** is easy to read even in direct sunlight. In dimly lit areas, press the logo to turn on the backlight ([page 5](#)).
- **Change your STP** to match any standard temperature and pressure reference for your mass flow ([page 18](#)).
- **Log data to your PC** with a serial data connection to control the device and capture data for logging and analysis ([page 24](#)).

This manual covers the IS-Max and IS-Pro intrinsically safe devices. Please refer to the table of contents on the previous page to locate specific functions regarding your device.

**For further support or questions regarding the use or operation of your device, please contact Alicat using the information on [page 2](#).**

If you have an idea for a new process or a challenging application, Alicat may be able to assist with one of our various solutions or a custom solution specifically for your needs.



# Basic Operations

This section covers the most common functions of your device. Settings for more specialized needs can be found after this section.

Please refer to the table of contents to determine the page of your desired function. Some information found in this section may be repeated in other sections for ease of section navigation.

## Viewing Live Data

The display screen has a number of options for displaying live data. There are various ways to modify the display screen functions, brightness, or orientation. Refer to **Display Setup** ([page 22](#)).

The display screen displays live data for all parameters measured by the device simultaneously. Sensors measure data at 1000 Hz, and the LCD display updates at 10 Hz. The measured data is displayed in the units designated by the device ([page 18](#)).

## Interacting with the Device

The images to the right identify the buttons of the device display. These images compare the differences between a mass flow controller, a pressure controller, and a liquid meter.

Below are the default button functions and their location on a given device. Pressing a button to highlight a reading changes what is centered in the display. If an unused button is pressed, nothing happens.

- **Highlight pressure:** all devices use **button 1**.
- **Highlight volumetric flow:** flow devices use **button 4**. Pressure devices do not measure volumetric flow.
- **Highlight mass flow:** mass flow devices use **button 5**. Pressure and liquid devices do not measure mass flow.
- **Highlight temperature:** flow devices use **button 2**. Pressure devices do not measure temperature.
- **Changing the setpoint:** controllers use **button 3**. Meters and gauges do not have a setpoint function. Refer to [page 6](#) for more information on changing the setpoint.
- **Taring the device:** meters and gauges use **button 3** (**TARE FLOW** for meters and **TARE PRESS** for gauges). Pressure controllers use **button 2**. Flow controllers do not have a tare button on the default display. Refer to [page 6](#) for further information on taring.
- **Enter the menu or move to the next screen:** all devices use **button 6**.
- **Enable/Disable the backlight:** all devices use **button 7**.

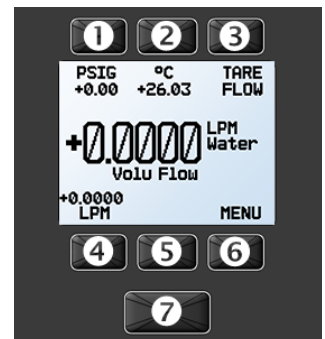
Button functions can be modified under **Display Setup** ([page 22](#)).



Live screen of a mass flow controller measuring the mass flow of air.



Live screen of a pressure controller measuring gauge pressure.



Live screen of a liquid meter measuring the volumetric flow of water.

## Status Messages

Status messages are shown above the **menu/next** button.

<b>ADC</b>	Analog-digital converter error	<b>OVR</b>	Totalizer rolled over to zero or reached its max limit
<b>EXH</b>	Exhaust mode active (Controllers)	<b>POV</b>	Pressure over range of device
<b>HLD</b>	Valve hold active (Controllers)	<b>TMF</b>	Totalizer missed out-of-range flow
<b>LCK</b>	Front display is locked	<b>TOV</b>	Temperature over range of device
<b>MOV</b>	Mass flow over range of device	<b>VOV</b>	Volumetric flow over range of device

# Taring the Device

Taring is an important practice that ensures your device provides its most accurate measurements. This function gives a zeroed reference point for measurements.

On flow meters and pressure devices, the tare button is found on the main screen. **Button 3** for meters and gauges and **button 2** for pressure controllers. To access taring for flow controllers, press the **MENU** button and then the **TARES** option under **button 3**.

Flow devices provide multiple tare options. For these controllers the **TARES screen** provides the available measurements to tare.

It is also possible for controllers to autotare when the setpoint is at zero for a designated time ([page 10](#)).

## How to Tare

### Taring Flow (Flow Devices)

**TARE FLOW** or **MENU** → **TARES** → **TARE FLOW**

For best results, taring flow should take place at the expected process pressure with no active flow. When **Tare Flow** is pressed, a message, “**ENSURE NO FLOW BEFORE PRESSING TARE**” displays. Press **TARE** to confirm taring the flow.

### Taring Pressure (All Devices)

**TARE PRESS** or **MENU** → **TARES** → **TARE PRESS**

Taring pressure requires the device to be open to atmosphere. When pressed, a message, “**PRESS TARE WHEN VENTED TO AMBIENT WITH NO FLOW. Current pressure offset:**” displays. Press **TARE** to confirm taring the pressure.

## When to Tare

- After significant changes in temperature or pressure.
- After dropping or bumping the device.
- After changing the device’s orientation.

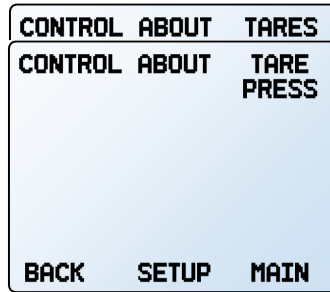
## Changing the Setpoint (Controllers)

The setpoint is the target flow or pressure a controller attempts to match by opening or closing the controller’s valves. Pressing the setpoint button from the main screen (**button 3**) moves the screen to the setpoint configuration screen.

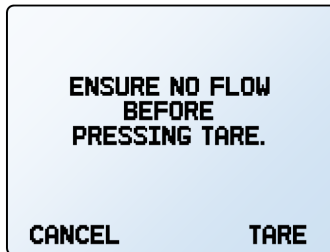
The setpoint configuration screen indicates the engineering units and maximum allowable setpoint (e.g., **SLPM: +1.000 Max**). To establish a setpoint, enter the desired value and press **SET**. The device immediately begins to control the flow or pressure.

To give a zero setpoint, press **CLEAR** and then **SET**.

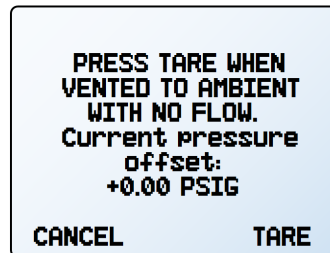
For more detailed options and settings, including setpoint ramping, see [page 12](#).



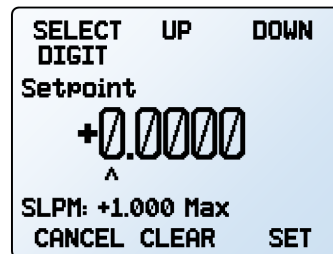
Flow devices have a TARES option while pressure devices have a TARE PRESS option on the main menu.



Tare flow confirmation screen.



Tare pressure confirmation screen.



Setpoint configuration screen.

## Selecting the Process Gas (Mass Flow Devices)

### MENU → SETUP → Active Gas

In most cases, mass flow devices are physically calibrated at the factory using air. Gas Select™ can reconfigure the device to flow and measure different gases without any need to send it back for a physical recalibration.

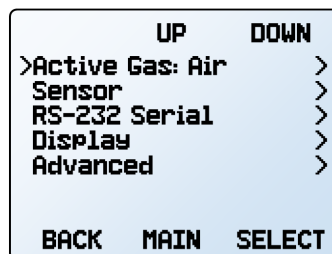
The gas selection is in the setup menu. To access it, press **MENU**, **SETUP**, then **Active Gas**.

Within this menu, there are a variety of categories, recent selections, and COMPOSER™ mixes. Each category lists a subset of available gases and preconfigured mixtures. Note that not all gases are available on all devices. Corrosive gases and refrigerants are only available on the anti-corrosive line of mass flow devices.

As soon as you press **SET** from the gas list, the device reconfigures its flow rate calculations to the newly selected gas properties. There is no need to restart the device or perform any other action.

The current gas selection appears just below the unit's indicator on the right side of the main display.

It is also possible to program the device to calculate the mass flow of a custom gas mixture (COMPOSER™ mixes). The device can have up to twenty of these mixtures saved at a time. For more information and instructions on creating custom gas mixing, see the COMPOSER™ section ([page 17](#)).



Setup menu.



# Data Screens

Your device has access to three types data screens that relay different information based on your needs.

Further settings for the data screens can be found on [page 22](#).

## Live Screen (Main Screen)

The live screen is the default data screen of the device. This provides access to the multiple different measurements that a device may be taking.

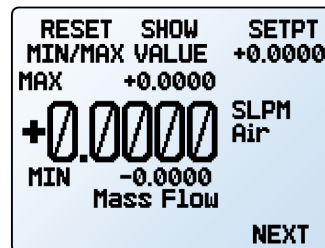
For more information, see the **Viewing Live Data** section under the **Basic Operations** on [page 5](#).

## Min/Max Screen

The min/max screen displays the current selected measurement value as well as the minimum and maximum measurement of that value since the last reset. Enabling the totalizers can be done in the **Display Setup** section ([page 22](#)).

On the min/max screen are four options:

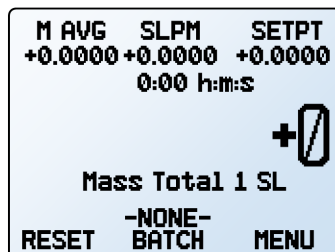
- **RESET** erases the current measured minimum and maximum and sets them to the current value.
- **SHOW VALUE** provides possible measurements to display on the screen, along with their minimum and maximum values.
- **SETPT** is only available on controllers. It displays the current setpoint. Press to set or clear a setpoint. See [page 10](#) for setpoint instructions.
- **NEXT** moves to the totalizer screen (if enabled) or **MENU** opens the device menu.



*Min/Max screen.*

## Totalizer Screen (Flow Devices)

Flow devices have optional totalizers. These display the total amount of mass or volume that has flowed through the instrument since its last reset. It also enables batch dispensing for controllers ([page 12](#)). To enable the totalizers and activate other options see the **Totalizer Options** section ([page 19](#)).



*Totalizer displaying a mass flow average without a batch.*

The totalizer screen comes with a number of options:

- **M AVG** or **V AVG** shows totalizer averaging, which displays average flow rate since last reset, updated live.
- **SLPM** (or another measurement of flow) displays the live flow rate.
- **SETPT** displays the current setpoint. Press to set or clear a setpoint ([page 10](#)).
- **BATCH** selects the quantity to be dispensed in each batch. **-NONE-** appears if the batch mode is off. Only available on flow controllers. Batching information can be found under the **Control** section ([page 12](#)).
- **RESET** clears all totalized data and immediately resets the timer to 0. Starts a new batch immediately, if set.
- **MENU** enters the main menu.
- **NEXT** moves to the second totalizer (if enabled).



# Device Information

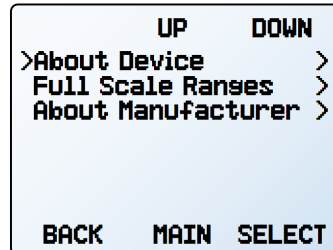
The **ABOUT** menu (**MENU** → **ABOUT**) contains information for setup, configuration, and troubleshooting.

## Basic Device Information

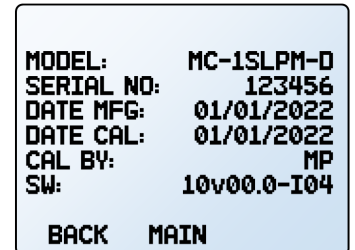
### ABOUT → About Device

This includes information on the following:

- **MODEL:** Device model
- **SERIAL NO:** Serial number
- **DATE MFG:** Manufacturing date
- **DATE CAL:** Most-recent calibration date
- **CAL BY:** Initials of the person who calibrated the device
- **SW:** Firmware version



*About menu.*



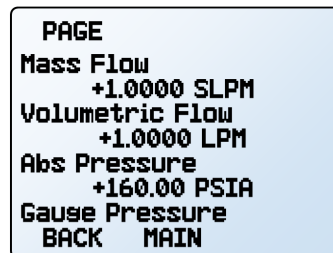
*About device screen.*

## Device Full Scale Ranges

### ABOUT → Full Scale Ranges

This displays the maximum calibrated range of available flow and pressure readings.

- **Mass flow devices** include mass flow, volumetric flow, and pressure.
- **Liquid devices** contain volumetric flow and pressure.
- **Pressure devices** include the various pressures that it can measure, and always includes barometric pressures.



*Full scale ranges screen.*

## Manufacturer Information

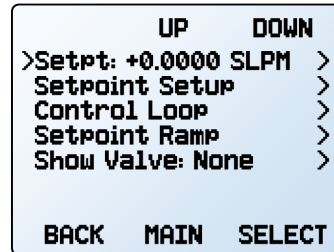
### ABOUT → About Manufacturer

**About Manufacturer** includes:

- Manufacturer name
- Web address
- Phone number
- Email address

# Control (Controllers)

For a controller to regulate the flow or pressure, it needs to have a setpoint established. The setpoint is the amount of flow or the pressure that the controller attempts to achieve in a process line.



Control menu.

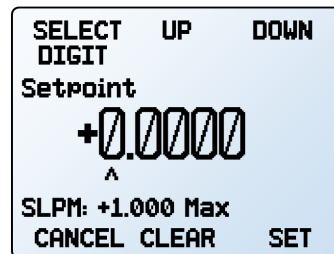
## Setpoint

SETPT or MENU → CONTROL → Setpt

The **setpoint configuration screen** indicates the engineering units and maximum allowable setpoint (e.g., SLPM: +1.000 Max). To establish a setpoint, enter the desired value and press **SET**. The device immediately begins to control the flow or pressure.

To give a zero setpoint, press **CLEAR** and then **SET**.

If the setpoint has an analog source, **SETPOINT SOURCE IS ANALOG** will be displayed.



Setpoint configuration menu.

## Setpoint Options

The setpoint can be configured with a few options to better control your process based on your needs. Below are various setpoint options and functions.

### Autotare and Zero Setpoint Options

MENU → CONTROL → Setpoint Setup → Zero Setpoint

A controller can automatically tare itself when it has a zero setpoint. Once the setpoint is given, the device waits a specified amount of time before taring. **Delay Before Tare** manages how much time the controller waits before taring. Make sure the delay provides enough time for the process to stop flow and settle.

**!** **Caution:** Autotare typically is not recommended for pressure controllers.

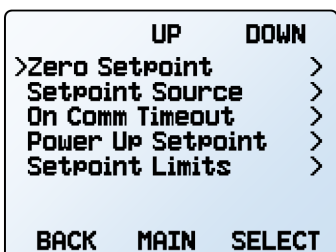
**Ramp** controls whether the device honors setpoint ramping ([page 12](#)) or immediately goes to the zero setpoint. If set as **Honor ramp to 0**, the controller moves to a zero setpoint at the specified ramp rate. If set as **Instantly to 0**, the controller immediately moves the setpoint to zero when a zero setpoint is given.

### Setpoint Source

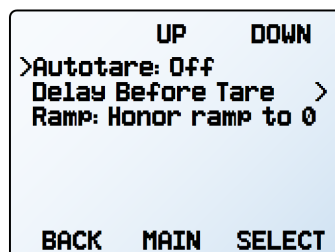
MENU → CONTROL → Setpoint Setup → Setpoint Source

Controllers with RS-232 or RS-485 communication accept setpoints from the front panel and serial commands ([page 24](#)). Alternatively, an analog source can be used instead.

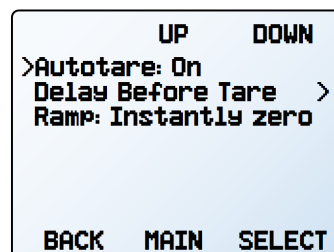
- When the source is set to **Serial/Front Panel**, the controller accepts input from either the front panel or an RS-232/RS-485 connection. Neither source is a slave of the other, and the controller accepts the most recent command from either source.
- When the source is set to **Analog**, the device ignores serial setpoint commands and prevents setpoint input from the front panel.



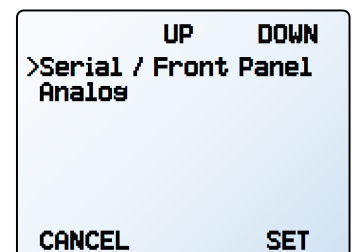
Setpoint setup menu.



Zero setpoint (autotare) menu with autotare off.



Zero setpoint (autotare) menu with autotare on.



Setpoint source menu.

## Idle Connection Response

MENU → CONTROL → Setpoint Setup → On Comm Timeout

If the connection is timed out, the controller can either set a zero setpoint, or maintain the last setpoint given. The timeout time is infinite by default and can be manually defined ([page 21](#)).

## Setpoint on Power-Up

By default, the controller remembers its last setpoint across power cycles, but it can move to a specific setpoint each time its powered on and also following the device ramp rate.

### Power Up Setpoint Value

MENU → CONTROL → Setpoint Setup → Power Up Setpoint → Value

By selecting **Fixed Setpoint** and entering a value, the device moves to the same setpoint every time after power up, ignoring whatever the setpoint was before being powered off.

If the setpoint is digitally provided more than every few minutes, use a fixed setpoint on power-up to avoid wearing out non-volatile memory in the device.

### Power Up Setpoint with Ramping

MENU → CONTROL → Setpoint Setup → Power Up Setpoint → Ramp

This designates if the device ramps up or not after powering on. The device can either honor the ramp rate and ramp up (**Honor from 0**) or jump immediately to the power up setpoint (**Jump from 0**).

## Setpoint Limits

MENU → CONTROL → Setpoint Setup → Setpoint Limits

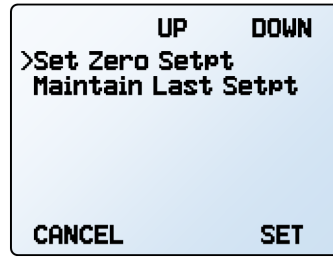
The **setpoint limits menu** configures upper and lower limits for selecting a flow or pressure control setpoint. By default, the limits are the controller's measuring range, but more strict limits may be beneficial in certain applications.

Over a serial connection, the controller rejects requests of a setpoint outside the limit and an error is returned. When using an analog setpoint signal, setpoints that are outside of the setpoint limits are treated as if they were at the nearest limit. For example, if you request a setpoint via analog that is below the lower limit, the controller sets the setpoint at the lower limit.

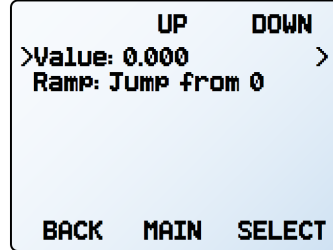
**Caution:** Flow controllers that have non-zero lower setpoint limits cannot be set to stop flow until the lower limit has been cleared.



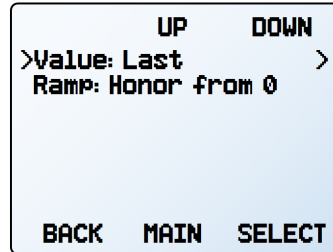
**Note:** When changing from one control loop variable to another, the flow controller remembers setpoint limits as percentages of full scale. For example, a 10-SLPM limit on a 20-SLPM controller (50% of full scale) will become a limit of 80 PSIA (50% of 160 PSIA) if the control loop is changed to absolute pressure.



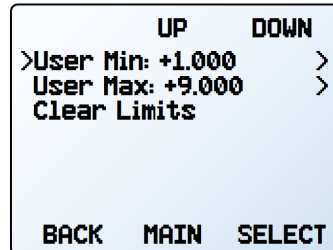
Communication timeout menu.



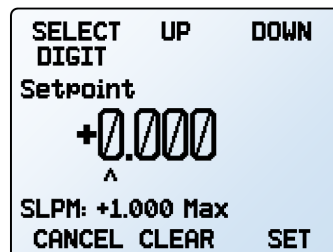
Power-up setpoint menu with jump from zero selected.



Power-up setpoint menu with honor from zero selected.



Setpoint limits menu.



Setting a minimum setpoint.

# Setpoint Ramping

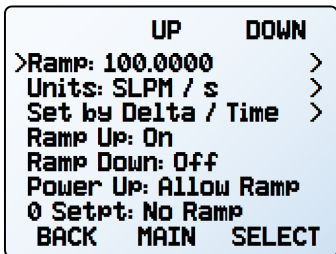
MENU → CONTROL → Setpoint Ramp

Setpoint ramping regulates how quickly the controller reaches the flow or pressure setpoint. It is often used to prevent bursts of pressure or flow from damaging delicate instruments at the start of a process.

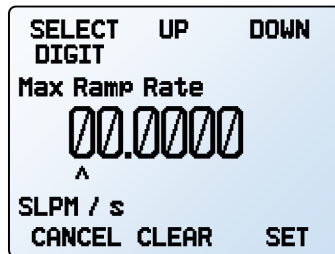
To activate setpoint ramping, set a maximum ramp rate and configure when to enable the ramping function.

## Ramp Rate

- **Ramp** changes the maximum rate of change.
- **Units** changes the engineering units used.
- **Set By Delta / Time** allows for more detailed control of the ramp rate including changing the value of the time period.



Setpoint ramping menu



Setting a maximum ramp rate.

## Ramping Options

Ramping options controls when ramping occurs. This can be when the setpoint changes, when the device powers on, or when setting a zero setpoint.

- **Ramp Up** can toggle between on and off. When off, the ramp rate will not be honored when increasing flow to reach a given setpoint.
- **Ramp Down** can toggle between on and off. When off, the ramp rate will not be honored when decreasing flow to reach a given setpoint.
- **Power Up** toggles between **Allow Ramp** and **No Ramp**. If set to **No Ramp**, the device ignores the ramp rate just after powering on, otherwise it honors the ramp rate starting at a zero setpoint.
- **0 Setpt** determines if the controller ramps down when a zero setpoint is set. If this setting is set to **No Ramp** when given a zero setpoint, the controller immediately drops to the zero setpoint. Otherwise, the controller ramps down at the selected rate.



**Note:** Setpoint ramping can be used with flow or pressure setpoints, depending on the control loop selected. Ramping for pressure control limits how quickly pressure changes before reaching the setpoint. To limit flow rates directly while controlling pressure, see [page 15](#).

# Batch Dispensing (Flow Controllers)

BATCH or MENU → CONTROL → Batch 1 or Batch 2

Batch dispensing flows a set volume of gas. Once that volume of gas flows through the controller, the valve closes and flow stops. You can repeat batches by pressing reset.

To utilize batching, at least one totalizer must be enabled ([page 19](#)). Batch sizes can be defined by using the **BATCH** button on the totalizer screen or from the **CONTROL** menu. In the **CONTROL** menu, **Batch 1** is for totalizer 1 and **Batch 2** is for totalizer 2. If both batches are programmed, flow stops as soon as either batch size is reached.

## Start a Batch

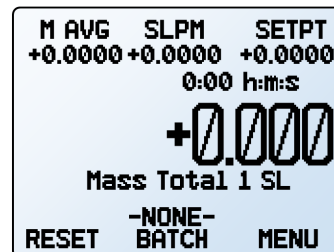
1. Choose the total quantity to be dispensed in each batch. Press **SET** to accept the new batch size.
2. Once a batch size has been set, give the controller a setpoint ([page 10](#)). Flow begins as soon as you press **SET**.



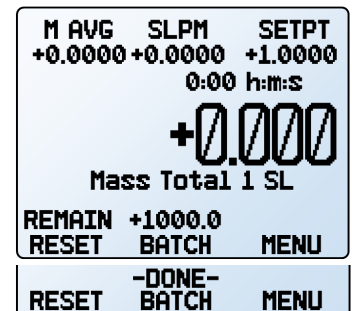
**Note:** Batch dispensing requires an active batch size and a non-zero setpoint. If your controller already has a non-zero setpoint, batching begins as soon as you press **SET** from the batch size screen.

While a new batch is being dispensed, the **BATCH** button on the totalizer screen changes to show the quantity that remains to be dispensed. When the batch size has been achieved, the **BATCH** button displays **-DONE-** and flow stops automatically. The setpoint is not cleared and remains the same.

The batch size can be changed while a batch is in progress. If the new batch size is larger than the current totalized flow, then flow continues until the new value is reached. If the new batch size is smaller than the current totalized flow, then the flow stops immediately. Press **RESET** to start the new batch.



Totalizer displaying a mass flow average without a batch, with a batch in progress, and with a finished batch.



## Repeat a Batch

- For an identical batch, press **RESET**. Flow begins immediately.
- For a new batch of a different size, press **BATCH**, and select the new batch size. If there is a non-zero setpoint, flow will begin as soon as **SET** is pressed.

## Pause or Cancel a Batch

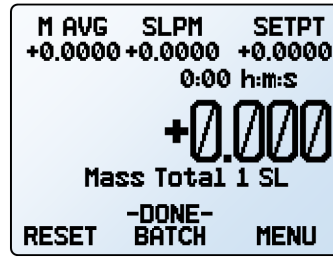
- To pause flow while a batch is in progress, change the setpoint to 0 by pressing **SETPT** → **CLEAR** → **SET** within the **totalizer menu**. This does not stop the timer. To resume, change the setpoint to a non-zero set point.
- To remove a batch setting, press **BATCH** → **CLEAR** → **SET**. Deleting the batch does not affect the setpoint. Flow will continue at the setpoint rate.



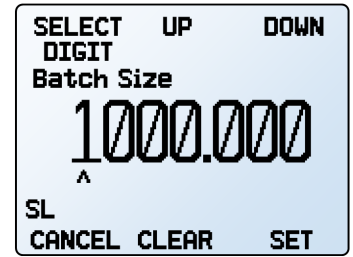
**Warning:** Flow resumes immediately at the current setpoint when batch dispensing is turned off.



**Note:** The controller retains batch size across power cycles. The batch size must be manually cleared to remove it.



A finished batch.



Selecting a batch size of 1000 SL.

## Valve Drive Percentage Display

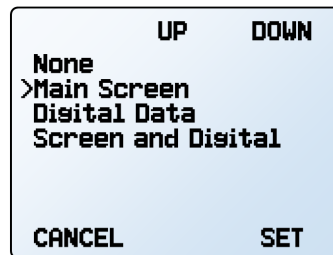
### MENU → CONTROL → Show Valve

The valve drive is represented as a percentage of the total possible voltage driven to the valve. While drive percentage does not directly correlate with percentage open, a drive percentage of 0% indicates the valve is not open.

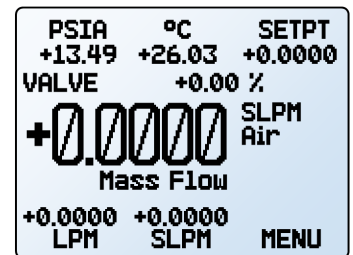
Viewing the valve drive percentage can be helpful for troubleshooting. An increase in percentage over time likely indicates a blockage in the system where more voltage is required to drive the valve to attain the same amount of flow.

This information may be displayed on the **main display** and/ or as part of transmitted serial data. There are four valve display options:

- **None:** No valve information is displayed.
- **Main Screen:** Only on the main display.
- **Digital Data:** Only in the serial data frame.
- **Screen and Digital:** Both the main display and serial data frame.



Valve display menu



Valve percentage on the live screen, above the large numbers.

# Control Loop

The control loop manages what parameter a controller controls as well as how the controller reacts to changes within the system.

## Controlled Variable


CONTROL → Control Loop → Control


The controlled variable is the measurement the controller attempts to regulate to the given setpoint. Controllers can only control one measurement at a time, but they still measure the other variables during that time.

**Mass Flow Controllers:** Mass flow, volumetric flow, absolute pressure, gauge pressure, valve drive

**Liquid Controllers:** Volumetric flow, absolute pressure, gauge pressure, valve drive

**Pressure Controllers:** Valve drive, absolute and gauge pressure, or differential pressure.

 **Note:** When pressure is the selected variable, all controllers with upstream valves control the outlet pressure. Those with downstream valves control upstream back pressure, but these devices must be configured for this type of control.

 **Warning:** When changing the control loop, the PID settings may need adjusting for optimal stability and speed of response.

## PD/PDF or PD<sup>2</sup>I Control Algorithms

CONTROL → Control Loop → Loop Type


Your controller uses an electronic closed loop controller to determine how to actuate its valve(s) in order to achieve the commanded setpoint. These settings are tuned at production for your specific operating conditions, but changes sometimes require on-site adjustments to maintain optimal control performance. Fine-tuning your closed loop control may help correct issues with control stability, oscillation, or speed of response.

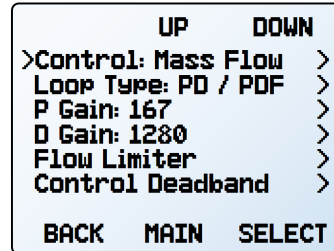
For most applications, the PD/PDF algorithm is recommended. When controlling pressure with a dual valve controller, the PD<sup>2</sup>I algorithm is recommended.

### Tuning the PD/PDF Control Algorithm

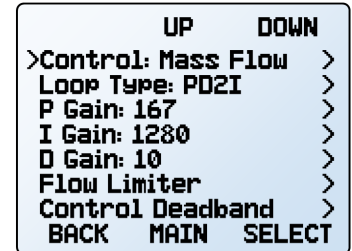
The controller's default control algorithm (PD) employs pseudo-derivative feedback (PDF) control, which uses two editable variables:

- The larger the **D** gain, the faster the controller changes the process value. This is equivalent to the **P** variable in common PDF controllers.
- The larger the **P** gain, the faster the controller will correct for offsets based on the size of the errors and the amount of time they have occurred. This is equivalent to the **I** variable in common PDF controllers.

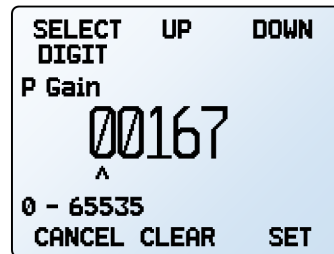
 **Note:** The *D* and *P* variables in the PD/PDF control algorithm are more typically referred to as *P* and *I*, respectively, in PDF controllers.



Control loop menu in PD/PDF control mode.



Control loop menu in PD<sup>2</sup>I control mode.



Setting a P Gain.

### Tuning the PD<sup>2</sup>I Control Algorithm

PD<sup>2</sup>I usually provides a faster response in dual-valve flow and pressure controllers. This algorithm uses typical PI terms and adds a squared derivative term (D):

- The larger the **P** gain, the more aggressively the controller will correct errors between the commanded setpoint and the measured process value.
- The larger the **I** gain, the faster the controller will correct for offsets based on the size of the errors and the amount of time they have occurred.
- The larger the **D** gain, the faster the controller will predict needed future corrections based on the current rate of change in the system. This slows the system down to minimize overshoot and oscillations.

### Troubleshooting Valve Performance with PID Tuning

The following issues may be resolved by adjusting the PID gain values for your controller.

Fast oscillation around the setpoint:

- **PD:** Reduce the **P** gain in decrements of 10%.
- **PD<sup>2</sup>I:** Increase the **P** gain in increments of 10%, and then adjust the **I** gain to fine-tune.

Overshot setpoint:

- **PD:** Reduce the **P** gain in decrements of 10%.
- **PD<sup>2</sup>I:** If **D** is not 0, increase the **P** gain in increments of 10%.



## Delayed or Unattained Setpoint:

- **PD:** Increase the **P** gain in increments of 10%, and then decrease the **D** gain by small amounts to fine-tune.
- **PD<sup>2</sup>I:** Increase the **P** gain in increments of 10%, and then increase the **I** gain to fine-tune.



Valve tuning can be complex. More detailed information is available at [alicat.com/pid](http://alicat.com/pid).

## Flow Rate Limit while Controlling Pressure (Flow Controllers)

CONTROL → Control Loop → Flow Limiter

Limiting the flow rate while controlling pressure can help to avoid exceeding the measurable range of the device as well as prevent damage of sensitive devices later in the process. To limit flow:

1. Choose either mass flow or volumetric flow to limit by pressing **TYPE**.
2. Set the maximum value of flow rate desired by pressing **MAX FLOW** and entering the maximum value in the engineering units displayed.
3. Set the **Limiter Gain** to 500 and adjust as needed. **Limiter gain** determines how aggressively the proportional control function corrects the error when the flow rate exceeds the maximum flow setting. A higher value corrects more aggressively, but is also more likely to oscillate near the flow limit.



**Note:** If both flow limiting and pressure setpoint ramping are active when controlling pressure, the more restrictive function regulates the controller's operation as it attempts to attain the setpoint.



**Note:** For bidirectional controllers, the flow limit will be symmetric. For example an MCD-20SLPM with a maximum set to 10 SLPM will be limited to between -10 SLPM and 10 SLPM.

## Control Deadband for Pressure Control

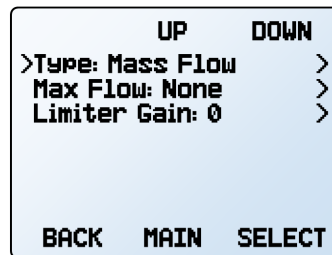
CONTROL → Control Loop → Control Deadband

The control deadband is designed to minimize the amount of gas exhausted and improve stability. There is no active control while pressure is within the deadband.

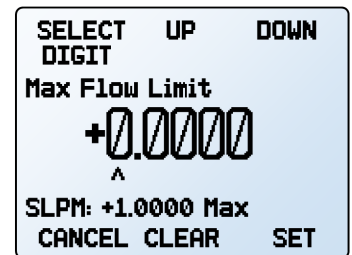


**Note:** A control deadband cannot be set when the device is configured to control flow (the **Control** menu item within the **control loop menu** (page 14). If control is set to mass flow, the error **Only active when controlling pressure** displays instead of the **deadband menu**.

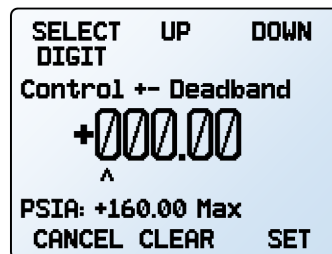
To turn on the control deadband, enter a non-zero value in **CONTROL → Control Deadband → Deadband**. The controller must first reach the setpoint for the deadband to activate. If the difference between the process value and the setpoint becomes larger than the deadband limit (due to either a setpoint change or process drift, active control resumes until the setpoint is reached again.



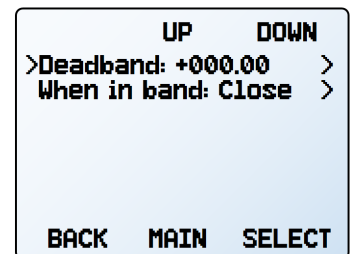
Flow limiter menu.



Setting a maximum flow limit.



Choosing deadband size.

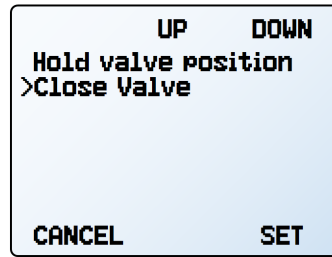


Deadband menu.



The controller can be set to either hold the current valve position or close the valve(s) in **CONTROL → Control Loop → Control Deadband → When in Band**. It is recommended to hold the current position on single valve controllers and close valves for dual valve controllers.

**!** **Caution:** *Single valve controllers do not have an exhaust valve to reduce pressure when pressure exceeds the deadband.*



*Choosing deadband options.*

# Setup

## Gas Selection (Mass Flow Devices)

In most cases, your mass flow device was physically calibrated at the factory using air. Gas Select™ allows you to reconfigure the device to flow a different gas without any need to send it back for a physical recalibration. The device is also able to be programmed with and measure custom mixtures of gases.

### Gas Select™

MENU → SETUP → Active Gas

Within this menu, there are a variety of categories (such as **Standard**, **Chromatography** and **Welding**), as well as recent selections, and COMPOSER™ mixes. Each category lists a subset of available gases and preconfigured mixtures.

As soon as you press **SET** from the gas list, your device reconfigures its flow rate calculations to the newly selected gas's properties. There is no need to restart the device.

Your current gas selection appears just below the unit's indicator on the right side of the **main display** (see [page 5](#)).

### Category and Gas List Controls

- **PAGE** advances the view to the next page of categories or gases.
- **SELECT** (in the category list) opens a list of gases in that category.
- **SET** (in the gas list) immediately loads the gas measurement properties and exits to the **setup menu**.

### COMPOSER™ Gas Mixes

SETUP → Active Gas → COMPOSER Mixes

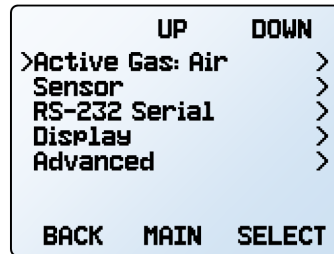
To remain accurate, your mass flow device needs to reference the viscosity of the gas you are flowing through it. The more closely you can define your actual gas composition, the more accurate your flow readings will be. COMPOSER™ is an included feature of Gas Select™ that lets you define new mixed gas compositions to reconfigure your flow controller on the fly.

Wilke's semi-empirical method is used to define a new gas mixture based on the molar (volumetric) ratios of the gases in the mixture. You can define these gas compositions to within 0.01% for each of up to five constituent gases in the mixture. Once you define and save a new COMPOSER™ gas mix, it becomes part of the Gas Select™ system and is accessible under the gas category **COMPOSER User Mixes**. You can store up to 20 COMPOSER™ gas mixes on your flow controller.

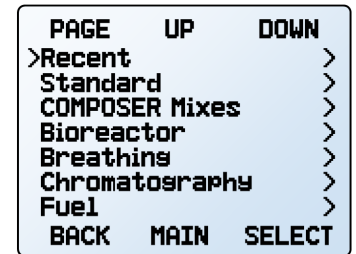


**Note:** The COMPOSER™ is device firmware, and does not physically mix gases. It only configures the device's calculations to report flow readings more accurately based on the constituent gases of your defined mixture.

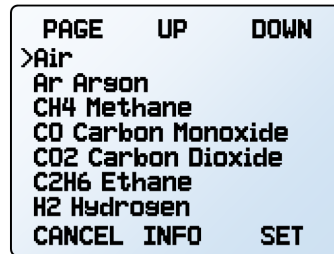
Select any existing mix and press **SET** to immediately configure your device to measure that gas mixture. To create new mixes, see the next section.



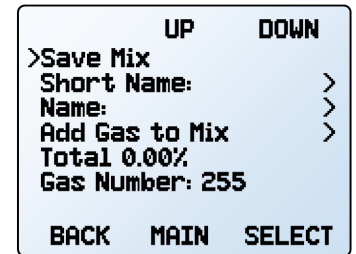
Setup menu.



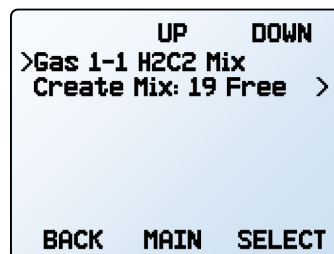
First page of the Gas Select™ category list.



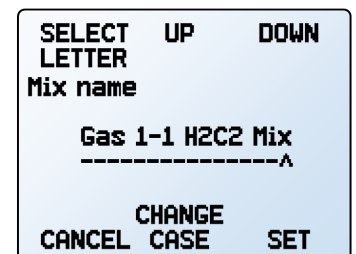
Gas Select™ standard gas list.



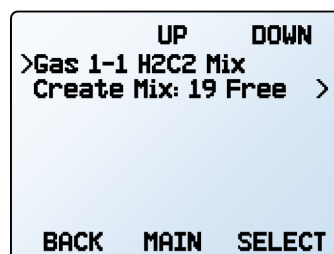
Mix settings menu.



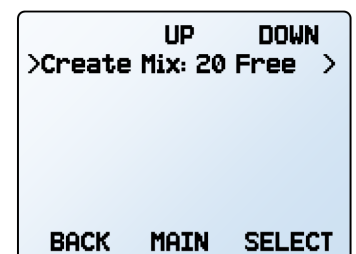
COMPOSER™ menu with the new custom mix.



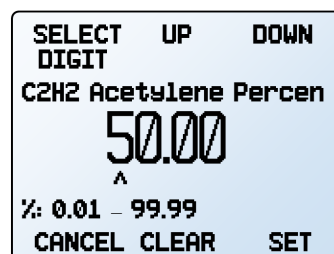
Defining a mixture's long name.



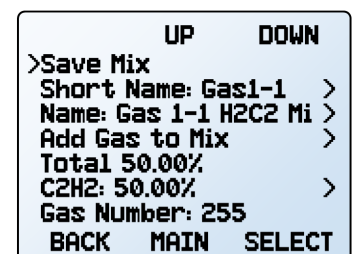
COMPOSER™ menu with the new custom mix.



COMPOSER™ menu without existing mixes.



Setting the percentage of a constituent gas C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>.



Results of adding of C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>.

## Creating New Mixes in COMPOSER™

SETUP → Active Gas → COMPOSER Mixes → Create Mix

### Give the Mix a Short and Long Name

UP/DOWN changes the character. Valid characters include A–Z, 0–9, punctuation (., –), and space. **CANCEL** exits to the **mix settings menu**. **SET** accepts the name.



**Note:** Using a space in the short name can cause the serial data frame to be read incorrectly by some programs.

### Define the Mix

- **Add Gas to Mix** enters the Gas Select™ category listing. Once you find the correct gas, press **SET**. Enter the composition percentage and press **SET**.
- As gases are added, the total used percentage updates on the **mix settings menu**.
- Once gases have been added, COMPOSER™ can change the gas percentage to fill the remaining portion to 100% by selecting the component gas, then selecting **Set % to Balance**.
- The sum percentage of gases must total 100% to select **Save Mix**. Selecting **BACK** will permanently discard the mix.
- Mixes that contain several gases push the menu to a second page; use the **PAGE** button to see the remaining list.

## Viewing, Deleting, and Creating Similar Mixes

SETUP → Active Gas → COMPOSER Mixes → [Select mix] → **INFO**

The current configuration of any existing COMPOSER™ mix can be viewed by selecting **INFO** instead of **SET** in the mix list. It will show:

- Options to delete the mix.
- Create a similar mix.
- Short and long names.
- The gas number.
- The composition, which may extend to a second page. Pressing the **PAGE** button will move to the next page.

## Sensor Setup

MENU → SETUP → Sensor

Sensor setup controls how measurements are calculated and communicated by the device. These are factors like what engineering units are used and the standard or normal reference points for flow.

### Engineering Units

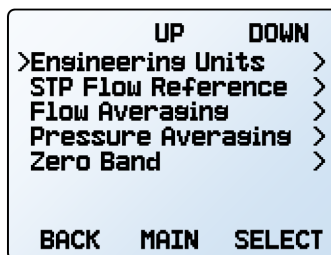
SETUP → Sensor → Engineering Units

Changing engineering units alters both the display and the data frame. Choose the parameter whose unit you want to change, and then choose an engineering unit, confirming the change on the last screen.

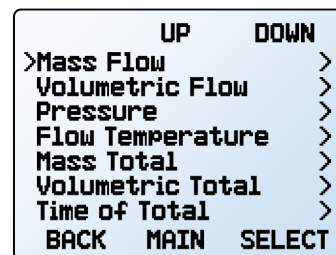
### STP/NTP Reference Values (Mass Flow Devices)

SETUP → Sensor → STP Flow Ref or NTP Flow Ref

A mass flow device references a given temperature and pressure combination to calculate flow. Standard mass flow uses an STP (standard temperature and pressure) reference point and normal mass flow uses an NTP (normal temperature and pressure) reference point. Depending on the engineering units selected, either STP or NTP will be editable from this menu. For example, if SLPM (Standard liters per minute) is selected, STP is editable. If NLPM (normal liters per minute) is selected, NTP is editable.



Sensor setup menu.



Engineering units menu.

### Reference options:

- **Stan T:** Standard Temperature
- **Stan P:** Standard Pressure
- **Norm T:** Normal Temperature
- **Norm P:** Normal Pressure
- **Ref temp units** changes the temperature units used for STP and NTP calculations.
- **Ref pressure units** changes the pressure units used for STP and NTP calculations

Unless otherwise requested, your flow controller ships with a default STP of 25°C and 1 atm (which affects flow units beginning with “S”), and an NTP of 0°C and 1 atm (which affects flow units beginning with “N”).

**!** **Caution:** Changes to STP or NTP references alters your mass flow readings.

## Flow and Pressure Averaging

SETUP → Sensor → Flow Averaging  
 SETUP → Sensor → Pressure Averaging

Averaging the flow or pressure over a longer time may be useful in smoothing fluctuating readings. This menu changes the time constants of the geometric running averages for flow and pressure. Values are the time constant (in milliseconds) of the averaged values. Higher numbers generate a greater smoothing effect. The device is capable of a maximum 9999 ms time constant.

## Totalizer Options (Flow Devices)

The totalizer measures the total flow over a given time and is one of the main displays. For more information on the totalizer display, see [page 8](#).

### Enable Totalizer

MENU → SETUP → Sensor → Totalizer → Totalizer 1 or Totalizer 2 → Totalize:

To enable a totalizer, a flow reading must be selected.

- **None:** Disable the totalizer.
- **Mass Flow:** Totalize the mass flowreading (mass flow devices only).
- **Volumetric Flow:** Totalize the volumetric flow reading.

### Totalizer Mode

MENU → SETUP → Sensor → Totalizer → Totalizer 1 or Totalizer 2 → Mode

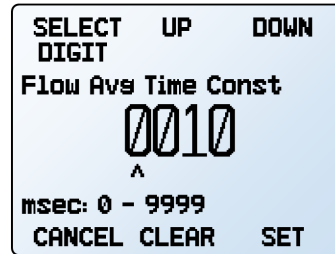
The totalizer mode manages how the device counts flow.

- **Positive Flow Only:** The totalizer only counts flow that passes left to right through the flow body of the device. If any negative flow (right to left) moves through the system, it is not counted.
- **Reset After No Flow:** When flow is completely stopped, the totalizer holds the current value of the measured flow until flow begins again. Once flow begins, the totalizer resets to zero. **Note:** This is not available on bidirectional devices.

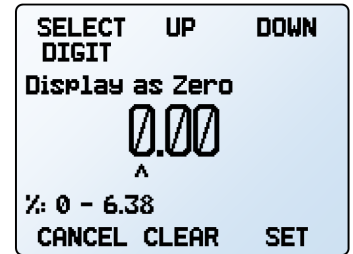
## Zero Band

SETUP → Sensor → Zero Band

The zero band threshold is an amount of flow under which flow values are displayed as 0. The maximum zero band is 6.38%. For example, a 20 SLPM controller with a zero band value of 0.25% displays as 0 SLPM for all readings below 0.05 SLPM. This function also applies to gauge and differential pressure readings.



Adjusting the flow averaging time constant.



Configuring the zero band.

Bidirectional devices can have 2 further options for calculating flow:

- **Negative Flow Only:** The totalizer only counts negative flow (flow that passes right to left through the flow body of the device). Positive flow (left to right) is not counted.
- **Bidirectional:** The totalizer adds flow that moves positively through the system and subtracts flow that moves negatively.

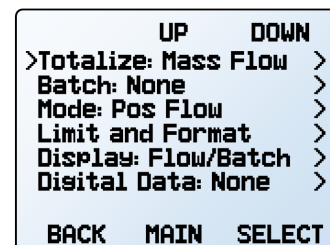
## Totalizer Digits and Limit

MENU → SETUP → Sensor → Totalizer → Totalizer 1 or Totalizer 2 → Limit and Format

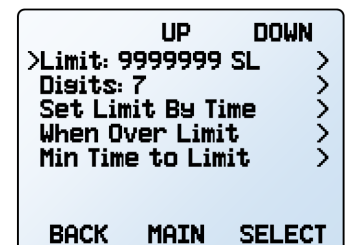
The totalizer can report up to a maximum of 10 digits. By default, it uses 7 digits and has one less digit after the decimal place than the live screen. It is possible to configure the number of digits in such a way that the max totalizer count cannot be reached for over 100 years.

The limit of the totalizer sets where the decimal is placed in the total amount of measured flow. Most devices can be configured to measure to the hundredths position.

The set limit by time guarantees the totalizer does not reach the max limit for at least that amount of time at full-scale flow. How the totalizer reacts is based on the settings for when the totalizer reaches its limit.



Totalizer options.



Totalizer limits screen.

## Totalizer Limit

There are 4 options for how the totalizer reacts when it reaches its limit:

- **Zero and Set OVR:** Totalizer resets to zero and continues once the maximum count is reached. The **OVR** status message is active to indicate maximum count has been reached ([page 5](#)).
- **Set to Zero:** Totalizer resets and continues counting from zero once the maximum count is reached. No error status is displayed.
- **Hold and Set OVR:** Totalizer stops counting at max count until it is reset manually. Displays **OVR** status message to indicate maximum count has been reached ([page 5](#)).
- **Hold:** Totalizer stops counting at max count until it is reset manually. No error is displayed.

The totalizer also calculates the minimum time the totalizer will run before it reaches the totalizer limit. Once all the settings have been confirmed, selecting **Min Time to Limit** shows how long the totalizer can run at full flow before the limit is reached. Increasing the number of digits and moving the decimal to the right will increase this time.

The elapsed time counter has a maximum value of over 100 years.

## Totalizer Display

MENU → SETUP → Sensor → Totalizer → Totalizer 1 or Totalizer 2 → Display

Totalizers have 3 options for display.

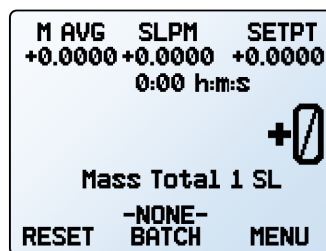
- **Flow and Batch (Default):** View as described above with options for batching, flow averaging, and set point.
- **Detailed Flow:** Similar to Flow and Batch, but without batching. Provides information focuses more on flow rates, total flow, and average flow.
- **Multi-variable:** Screen that resembles the main display ([page 5](#)).

## Totalizer Digital Data

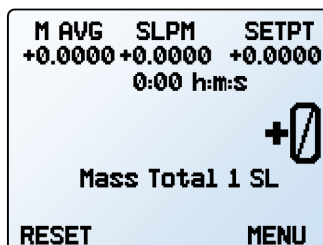
MENU → SETUP → Sensor → Totalizer → Totalizer 1 or Totalizer 2 → Digital Data

Enabling this function adds the totalizer value to the data frame when the device is polled by a serial command ([page 24](#)). There are two options available:

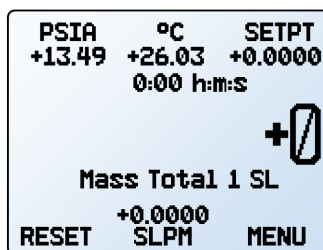
- **None:** The totalizer value is not displayed when the device is polled.
- **Volume:** The totalizer reports the current value of the totalized volume when the device is pulled.



Totalizer *Flow and Batch* view.



Totalizer *Detailed Flow* view.



Totalizer *Multivariable* view.

## Restore Totalizer Value on Power Up

MENU → SETUP → Sensor → Totalizer → Power Up Restore

Turning this option on sets the device to save the retain the totalized value every minute. When power is restored, the device continues to count from its most recent saved amount.

If this setting is off, the totalizer resets when the device is powered off.

## Totalizer while Controlling Pressure

If there is an abrupt pressure change, the flow rate may exceed the maximum measurable flow (128% of full scale). In this case, the totalized value flashes and the **TMF** error appears. The **TMF** error indicates that the totalizer missed flow data and the totalized volume may be inaccurate. Reset the totalizer to clear the error message.

Setting an upper flow limit ([page 15](#)) within the readable range prevents this error, but the flow limit would be given preference over reaching the pressure setpoint.

## Batches (Flow Controllers)

BATCH or MENU → CONTROL → Batch 1 or Batch 2

Batching is only possible when a totalizer is enabled and works in concert with the setpoint. For more information on batching flow, see the batch section on [page 12](#).

# Serial Communications Configurations

## MENU → SETUP → RS-232 Serial or RS-485 Serial

You can operate your device via its data connection for easy streaming and logging of all data. Before connecting the device to a computer, ensure that it is ready to communicate by checking the options in this menu.

For more on how to issue commands over serial communications, see [page 24](#).

### Unit ID

#### SETUP → RS-232 Serial or RS-485 Serial → Unit ID

The unit ID is the identifier that a computer uses to distinguish your device from other, similar devices when it is connected to a network. Using the unit ID letters A–Z, you can connect up to 26 devices to a computer at the same time via a single COM port. This is called **polling mode** ([page 24](#)). Unit ID changes take effect when you select **SET**.

If you select “@” as the Unit ID, the device enters **streaming mode** ([page 24](#)).

### Modbus RTU Address

#### SETUP → RS-232 Serial or RS-485 Serial → Modbus Address

The Modbus address is the identifier that a computer or programmable logic computer (PLC) uses to distinguish your device from other devices when connected to a Modbus network. Values of 1–247 are available for use.

### Baud Rate

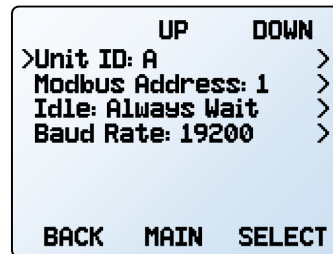
#### SETUP → RS-232 Serial or RS-485 Serial → Baud Rate

Baud rate is the speed at which digital devices transfer information. The device has a default baud rate of 19200 baud (bits per second). If your computer or software uses a different baud rate, you must change the device’s baud rate in the **BAUD** menu to ensure they match. Alternatively, you can change your computer’s baud rate in Windows® Device Manager. Baud rate changes take effect once you press **SET**, but you may need to restart any software for it to recognize the change.

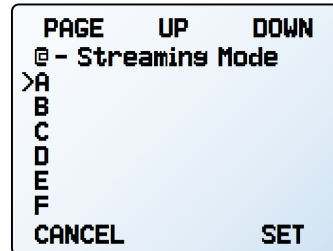
### Manage Setpoint when Connection is Idle

#### SETUP → RS-232 Serial or RS-485 Serial → Idle

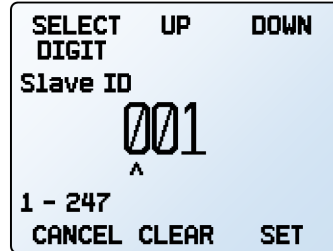
If a connection is idle for a specified amount of time, the controller can either move to a zero setpoint, or maintain the previous setpoint. The idle time will be infinite by default and can be set in seconds up to 99999.9 seconds (1 day, 3 hours, 46 minutes, 39.9 seconds).



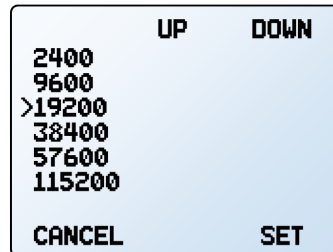
Serial communication menu.



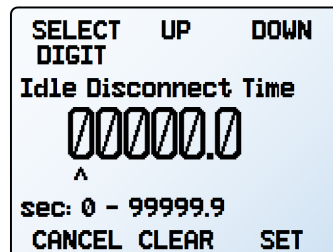
Choosing a unit ID, or streaming.



Modbus address menu.



Baud rate options.



Setting a Modbus idle disconnect time.



# Display Setup

## MENU → SETUP → Display

The options in the **display setup** menu adjust the contrast/brightness of the display and enable screen rotation.

## Data Screens

### SETUP → Display → Data Screens

The data screens menu provide options for the various screens of the device. For more information on the contents of the screens and their functions, see the **Data Screens** section ([page 8](#)).

## Main Screen

### SETUP → Display → Data Screens → Main:

To select which screen displays when **MAIN** is pressed, select from one of the options in this menu. Only screens that have been enabled are available for selection. If the live screen is not selected, it can be reached by pressing **NEXT** on the main screen.

## Live Screen Options

### SETUP → Display → Data Screens → Live Screen

- **Any Key Press** changes what happens when any of the parameter buttons on the **main display** ([page 5](#)) are pressed (pressure or temperature, for example). By default, these buttons highlight their measurement in the center of the display. If this option is set to **Show Actions Menu**, an option to change that parameter's engineering units is shown, as well as an option to highlight the parameter.
- **Show Valve Drive** shows or hides the valve's drive percentage. See [page 13](#).
- **Top Left Key Value** configures which type of pressure (barometric, gauge, absolute) is displayed.

## Enable Min/Max Screen

### SETUP → Display → Data Screens → Min/Max Screen

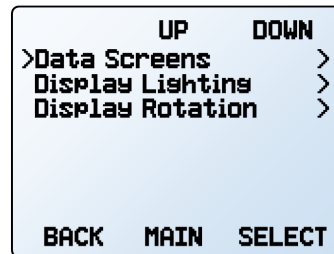
- **Show** enables the min/max screen.
- **Hide** disables the min/max screen.

## Totalizer 1 and Totalizer 2 Screen Options

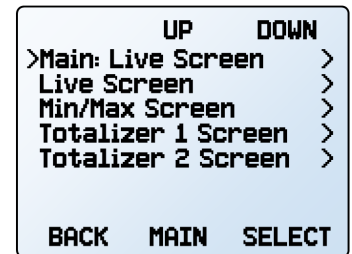
### SETUP → Display → Data Screens → Totalizer 1 or Totalizer 2

The totalizer screen options behave in the same manner as outlined in the **Totalizer Display** section ([page 20](#)). Performing changes in this menu performs the same change in the totalizer display menu. The opposite is true as well where changes in the totalizer display menu is reflected in this menu.

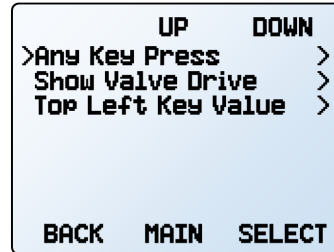
- **Flow and Batch (Default):** View as described above with options for batching, flow averaging, and set point.
- **Detailed Flow:** Similar to Flow and Batch, but without batching. Provides information focuses more on flow rates, total flow, and average flow.
- **Multi-variable:** Screen that resembles the live screen ([page 5](#)).



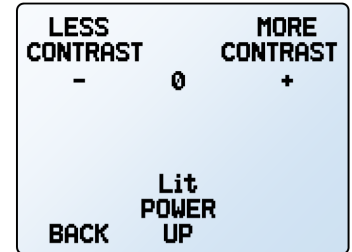
Display setup menu.



Data screens menu.



Options for pressing buttons on the live screen.



Monochrome contrast menu.

## Screen Lighting

### SETUP → Display → Screen Lighting

- Press **LESS CONTRAST** or **MORE CONTRAST** to adjust the contrast levels and move the contrast indicator left or right. **POWER UP Lit** or **Dark** toggles whether the backlight of the unit will be on when the device powers on.

## Display Rotation

### SETUP → Display → Display Rotation

The device has the option of inverting (flipping) the screen upside-down, as configured in this menu.



# Advanced Setup

## MENU → SETUP → Advanced

The **advanced setup menu** contains settings and detailed information that are useful when troubleshooting with customer support.

### Factory Restore

#### SETUP → Advanced → Factory Restore

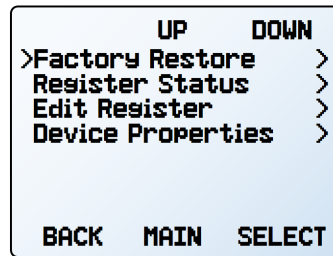
If something is not acting as expected, please contact an applications engineer prior to doing a **Factory Restore** to help confirm a restore is necessary.

This immediately prompts a confirmation screen. Upon confirmation, all settings and registers are returned to their default settings.

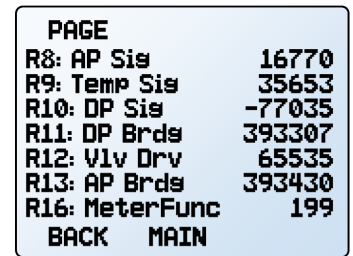
### Register Status

#### SETUP → Advanced → Register Status

The **Register Status** screen displays live values for the internal device registers. Many of these values can help an applications engineer diagnose operational issues during technical support. Some register values clearly distinguish between hardware and operational problems, which speeds up the troubleshooting process.



Advanced setup menu.



Register status list.

### Edit Register and Device Properties

#### SETUP → Advanced → Edit Register

#### SETUP → Advanced → Device Properties

Editing registers and device properties is used during technical support to fine tune functions that may not be working as expected. These functions are best left alone and used only when working with Alicat to diagnose or correct an issue. If your device is not functioning as expected, please contact Alicat support for assistance ([page 2](#)).



**Caution:** *Editing these settings may cause the device to become inoperable. Do not modify them without working with an applications engineer.*

# Serial ASCII Communication

Connecting your device to a computer allows you to log the data that it generates. The device communicates digitally through its communications connector and a cable using a real or virtual COM port on your computer.

This section of the manual shows you how to operate the device using ASCII commands.

## Establishing Communication

After connecting your device using a communications cable, you will need to establish serial communications through a real or virtual COM port on your computer or programmable logic computer (PLC).

- If you have connected your device to a serial port, note its COM port number, which can be found in the Windows® Device Manager program.
- If you have used a USB cable to connect your device to your computer, then in most cases it will recognize your USB as a virtual COM port. If it does not, download the appropriate USB device driver at [alicat.com/drivers](http://alicat.com/drivers) and note the COM port number as found in Windows® Device Manager.

The device has the following default settings:

- **Baud:** 19200 (by default; others can be used if the computer, software, and the device are all set to the same rate)
- **Data bits:** 8
- **Parity:** none
- **Stop bits:** 1
- **Flow control:** none

### Alicat's Serial Terminal Application

Alicat's Serial Terminal is a preconfigured program for serial communications. It functions much like the older Windows® HyperTerminal with plain text in a command-line format.

Download Serial Terminal for free at [alicat.com/drivers](http://alicat.com/drivers). Once downloaded, simply run SerialTerminal.exe. Enter the COM port number to which your device is connected and the baud rate of the device. The default baud rate is 19200, but this is adjustable in the **RS-232 Serial** menu on your device ([page 21](#)).



**Note:** In the following, ↵ indicates an ASCII carriage return (decimal 13, hexadecimal D). For many devices, this is the same as hitting the Enter key. Serial commands are not case-sensitive.

### Polling Mode

Your device was shipped in polling mode with a unit ID of **A**, unless requested otherwise. Polling the device returns a single line of data each time you request it. To poll your device, simply enter its unit ID.

**Poll the device:** `unit_id↵`

**Example:** `A↵` (polls unit A)

You can change the unit ID of a polling device by typing:

**Change unit ID:** `current_unit_id@=desired_unit_id↵`

**Example:** `A@=B↵` (changes unit A to unit B)

This can also be achieved via the device's front panel menu ([page 21](#)). Valid unit IDs are letters A–Z, and up to 26 devices may be connected at any one time, as long as each unit ID is unique.

### Streaming Mode

In streaming mode, your device automatically sends a line of live data at regular intervals. Only one unit on a given COM port may be in streaming mode at a time. To put your device into streaming mode, type:

**Begin streaming:** `unit_id@=@↵`

**Example:** `A@=@↵`  
(sets device A to streaming mode)

This is equivalent to changing the unit ID to “@”. To take the device out of streaming mode, assign it a unit ID by typing:

**Stop streaming:** `@@=desired_unit_id↵`

**Example:** `@@=A↵`  
(stops and assigns unit ID of A)

When sending a command to a device in streaming mode, the flow of data will not stop while the user is typing. This may make the commands you type unreadable. If the device does not receive a valid command, it will ignore it. If in doubt, press Backspace a number of times, then ↵, and start again.

The default streaming interval is 50 ms. This can be increased by using the set streaming interval command:

**Set streaming**

**interval:** `unit_idNCSnumber_of_ms↵`

**Example:** `ANCS 500↵`  
(streams new data every 500 ms)

## Taring Commands

Before collecting flow data, be sure to tare your device. If auto-tare is enabled, this can be accomplished by providing a setpoint of 0 for at least 2 seconds.

Manual taring can be accomplished through a few separate commands for flow and pressure. Taring flow sets the zero flow reading and must be done when no flow is passing through the device:

**Tare flow:** `unit_idV`  
**Example:** `AV`

Taring a gauge or differential pressure sensor must be performed when the device is open to atmosphere.

**Tare pressure:** `unit_idP`  
**Example:** `AP`

Taring an absolute pressure sensor must be done with the device open to atmosphere:

**Tare absolute pressure:** `unit_idPC`  
**Example:** `APC`

## Data Collection

Collect live flow data by typing the `unit_id` command or by setting your device to streaming. Each line of data for live measurements appear in a format similar to below. Check your device as it may have different options. The measurements present are dictated by the type of device. Meters and gauges do not have setpoint nor valve drive.

### Mass Flow Meter

A	+13.54	+0.00	+13.542	+24.57	+16.667	+15.444	+00017.32	N2
ID	Absolute Press.	Gauge Press.	Barometric Press.	Temperature	Volumetric Flow	Mass Flow	Totalizer	Gas

### Gauge Pressure Controller

A	+33.52	+20.00	+13.542	+20.00	+063.44
ID	Absolute Press.	Gauge Press.	Barometric Press.	Setpoint	Valve Drive

### Liquid Controller

A	+28.24	+14.70	+13.542	+24.57	+02.004	+02.004	+041.89	+00009.75
ID	Absolute Press.	Gauge Press.	Barometric Press.	Temperature	Volumetric Flow	Setpoint	Valve Drive	Totalizer

Single spaces separate each parameter, and each value is displayed in the chosen device engineering units ([page 18](#)). You can query the engineering units of the serial data frame by typing:

**Query live data info:** `unit_id??D*`  
**Example:** `A??D*` (returns the data frame descriptions)

Additional columns, including status codes ([page 5](#)), may be present to the right of the gas label column. The unit ID appears in the data frame only when the device is in polling mode.

## Setpoint (Controllers)

Before attempting to send a setpoint to your controller serially, confirm that its setpoint source is set to **Serial/Front Panel** ([page 10](#)).

**New setpoint:** `unit_id$ new_setpoint↵`  
**Example:** `AS 15.44↵` (setpoint of +15.44 SLPM)

When using a bidirectional or negative range device, negative setpoints are sent by adding a hyphen for the minus sign (-):

**Example:** `as -15.44↵` (setpoint of -15.44 SLPM)

When a setpoint is given to a device, the data frame returns the new setpoint value when it has been accepted as a valid setpoint.

## Gas Select™ and COMPOSER™ (Mass Flow)

To reconfigure your mass flow device to flow a different gas, look up its gas number ([page 37](#)). For more information on how Gas Select™ and COMPOSER™ work, see [page 17](#). Here are the commands:

**Choose a gas:** `unit_idG gas_number↵`  
**Example 1:** `AG 8↵` (reconfigures to flow nitrogen)  
**Example 2:** `AG 206↵` (reconfigures to flow P-10)

User mixes are selected in the same way. All COMPOSER™ gas mixes have a mix number between 236 and 255.

**Choose a user mix:** `unit_idG gas_number↵`  
**Example:** `AG 255↵`  
(reconfigures for user mix 255)

Defining a new COMPOSER™ gas mix is faster using serial commands than using the front panel. The basic formula for this is:

`unit_idGM mix_name mix_number gas1_% gas1_number gas2_% gas2_number...↵`

*mix\_name* Use a maximum of 6 letters (upper and/or lower case), numbers and symbols (period or hyphen only). This is equivalent to the short name when creating a mix via the front panel ([page 17](#)).

*mix\_number* Choose a number from 236 to 255. If a user mix with that number already exists, it will be overwritten. Use the number 0 to assign the next available number to your new gas. Gas numbers are assigned in descending order from 255.

*gas1\_% gas1\_number...* For each gas, enter its percentage of the mixture up to 2 decimal places, then its gas number ([page 37](#)). 2–5 gases are required, and the sum of all gas constituent percentages must equal 100.00%. After creating a mix, the controller will confirm the new gas:

**Example 1:** Create a mix of 71.35% helium, 19.25% nitrogen, and 9.4% carbon dioxide as Gas 252, called “MyGas1”.

**Command:** `AGM MyGas1 252 71.35 7 19.25 8 9.4 4↵`  
**Response:** `A 252 71.35% He 19.25% N2 9.40% C02`

**Example 2:** Create a mix of 93% methane, 3% ethane, 1% propane, 2% nitrogen, and 1% CO2, using the next available gas number, called “MyGas2”.

**Command:** `AGM MyGas2 0 93 2 3 5 1 12 2 8 1 4↵`  
**Response:** `A 253 93.00% CH4 3.00% C2H6 1.00% C3H8 2.00% N2 1.00% C02`

# Quick Command Guide

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Serial commands are not case-sensitive

## General Commands for All Devices

Change the unit ID: `unit_id@=desired_ID↵`  
Tare flow: `unit_idV↵`  
Tare gauge/differential pressure: `unit_idP↵`  
Tare absolute pressure: `unit_idPC↵`  
Poll the live data frame: `unit_id↵`  
Begin streaming data: `unit_id@=@↵`  
Stop streaming data: `@@=desired_unit_id↵`  
Set streaming interval: `unit_idNCS #_of_ms↵`  
Query live data info: `unit_id??D*↵`  
Manufacturer info: `unit_id??M*↵`  
Firmware version: `unit_idVE↵`  
Lock the front display: `unit_idL↵`  
Unlock the display: `unit_idU↵`

## Controller Commands

New setpoint: `unit_idS new_value↵`  
Hold valve(s) at current position: `unit_idHP↵`  
Hold valve(s) closed: `unit_idHC↵`  
Cancel valve hold: `unit_idC↵`

## Mass Flow Gas Select™ and COMPOSER™ Commands

Query gas list info: `unit_id??G*↵`  
Choose a different gas: `unit_idG gas_number↵`  
New COMPOSER mix: `unit_idGM mix_name mix_# gas1_% gas1_# gas2_% gas2_#...↵`  
Delete COMPOSER mix: `unit_idGD mix_#↵`



If you require more advanced serial communication commands, please download the serial primer at [alicat.com/drivers](https://www.licat.com/drivers).

# Modbus RTU Communication

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Modbus RTU can be used to read and log sensor data, switch between analog and digital control modes, adjust device settings, and control the device.

## Establishing Communication

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The device can communicate via the DB15 cable.

- When using a USB cable to connect your device to a Windows 10 computer, it should recognize your USB as a virtual COM port automatically. If not, please ensure it has the latest updates.
- After physically connecting your device to a Windows PC, you can check which COM port number it uses by opening the Windows Device Manager and expanding “Ports (COM & LPT)”.

The default Modbus configuration has the following settings:

- **Baud Rate:** 19200
- **Data Bits:** 8
- **Stop Bits:** 1
- **Parity:** None
- **Flow Control:** None

## Multidrop Information

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Devices can operate on networks with other devices. When installing devices in an RS-485 network with multiple types of devices, confirm that the total load of all devices does not exceed 32 unit on an unrepeat network segment. Consult the EIA-485 standard for more information.

## Modbus RTU Serial Protocol

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Alicat uses the Modbus standard of offsetting register numbers by 1 from addresses, meaning register 1 is equivalent to address 0. However, some systems expect data to be mapped as 0-indexed addresses. Different Modbus control systems may refer to registers, offsets, or addresses in their documentation without clarifying their meaning. If your control system uses a 0-indexed numbering scheme then decrement all register references in this manual by 1.

If you are unsure of which addressing scheme your control system uses, perform a test read of register 1200. If the device responds with Error code 2: “Illegal Data Address”, then your system is using the standard 1-indexed numbering system and the values in this manual can be used as-is. If the device returns a value of 0 instead of an error, decrement all registers listed in this section by 1 to arrive at the correct offset.

## Process Data

---

Alicat devices make no distinction between “Input” and “Holding” registers. Modbus function codes FC03 and FC04 can be used interchangeably to read data from the device.

Sensor and process values are stored as big-endian, 32-bit IEEE-754 floating point numbers spanning two registers. Your control system will need to chain these into a single value to interpret them correctly.

## Writing Control and Configuration Information

All command and control requests to a device are issued with Modbus function code FC16: “write multiple registers”.

Device readings can vary from one device to another. To determine individual readings, use the serial terminal with the **Data Frame Query** ASCII command (*unit\_id??D*). To obtain information on a specific line, refer to the command associated with that line in the table below.

### Modbus Reading and Status Registers

Parameter	Register	Access	Devices
Command ID	1000	Read/Write	All
Command argument	1001	Read/Write	All
Setpoint	1010–1	Read/Write	Controllers
Mixture gas 1 index	1050	Read/Write	Mass flow
Mixture gas 1 percent	1051	Read/Write	Mass flow
Mixture gas 2 index	1052	Read/Write	Mass flow
Mixture gas 2 percent	1053	Read/Write	Mass flow
Mixture gas 3 index	1054	Read/Write	Mass flow
Mixture gas 3 percent	1055	Read/Write	Mass flow
Mixture gas 4 index	1056	Read/Write	Mass flow
Mixture gas 4 percent	1057	Read/Write	Mass flow
Mixture gas 5 index	1058	Read/Write	Mass flow
Mixture gas 5 percent	1059	Read/Write	Mass flow
Status flags (next table)	1201–1202	Read	All
Device reading 1	1203–1204	Read	<i>unit_id??D2</i>
Device reading 2	1205–1206	Read	<i>unit_id??D3</i>
Device reading 3	1207–1208	Read	<i>unit_id??D4</i>
Device reading 4	1209–1210	Read	<i>unit_id??D5</i>
Device reading 5	1211–1212	Read	<i>unit_id??D6</i>
Device reading 6	1213–1214	Read	<i>unit_id??D7</i>
Device reading 7	1215–1216	Read	<i>unit_id??D8</i>
Device reading 8	1217–1218	Read	<i>unit_id??D9</i>
Device reading 9	1219–1220	Read	<i>unit_id??D10</i>
Device reading 10	1221–1222	Read	<i>unit_id??D11</i>
Device reading 11	1223–1224	Read	<i>unit_id??D12</i>
Device reading 12	1225–1226	Read	<i>unit_id??D13</i>
Device reading 13	1227–1228	Read	<i>unit_id??D14</i>
Device reading 14	1229–1230	Read	<i>unit_id??D15</i>



## Status Flags

Bit	Interpretation	Devices
0	Temperature overflow (TOV)	All
1	Temperature underflow (TOV)	All
2	Volumetric overflow (VOV)	Flow
3	Volumetric underflow (VOV)	Flow
4	Mass overflow (MOV)	Mass flow
5	Mass underflow (MOV)	Mass flow
6	Pressure overflow (POV)	All
7	Totalizer overflow (OVR)	Flow
8	PID loop in hold (HLD)	Controllers
9	ADC error (ADC)	All
10	PID exhaust (EXH)	Dual valve controllers
11	Over pressure limit (OPL)	All
12	Flow overflow during totalizing (TMF)	Flow
13	Measurement was aborted	All

## Special Commands

You can access special control functions on devices with an FC16 write to registers 1000..1001. Special commands consist of a Command ID and a Command Argument written in a single pass to these registers. Each command/argument pair issues as a set of two 16-bit unsigned integers. Commands start by a write to register 1000. If you send a command to register 1000 without sending an argument to 1001 the device will interpret the command with a default argument of 0.

At any time after sending a special command to registers 1000..1001 you can perform a read of the same registers to determine the success or failure of the last command. Register 1000 will store the last Command ID sent to the device, and register 1001 will return a status code indicating the command result.

### Gas Mixing

Gas mixing can be performed with 2-5 gases using the mix registers 1050–1059. The mix is a two-step process. First, the desired constituent gas indexes and percentages must be written to the mix registers followed by a write of the Mix Gas command (ID 2) into command register 1000 (with the command argument being optional).

Gas mix percentages are interpreted as integer hundredths of a percent and the total percentage must sum to 100%. For example, to specify a mix of 50%, a value of 5000 should be written into the gas percentage register. The mix will be performed with the first N gases that have a non-zero percentage. As an example, if you wish to mix 3 gases, you would write the index and percentage for those gases into registers 1050-1055 and write a value of zero into 1057–1059.

If the command argument passed to the mix command is 0 or is omitted, a new gas mix index will be allocated in the next empty gas mix index starting at 255 and working down to 236. If no user mix indices are unused, the command will not be successfully completed and an error will be returned in the command argument register.

If the command argument passed is between 236 and 255, the mixture with the specified index will be either created or updated to the new composition. If the specified index is not valid (the command argument is neither 0 nor 236–255), an error will be returned.

Upon completion of mixing, the command argument register will be updated with the mix result. If the mix was valid, the index of the mixed gas will be returned. If one of the requested mix gas constituents did not exist or the percentage does not add to 100%, an error value will be returned and the mix will not be created.

## Special Commands and Arguments

Command Name	Command ID (Register 1000)	Command Argument (Register 1001)	Devices
Change gas number	1	Gas table index	Mass flow
Mix gas	2	Gas mixture index (236–255) or 0 to use next available.	Mass flow
Delete gas mixture	3	Gas mixture index	Mass flow
Tare	4	<b>0:</b> Pressure <b>1:</b> Absolute pressure <b>2:</b> Volume (flow devices)	All
Reset totalizer value	5	<b>0:</b> Reset totalizer	Flow
Valve Setting	6	<b>0:</b> Cancel <b>1:</b> Hold close <b>2:</b> Hold current <b>3:</b> Exhaust (dual valve controllers)	Controllers
Display Lock	7	<b>0:</b> Unlock <b>1:</b> Lock	All
Change P in PID loop	8	<b>0–65535</b>	Controllers
Change D in PID loop	9	<b>0–65535</b>	Controllers
Change I in PID loop	10	<b>0–65535</b>	Controllers
Change control loop variable	11	<b>0:</b> Control mass flow <b>1:</b> Control volumetric flow <b>2:</b> Differential pressure <b>3:</b> Absolute pressure <b>4:</b> Gauge pressure	<b>0:</b> Mass flow controllers <b>1:</b> Flow controllers <b>2:</b> Differential pressure controllers <b>3:</b> All controllers except differential pressure <b>4:</b> All controllers except differential pressure
Save current setpoint to memory	12	<b>0:</b> Save setpoint for power up	Controllers
Change loop control algorithm	13	<b>1:</b> PD <b>2:</b> PDDI	Controllers
Read PID value	14	<b>0:</b> PID P <b>1:</b> PID D <b>2:</b> PID I	Controllers
Set active valve	15	<b>0:</b> Upstream/only valve <b>1:</b> Downstream valve or auxiliary valve, if dual-valve control is enabled	Controllers
Set inverse pressure control	16	<b>0:</b> Enable normal pressure control (not saved across power cycle) <b>1:</b> Enable inverse/backpressure control (not saved across power cycle) <b>3:</b> Enable normal pressure control (save across power cycle) <b>4:</b> Enable inverse/backpressure control (save across power cycle)	Controllers
Read configuration checksum	17	<b>0:</b> Compute and return checksum	All
Set primary analog output value	18	<b>0–65535:</b> A value of 0 is equivalent to the minimum of the device (0 or 4 mA). A value of 64000 is equivalent to the full scale of the device (20 mA)	All
Set secondary analog output value	19	<b>0–65535:</b> A value of 0 is equivalent to the minimum of the device (0 or 4 mA). A value of 64000 is equivalent to the full scale of the device (20 mA)	All

Command Name	Command ID (Register 1000)	Command Argument (Register 1001)	Devices
Blink display	20	<b>0–65535:</b> the number of seconds the display flashes. If 0 the flashing stops. If 65535, display flashes indefinitely.	All
Set relative humidity percentage	24	<b>0–10000:</b> the humidity to use for gas properties, 0.01% per count (10000 = 100%).	Mass flow with optional manual humidity correction
Set relative humidity reference temperature	25	<b>-3000–10000:</b> a signed integer. The temperature at which the relative humidity is correct. Range is -30°C to 100°C with 0.01°C per count (10000 = 100°C).	Mass flow with optional manual humidity correction
Communications timeout	32765	<b>0–65536:</b> The time the device waits before executing the configured disconnect action ( <a href="#">page 21</a> ). A value of 0 disables the timeout.	All
Change Modbus ID	32767	<b>1–247 =</b> New ID	All

### Special Command Result Status Codes

Status Code	Result
<b>0</b>	Success
<b>32769</b>	Invalid command ID
<b>32770</b>	Invalid setting
<b>32771</b>	Requested feature is unsupported
<b>32772</b>	Invalid Gas Mix Index (Mass Flow Devices)
<b>32773</b>	Invalid Gas Mix Constituent (Mass Flow Devices)
<b>32774</b>	Invalid Gas Mix Percentage (Mass Flow Devices)

# Troubleshooting

If you run into trouble with installation or operation, get in touch with support ([page 2](#)).

## General Use

**Issue:** *The buttons do not work, and the screen shows LCK.*

**Action:** The device buttons were locked out via a serial command (`unit_ID1←`). Press and hold all four outer buttons to unlock the interface.

**Issue:** *I can't read the display easily.*

**Action:** During the day, you can increase the visibility of the display by increasing the contrast or brightness ([page 22](#)). In low-light conditions, push the bottom central button (located below the display) to turn on the backlight.

**Issue:** *The analog output signal indicates values lower than what appears on my instrument's display.*

**Action:** Analog signal voltage degrades over long distances. You can minimize this effect by using wires with a heavier gauge, especially in the ground wire.

**Issue:** *How often do I need to calibrate my device?*

**Action:** Annual recalibration is recommended. Check your device's last calibration date by selecting **MENU** → **ABOUT** → **About Device**. If it is time to recalibrate, request a recalibration from customer support ([page 2](#)).

**Issue:** *I dropped my device. Is it OK?*

**Action:** Dropping the device onto a hard surface from a height greater than 1' (300mm) may compromise the safety-critical leak integrity of the enclosure. If the device sustains any significant impact, inspect it for visible damage, distortion, cracks, or warping of the connector, display membrane, or metal joints. If there is any visible damage, return the device to Alicat for inspection.

If there is no visible damage, confirm the flow accuracy and leak integrity of the device before placing it into service.

**Issue:** *Can I use my device with other gases or liquids?*

**Action:** Mass flow devices can be used with any gas or combination of gases included in the Gas Select™ of the device. Before flowing a different gas, select the new gas with Gas Select™ or use COMPOSER™ to create the correct mix of preloaded gases.

Liquid devices are designed specifically to work with only one liquid, typically water. For use with a different liquid, the device requires recalibration. Please contact customer support for assistance ([page 2](#)).

Pressure devices can be used with any gas or liquid that is chemically and mechanically compatible with the wetted materials in the device. The amount of flow available with the valve(s) in the device may vary significantly with the viscosity of the process fluid. Please contact customer support for any assistance in determining what is compatible with your device ([page 2](#)).

**Issue:** *How can I see readings in different units?*

**Action:** From the main menu, select **SETUP** → **Sensor** → **Engineering Units**. From this menu, you can adjust any variable's units. For more information, see [page 18](#).

**Issue:** *My controller won't reach its setpoint.*

**Action:** The flow rate is related linearly to the pressure drop across the device. If there isn't enough of a pressure difference between the inlet and outlet, the controller may not be able to reach setpoint. Often, increasing the inlet pressure will fix this issue. If increasing the pressure doesn't help, check to see if there is a clog. Teflon tape can often get stuck in the flow channel and block flow. Make sure to clean out any loose Teflon tape and never tape the first two threads entering the device to help avoid this issue.

**Issue:** *The pressure exceeded the maximum allowable pressure.*

**Action:** The sensor may have been damaged and may no longer provide accurate readings. Remove the device from the process and check it against a known working device.

Over-pressuring the device may also damage the safety-critical leak integrity of the device. Check the device for any leaks.

If measurements are inaccurate or the device is leaking, contact Alicat for to perform a repair ([page 2](#)).

## Flow Readings

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**Issue:** *The live flow readings won't settle down.*

**Action:** The device is very fast, so it can detect subtle variations in flow that may go unnoticed by your other devices. This sensitivity can help detect problems with pumps or flow controllers. You can lessen this sensitivity by increasing the flow averaging ([page 19](#)). Controllers use PD or PD<sup>2</sup>I control loop algorithms to reach the setpoint given. These parameters are adjustable in the field. See [page 14](#) for a quick guide on tuning.

**Issue:** *My flow readings are negative.*

**Action:** Stop the flow and let the process settle. Under no flow conditions, a negative flow reading can indicate a poor tare. Perform a manual tare ([page 6](#)). On controllers, ensure that auto tare is enabled and give the controller a zero setpoint for at least 2 seconds.

If readings are still negative after a tare, the sensor may be damaged. Please contact support for further assistance ([page 2](#)).

**Issue:** *My flow readings are not what I expect them to be (either higher or lower than expected).*

**Action:** Remove the device from the line and confirm there is no leak present within the device. If no leak is found in the device, there may be a leak in the line. Check the process line for further leaks and repair as needed.

## Pressure Readings

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**Issue:** *My pressure readings are negative.*

**Action:** If a negative reading is not expected, your device may need to be tared ([page 6](#)). Ensure pressure is at zero, and tare it.

If readings are still negative after a tare, the sensor may be damaged. Please contact support for further assistance ([page 2](#)).

**Issue:** *My pressure readings jump to zero when pressures are low.*

**Action:** Your device is equipped with a programmable zero band that is preset at the factory. Reduce your deadband threshold by selecting **SETUP** → **Sensor** → **Zero Band**.

**Issue:** *My pressure reading disagrees with another device I have in line.*

**Action:** Pressure devices can normally be compared against one another provided there are no leaks between the two devices. Another possibility is an improper tare error ([page 6](#)).

If a tare does not resolve the issue, remove the device from the line and confirm there are no leaks. If leaks are found or if the issue persists, contact support for assistance ([page 2](#)).

# Serial Communications

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**Issue:** *I can't communicate to the device when it is connected to my PC.*

**Action:** **1.** Make sure the baud rate your software and COM port required is the one your device is using (MENU → SETUP → RS-232 Serial or RS-485 Serial → Baud Rate).

**2.** Check the unit ID (MENU → SETUP → RS-232 Serial or RS-485 Serial → Unit ID) or Modbus address (SETUP → RS-232 Serial or RS-485 Serial → Modbus Address) to make sure you are addressing it properly with your commands.

**3.** Check the pinout in the **Safety and Installation Manual for IS-Pro and IS-Max Intrinsically Safe Devices** found at [alicat.com/manuals](http://alicat.com/manuals).

**4.** Make sure the serial port (com port in windows) that is selected in the software matches with the hardware used to connect to the device.

**5.** On the external serial communications device (computer, PLC, etc.), be sure that the flow control (handshaking) settings are set as on [page 24](#).

Still experiencing issues? Please contact support. See [page 2](#).

# Reference Information

## Engineering Units

See the **Engineering Units** section under **Sensor Setup** for more information on how to implement the following tables ([page 18](#)).

Pressure Units		
Absolute or Barometric	Gauge	Notes
PaA	PaG	Pascal
hPaA	hPaG	Hectopascal
kPaA	kPaG	Kilopascal
MPaA	MPaG	Megapascal
mbarA	mbarG	Millibar
barA	barG	Bar
g/cm <sup>2</sup> A	g/cm <sup>2</sup> G	Gram force per square centimeter <sup>†</sup>
kg/cm <sup>2</sup> A	kg/cm <sup>2</sup> G	Kilogram force per square centimeter*
PSIA	PSIG	Pound force per square inch
PSFA	PSFG	Pound force per square foot
mTorrA	mTorrG	Millitorr
torrA	torrG	Torr
mmHgA	mmHgG	Millimeter of mercury at 0°C
inHgA	inHgG	Inch of mercury at 0°C
mmH <sub>2</sub> O A	mmH <sub>2</sub> O G	Millimeter of water at 4°C (NIST conventional) <sup>†</sup>
mmH <sub>2</sub> O A	mmH <sub>2</sub> O G	Millimeter of water at 60°C <sup>†</sup>
cmH <sub>2</sub> O A	cmH <sub>2</sub> O G	Centimeter of water at 4°C (NIST conventional) <sup>†</sup>
cmH <sub>2</sub> O A	cmH <sub>2</sub> O G	Centimeter of water at 60°C <sup>†</sup>
inH <sub>2</sub> O A	inH <sub>2</sub> O G	Inch of water at 4°C (NIST conventional) <sup>†</sup>
inH <sub>2</sub> O A	inH <sub>2</sub> O G	Inch of water at 60°C <sup>†</sup>
atm		Atmosphere
m asl		Meter above sea level
ft asl		Foot above sea level
V		Volt
%	%	Percent of full scale

Flow Units			
Volumetric	Standard	Normal	Notes
μL/m	SmL/m	NμL/m	Microliter per minute <sup>‡</sup>
mL/s	SmL/s	NmL/s	Milliliter per second
mL/m	SmL/m	NmL/m	Milliliter per minute
mL/h	SmL/h	NmL/h	Milliliter per hour
L/s	SL/s	NL/s	Liter per second
LPM	SLPM	NLPM	Liter per minute
L/h	SL/h	NL/h	Liter per hour
US GPM			US gallon per minute
US GPH			US gallon per hour
CCS	SCCS	NCCS	Cubic centimeter per second
CCM	SCCM	NCCM	Cubic centimeter per minute
cm <sup>3</sup> /h	Scm <sup>3</sup> /h	Ncm <sup>3</sup> /h	Cubic centimeter per hour <sup>†</sup>
m <sup>3</sup> /m	Sm <sup>3</sup> /m	Nm <sup>3</sup> /m	Cubic meter per minute <sup>†</sup>
m <sup>3</sup> /h	Sm <sup>3</sup> /h	Nm <sup>3</sup> /h	Cubic meter per hour <sup>†</sup>
m <sup>3</sup> /d	Sm <sup>3</sup> /d	Nm <sup>3</sup> /d	Cubic meter per day <sup>†</sup>
in <sup>3</sup> /m	Sin <sup>3</sup> /m		Cubic inch per minute <sup>†</sup>
CFM	SCFM		Cubic foot per minute
CFH	SCFH		Cubic foot per hour
CFD	SCFD		Cubic foot per day
	kSCFM		1000 cubic feet per minute
%	%	%	Percent of full-scale

True Mass Flow Units	
Label	Notes
mg/s	Milligram per second
mg/m	Milligram per minute
g/s	Gram per second
g/m	Gram per minute
g/h	Gram per hour
kg/m	Kilogram per minute
kg/h	Kilogram per hour
oz/s	Ounce per second
oz/m	Ounce per minute
lb/m	Pound per minute
lb/h	Pound per hour

Total Units	
Label	Notes
μL	MicroLiter <sup>‡</sup>
mL	MilliLiter
L	Liter
US GAL	US gallon
cm <sup>3</sup>	Cubic centimeter <sup>†</sup>
m <sup>3</sup>	Cubic meter <sup>†</sup>
in <sup>3</sup>	Cubic inch <sup>†</sup>
ft <sup>3</sup>	Cubic foot <sup>†</sup>
μP	Micropoise, a measure of viscosity*
mg	Milligrams
g	Grams
kg	Kilograms
oz	US ounces
lb	US pounds

Time Units	
Label	Notes
h:m:s	Hours:Minutes:Seconds
ms	Milliseconds
s	Seconds
m	Minutes
hour	Hours
day	Days

Temperature Units	
Label	Notes
°C	Degrees Celsius
°F	Degrees Fahrenheit
K	Kelvin
°R	Degrees Rankine

\* Displayed as kg/cmA and kg/cmG.

† Superscript and subscript numerals are displayed as lining (normal) numerals.

‡ Instances of μ are displayed as a lower-case u.



# Gas List by Number

To use any of these gases in your device, use Gas Select™ (page 17).

#	Short Name	Long Name
0	Air	Air (Clean Dry)
1	Ar	Argon
2	CH4	Methane
3	CO	Carbon Monoxide
4	CO2	Carbon Dioxide
5	C2H6	Ethane
6	H2	Hydrogen
7	He	Helium
8	N2	Nitrogen
9	N2O	Nitrous Oxide
10	Ne	Neon
11	O2	Oxygen
12	C3H8	Propane
13	nC4H10	Normal Butane
14	C2H2	Acetylene
15	C2H4	Ethylene (Ethene)
16	iC4H10	Isobutane
17	Kr	Krypton
18	Xe	Xenon
19	SF6	Sulfur Hexafluoride <sup>1</sup>
20	C-25	25% CO <sub>2</sub> , 75% Ar
21	C-10	10% CO <sub>2</sub> , 90% Ar
22	C-8	8% CO <sub>2</sub> , 92% Ar
23	C-2	2% CO <sub>2</sub> , 98% Ar
24	C-75	75% CO <sub>2</sub> , 25% Ar
25	He-25	25% He, 75% Ar
26	He-75	75% He, 25% Ar
27	A1025	90% He, 7.5% Ar, 2.5% CO <sub>2</sub>
28	Star29	Stargon CS (90% Ar, 8% CO <sub>2</sub> , 2% O <sub>2</sub> )
29	P-5	5% CH <sub>4</sub> , 95% Ar
30	NO	Nitric Oxide <sup>2</sup>
31	NF3	Nitrogen Trifluoride <sup>2</sup>
32	NH3	Ammonia <sup>2</sup>
33	Cl2	Chlorine <sup>2</sup>
34	H2S	Hydrogen Sulfide <sup>2</sup>
35	SO2	Sulfur Dioxide <sup>2</sup>
36	C3H6	Propylene <sup>2</sup>
80	1Buten	1-Butylene <sup>2</sup>
81	cButen	Cis-Butene (cis-2-Butene) <sup>2</sup>
82	iButen	Isobutene <sup>2</sup>
83	tButen	Trans-2-Butene <sup>2</sup>
84	COS	Carbonyl Sulfide <sup>2</sup>
85	DME	Dimethylether (C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>6</sub> O) <sup>2</sup>
86	SiH4	Silane <sup>2</sup>
100	R-11	Trichlorofluoromethane (CCl <sub>3</sub> F) <sup>2,3</sup>

#	Short Name	Long Name
101	R-115	Chloropentafluoroethane (C <sub>2</sub> ClF <sub>5</sub> ) <sup>2,3</sup>
102	R-116	Hexafluoroethane (C <sub>2</sub> F <sub>6</sub> ) <sup>2</sup>
103	R-124	Chlorotetrafluoroethane (C <sub>2</sub> HClF <sub>4</sub> ) <sup>2,3</sup>
104	R-125	Pentafluoroethane (CF <sub>3</sub> CHF <sub>2</sub> ) <sup>2,3</sup>
105	R-134A	Tetrafluoroethane (CH <sub>2</sub> FCF <sub>3</sub> ) <sup>2,3</sup>
106	R-14	Tetrafluoromethane (CF <sub>4</sub> ) <sup>2</sup>
107	R-142b	Chlorodifluoroethane (CH <sub>3</sub> CClF <sub>2</sub> ) <sup>2,3</sup>
108	R-143a	Trifluoroethane (C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>3</sub> F <sub>3</sub> ) <sup>2,3</sup>
109	R-152a	Difluoroethane (C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> F <sub>2</sub> ) <sup>2</sup>
110	R-22	Difluoromono-chloromethane (CHClF <sub>2</sub> ) <sup>2,3</sup>
111	R-23	Trifluoromethane (CHF <sub>3</sub> ) <sup>2,3</sup>
112	R-32	Difluoromethane (CH <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> ) <sup>2,3</sup>
113	R-318	Octafluorocyclobutane (C <sub>4</sub> F <sub>8</sub> ) <sup>2</sup>
114	R-404A	44% R-125, 4% R-134A, 52% R-143A <sup>2,3</sup>
115	R-407C	23% R-32, 25% R-125, 52% R-143A <sup>2,3</sup>
116	R-410A	50% R-32, 50% R-125 <sup>2,3</sup>
117	R-507A	50% R-125, 50% R-143A <sup>2,3</sup>
140	C-15	15% CO <sub>2</sub> , 85% Ar
141	C-20	20% CO <sub>2</sub> , 80% Ar
142	C-50	50% CO <sub>2</sub> , 50% Ar
143	He-50	50% He, 50% Ar
144	He-90	90% He, 10% Ar
145	Bio5M	5% CH <sub>4</sub> , 95% CO <sub>2</sub>
146	Bio10M	10% CH <sub>4</sub> , 90% CO <sub>2</sub>
147	Bio15M	15% CH <sub>4</sub> , 85% CO <sub>2</sub>
148	Bio20M	20% CH <sub>4</sub> , 80% CO <sub>2</sub>
149	Bio25M	25% CH <sub>4</sub> , 75% CO <sub>2</sub>
150	Bio30M	30% CH <sub>4</sub> , 70% CO <sub>2</sub>
151	Bio35M	35% CH <sub>4</sub> , 65% CO <sub>2</sub>
152	Bio40M	40% CH <sub>4</sub> , 60% CO <sub>2</sub>
153	Bio45M	45% CH <sub>4</sub> , 55% CO <sub>2</sub>
154	Bio50M	50% CH <sub>4</sub> , 50% CO <sub>2</sub>
155	Bio55M	55% CH <sub>4</sub> , 45% CO <sub>2</sub>
156	Bio60M	60% CH <sub>4</sub> , 40% CO <sub>2</sub>
157	Bio65M	65% CH <sub>4</sub> , 35% CO <sub>2</sub>
158	Bio70M	70% CH <sub>4</sub> , 30% CO <sub>2</sub>
159	Bio75M	75% CH <sub>4</sub> , 25% CO <sub>2</sub>
160	Bio80M	80% CH <sub>4</sub> , 20% CO <sub>2</sub>
161	Bio85M	85% CH <sub>4</sub> , 15% CO <sub>2</sub>
162	Bio90M	90% CH <sub>4</sub> , 10% CO <sub>2</sub>
163	Bio95M	95% CH <sub>4</sub> , 5% CO <sub>2</sub>
164	EAN-32	32% O <sub>2</sub> , 68% N <sub>2</sub>
165	EAN-36	36% O <sub>2</sub> , 64% N <sub>2</sub>
166	EAN-40	40% O <sub>2</sub> , 60% N <sub>2</sub>
167	HeOx20	20% O <sub>2</sub> , 80% He
168	HeOx21	21% O <sub>2</sub> , 79% He
169	HeOx30	30% O <sub>2</sub> , 70% He
170	HeOx40	40% O <sub>2</sub> , 60% He
171	HeOx50	50% O <sub>2</sub> , 50% He
172	HeOx60	60% O <sub>2</sub> , 40% He

#	Short Name	Long Name
173	HeOx80	80% O <sub>2</sub> , 20% He
174	HeOx99	99% O <sub>2</sub> , 1% He
175	EA-40	Enriched Air-40% O <sub>2</sub>
176	EA-60	Enriched Air-60% O <sub>2</sub>
177	EA-80	Enriched Air-80% O <sub>2</sub>
178	Metab	Metabolic Exhalant (16% O <sub>2</sub> , 78.04% N <sub>2</sub> , 5% CO <sub>2</sub> , 0.96% Ar)
179	LG-4.5	4.5% CO <sub>2</sub> , 13.5% N <sub>2</sub> , 82% He
180	LG-6	6% CO <sub>2</sub> , 14% N <sub>2</sub> , 80% He
181	LG-7	7% CO <sub>2</sub> , 14% N <sub>2</sub> , 79% He
182	LG-9	9% CO <sub>2</sub> , 15% N <sub>2</sub> , 76% He
183	HeNe-9	9% Ne, 91% He
184	LG-9.4	9.4% CO <sub>2</sub> , 19.25% N <sub>2</sub> , 71.35% He
185	SynG-1	40% H <sub>2</sub> , 29% CO, 20% CO <sub>2</sub> , 11% CH <sub>4</sub>
186	SynG-2	64% H <sub>2</sub> , 28% CO, 1% CO <sub>2</sub> , 7% CH <sub>4</sub>
187	SynG-3	70% H <sub>2</sub> , 4% CO, 25% CO <sub>2</sub> , 1% CH <sub>4</sub>
188	SynG-4	83% H <sub>2</sub> , 14% CO, 3% CH <sub>4</sub>
189	NatG-1	93% CH <sub>4</sub> , 3% C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>6</sub> , 1% C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>8</sub> , 2% N <sub>2</sub> , 1% CO <sub>2</sub>
190	NatG-2	95% CH <sub>4</sub> , 3% C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>6</sub> , 1% N <sub>2</sub> , 1% CO <sub>2</sub>
191	NatG-3	95.2% CH <sub>4</sub> , 2.5% C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>6</sub> , 0.2% C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>8</sub> , 0.1% C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>10</sub> , 1.3% N <sub>2</sub> , 0.7% CO <sub>2</sub>
192	CoalG	50% H <sub>2</sub> , 35% CH <sub>4</sub> , 10% CO, 5% C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub>
193	Endo	75% H <sub>2</sub> , 25% N <sub>2</sub>
194	HHO	66.67% H <sub>2</sub> , 33.33% O <sub>2</sub>
195	HD-5	LPG: 96.1% C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>8</sub> , 1.5% C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>6</sub> , 0.4% C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>6</sub> , 1.9% n-C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>10</sub>
196	HD-10	LPG: 85% C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>8</sub> , 10% C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>6</sub> , 5% n-C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>10</sub>
197	OCG-89	89% O <sub>2</sub> , 7% N <sub>2</sub> , 4% Ar
198	OCG-93	93% O <sub>2</sub> , 3% N <sub>2</sub> , 4% Ar
199	OCG-95	95% O <sub>2</sub> , 1% N <sub>2</sub> , 4% Ar
200	FG-1	2.5% O <sub>2</sub> , 10.8% CO <sub>2</sub> , 85.7% N <sub>2</sub> , 1% Ar
201	FG-2	2.9% O <sub>2</sub> , 14% CO <sub>2</sub> , 82.1% N <sub>2</sub> , 1% Ar
202	FG-3	3.7% O <sub>2</sub> , 15% CO <sub>2</sub> , 80.3% N <sub>2</sub> , 1% Ar
203	FG-4	7% O <sub>2</sub> , 12% CO <sub>2</sub> , 80% N <sub>2</sub> , 1% Ar
204	FG-5	10% O <sub>2</sub> , 9.5% CO <sub>2</sub> , 79.5% N <sub>2</sub> , 1% Ar
205	FG-6	13% O <sub>2</sub> , 7% CO <sub>2</sub> , 79% N <sub>2</sub> , 1% Ar
206	P-10	10% CH <sub>4</sub> , 90% Ar
210	D-2	Deuterium

<sup>1</sup> Sulfur hexafluoride is a highly potent greenhouse gas monitored under the Kyoto Protocol.

<sup>2</sup> Corrosive-resistant units only

<sup>3</sup> Under the Montreal Protocol and Kigali Amendment, the production and consumption of these ozone-depleting substances (ODS) is being or has been phased out. It is recommended you ensure compliance with this universally ratified treaty before attempting to use these gases, in addition to R113, R-123, and R-141b.

# Gas List by Category

See previous page for Gas Select™ index numbers.

## Pure Non-Corrosive Gases

Acetylene (C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>)  
Air (clean, dry)  
Argon (Ar)  
Isobutane (i-C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>10</sub>)  
Normal Butane (n-C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>10</sub>)  
Carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>)  
Carbon monoxide (CO)  
Deuterium (D<sub>2</sub>)  
Ethane (C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>6</sub>)  
Ethylene (Ethene) (C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>)  
Helium (He)  
Hydrogen (H<sub>2</sub>)  
Krypton (Kr)  
Methane (CH<sub>4</sub>)  
Neon (Ne)  
Nitrogen (N<sub>2</sub>)  
Nitrous Oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O)  
Oxygen (O<sub>2</sub>)  
Propane (C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>8</sub>)  
Sulfur Hexafluoride (SF<sub>6</sub>)<sup>1</sup>  
Xenon (Xe)

## Breathing Gases

Metabolic Exhalant  
EAN-32  
EAN-36  
EAN-40  
EA-40  
EA-60  
EA-80  
Heliox-20  
Heliox-21  
Heliox-30  
Heliox-40  
Heliox-50  
Heliox-60  
Heliox-80  
Heliox-99

## Bioreactor Gas Mixes

5%–95% CH<sub>4</sub>/CO<sub>2</sub> in 5% increments

## Refrigerants<sup>2</sup>

R-11<sup>3</sup>  
R-14  
R-22<sup>3</sup>  
R-23<sup>3</sup>  
R-32<sup>3</sup>  
R-115<sup>3</sup>  
R-116  
R-124<sup>3</sup>  
R-125<sup>3</sup>  
R-134a<sup>3</sup>  
R-142b<sup>3</sup>  
R-143a<sup>3</sup>  
R-152a  
R-318  
R-404A<sup>3</sup>  
R-407C<sup>3</sup>  
R-410A<sup>3</sup>  
R-507A<sup>3</sup>

## Welding Gases

C-2  
C-8  
C-10  
C-15  
C-20  
C-25  
C-50  
C-75  
He-25  
He-50  
He-75  
He-90  
A 1025  
Stargon CS

## Chromatography Gas Mixes

P-5  
P-10

## Oxygen Concentrator Gas Mixes

89% O<sub>2</sub>, 7.0% N<sub>2</sub>, 4.0% Ar  
93% O<sub>2</sub>, 3.0% N<sub>2</sub>, 4.0% Ar  
95% O<sub>2</sub>, 1.0% N<sub>2</sub>, 4.0% Ar

## Stack/Flue Gas Mixes

2.5% O<sub>2</sub>, 10.8% CO<sub>2</sub>, 85.7% N<sub>2</sub>, 1.0% Ar  
2.9% O<sub>2</sub>, 14% CO<sub>2</sub>, 82.1% N<sub>2</sub>, 1.0% Ar  
3.7% O<sub>2</sub>, 15% CO<sub>2</sub>, 80.3% N<sub>2</sub>, 1.0% Ar  
7.0% O<sub>2</sub>, 12% CO<sub>2</sub>, 80% N<sub>2</sub>, 1.0% Ar  
10% O<sub>2</sub>, 9.5% CO<sub>2</sub>, 79.5% N<sub>2</sub>, 1.0% Ar  
13% O<sub>2</sub>, 7.0% CO<sub>2</sub>, 79% N<sub>2</sub>, 1.0% Ar

## Laser Gas Mixes

4.5% CO<sub>2</sub>, 13.5% N<sub>2</sub>, 82% He  
6.0% CO<sub>2</sub>, 14% N<sub>2</sub>, 80% He  
7.0% CO<sub>2</sub>, 14% N<sub>2</sub>, 79% He  
9.0% CO<sub>2</sub>, 15% N<sub>2</sub>, 76% He  
9.4% CO<sub>2</sub>, 19.25% N<sub>2</sub>, 71.35% He  
9.0% Ne, 91% He

## Fuel Gas Mixes

Coal Gas 50% H<sub>2</sub>, 35% CH<sub>4</sub>, 10% CO, 5% C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>  
Endothermic Gas 75% H<sub>2</sub>, 25% N<sub>2</sub>  
HHO 66.67% H<sub>2</sub>, 33.33% O<sub>2</sub>  
LPG HD-5 96.1% C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>8</sub>, 1.5% C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>6</sub>, 0.4% C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>6</sub>, 1.9% n-C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>10</sub>  
LPG HD-10 85% C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>8</sub>, 10% C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>6</sub>, 5% n-C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>10</sub>

## Natural Gases

93.0% CH<sub>4</sub>, 3.0% C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>6</sub>, 1.0% C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>8</sub>, 2.0% N<sub>2</sub>, 1.0% CO<sub>2</sub>  
95.0% CH<sub>4</sub>, 3.0% C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>6</sub>, 1.0% N<sub>2</sub>, 1.0% CO<sub>2</sub>  
95.2% CH<sub>4</sub>, 2.5% C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>6</sub>, 0.2% C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>8</sub>, 0.1% C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>10</sub>, 1.3% N<sub>2</sub>, 0.7% CO<sub>2</sub>

## Synthesis Gases

40% H<sub>2</sub>, 29% CO, 20% CO<sub>2</sub>, 11% CH<sub>4</sub>  
64% H<sub>2</sub>, 28% CO, 1.0% CO<sub>2</sub>, 7.0% CH<sub>4</sub>  
70% H<sub>2</sub>, 4.0% CO, 25% CO<sub>2</sub>, 1.0% CH<sub>4</sub>  
83% H<sub>2</sub>, 14% CO, 3.0% CH<sub>4</sub>

## Pure Corrosive Gases<sup>2</sup>

Ammonia (NH<sub>3</sub>)  
Butylene (1-Buten)  
Cis-Butene (c-Buten)  
Isobutene (i-Buten)  
Trans-Butene (t-Buten)  
Carbonyl Sulfide (COS)  
Chlorine (Cl<sub>2</sub>)  
Dimethylether (DME)  
Hydrogen Sulfide (H<sub>2</sub>S)  
Nitrogen Trifluoride (NF<sub>3</sub>)  
Nitric Oxide (NO)  
Propylene (C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>6</sub>)  
Silane (SiH<sub>4</sub>)  
Sulfur Dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>)

<sup>1</sup> Sulfur hexafluoride is a highly potent greenhouse gas monitored under the Kyoto Protocol.

<sup>2</sup> Corrosive-resistant units only

<sup>3</sup> Under the Montreal Protocol and Kigali Amendment, the production and consumption of these ozone-depleting substances (ODS) is being or has been phased out. It is recommended you ensure compliance with this universally ratified treaty before attempting to use these gases, in addition to R113, R-123, and R-141b.

# Device Environmental Conditions

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The IS-Max and IS-Pro are designed for use in the following environmental conditions:

- **Indoor or outdoor** (see special conditions of use)
- **Maximum installation altitude:** 5000m
- **Ambient temperature:** -20°C to 70°C
- **Relative humidity:** 0–95%
- **Overvoltage Category I**
- **Wet or dry locations**
- **Pollution degree 4**
- **Ingress protection:** IEC 60529 IP66,  
CAN/CSA-C22.2 Type 4

