Congratulations !

You have purchased the latest in Handheld Conductivity-Salinity-pH-Temperature instrumentation. We trust that your new **WP-81** will give you many years of reliable service.

The **WP-81** is a breeze to operate. This manual has been designed to help you get started, and also contains some handy application tips. If at any stage you require assistance, please contact either your local TPS representative or the TPS factory in Brisbane.

The manual is divided into the following sections:

1. **Table of Contents**

   Each major section of the handbook is clearly listed. Sub-sections have also been included to enable you to find the information you need at a glance.

2. **Introduction**

   The introduction has a diagram and explanation of the display and controls of the **WP-81**. It also contains a full listing of all of the items that you should have received with your **WP-81**. Please take the time to read this section, as it explains some of items that are mentioned in subsequent sections.

3. **Main Section**

   The main section of the handbook provides complete details of the **WP-81**, including operating modes, calibration, troubleshooting, specifications, and warranty terms.

4. **Appendices**

   Appendices containing background information and application notes are provided at the back of this manual.

TPS Pty Ltd
4 Jamberoo Street
Springwood, Brisbane,
Australia, 4127
Phone   : (07) 32 900 400
International   : 61 7 32 900 400
Fax   : (07) 3808 4871
International   : 61 7 3808 4871
E-mail   : tps@tpssite.com.au

Contents

1. Introduction

1.1 WP-81 Display and Controls

① **F1**

Press to record readings into memory. See section 9.1.

Also used to select pH6.88 or pH7.00 as the primary buffer. See section 15.

② **F2**

Press to show or hide the date/time or temperature. See section 13.2.

Also used to select k=0.1 or k=10 sensor, when standard k=1 sensor is not being used.

③ **F3**

Press to start or stop automatic logging. See section 10.

Alternatively, press to transmit current reading plus date and time to the RS232 port (optional) See section 11.2.

④ **F4**

Only used within the menu system on the **WP-81**.

⑤ **Menu**

Press to access the user-friendly menu system which makes the **WP-81** a breeze to operate.

⑥ **▲** and ⑧ **▼**

The ▲ and ▼ keys are used for calibrating temperature readout (section 7.1), setting the manual temperature compensation (section 7.4), setting the clock (section 13.1), setting the automatic logging period (section 10), and displaying GLP information (section 8.1).

The ▲ key is also used to intialise the **WP-81** at turn-on. See section 16.

⑦ **ON OFF**

Switches the **WP-81** on and off.

⑨ **Display**

32 character alpha-numeric display with user-friendly menu and prompting system. Shows Conductivity/Salinity, pH and Temperature simultaneously. Date and time can also be displayed.

1.2 Unpacking Information

Before using your new **WP-81**, please check that the following accessories have been included:

	Part No
1. **WP-81** Conductivity-Salinity-pH-Temp. Instrument	121132
2. k=1/ATC/Temperature Sensor, 1m cable	122201
3. Combination pH Sensor	121207
4. 2.76mS/cm Conductivity Standard, 200mL	122306
5. 2 ppK Salinity Standard, 200mL	122307
6. pH6.88 Buffer, 200mL	121306
7. pH4.00 Buffer, 200mL	121381
8. Battery charger	130037
9. **WP-81** Handbook	130050

Options that may have been ordered with your **WP-81**:

1. k=10/ATC/Temperature Sensor, 5m cable	122220
2. k=0.1/ATC/Temperature Sensor, 1m cable	122229
3. RS232 Serial Interface Option (includes cable)	130039
4. Hard Carry Case	130059
5. Battery charger lead for 12V cigarette lighter socket	130046
6. Solar Panel	130012
7. RS232 Printer	130031

Other spares:

1. 6V NiMH Battery	130038
2. RS232 Interface Cable	130041

1.3 Specifications

Conductivity

Ranges
: 5 ranges, with automatic range selection.
   k=0.1 Sensor........ 2.000 μS/cm to 20.00 mS/cm
   k=1.0 Sensor........ 20.00 μS/cm to 200.0 mS/cm
   k=10 Sensor......... 200.0 μS/cm to 2000 mS/cm

Resolution
: 0.05% of selected range

Accuracy
: $\pm$0.2% of full scale of selected range

Salinity

Ranges
: 5 ranges, with automatic range selection and
   linearising software.
   k=0.1 Sensor.............. 1.000 ppM to 10.00 ppK
   k=1.0 Sensor.............. 10.00 ppM to 100.0 ppK
   k=10 Sensor............... 100.0 ppM to 1000 ppK

Resolution
: 0.1% of selected range

Accuracy
: $\pm$0.3% of full scale of selected range

pH

Range
: 0 to 14.00 pH

Resolution
: 0.01 pH

Accuracy
: $\pm$0.01 pH

Temperature

Range
: -10.0 to 120.0 $^{\circ}$C (Sensor limit 60 $^{\circ}$C)

Resolution
: 0.1 $^{\circ}$C

Accuracy
: $\pm$0.2 $^{\circ}$C

General Specifications

Temperature Compensation	: Automatic, 0 to 100 ^{o}C, or manual for pH, 0 to 99.0 ^{o}C.
Cond. Sensor Span Range	: k=0.1 Sensor : k=0.075 to k=0.133 k=1.0 Sensor : k=0.75 to k=1.33 k=10 Sensor : k=7.5 to k=13.3
pH Asymmetry Range	: -1.00 to 1.00 pH
pH Slope Range	: 85.0 to 105%
Temp. Sensor Offset Range	: -10.0^{o}C to +10.0^{o}C
Auto Standard Recognition	: Cond. : 150 µS/cm, 1413 µS/cm, 2.76 mS/cm, 12.88 mS/cm, 58.0 mS/cm Salinity : 69.5 ppM, 2.00 ppK, 8.00 ppK, 36.0 ppK pH : 4.00, 6.88, 7.00, 9.23
Memory	: 150 readings including date and time
Automatic Logging	: User-set for one reading every 1 to 90 seconds or minutes.
RS232 Output (optional)	: 300, 1200 & 9600 baud. 8 bits, no parity, 1 stop bit, XON/XOFF Protocol.
Clock	: Calendar clock displays date, month, hours, minutes & seconds. Year is recorded in memory and transmitted to optional RS232 port, but is not displayed.
Battery Saver	: On : Auto switch-off after 5 minutes Off : Continuous use Bar Graph display of battery charge level. Readout of battery voltage available for troubleshooting.
Good Laboratory Practices	: Date, Time and Value of last Conductivity, Salinity, pH and Temperature calibration are stored, and can be recalled or sent to the optional RS232 port at any time.
Power	: 6V NiMH Rechargeable Battery for approx 40 hours operation.
Dimensions	: 187 x 110 x 51 mm
Mass	: Instrument only : Approx 440g Full Kit : Approx 1.7kg
Environment	Temperature : 0 to 45 ^{o}C Humidity : 0 to 90 % R.H.

2. WP-81 Menu Structure

A detailed breakdown of the menu system of the **WP-81** is shown below.
This diagram provides a quick reference for the menu functions available for the
WP-81.

Press the function keys in normal display mode, to perform the following tasks:

F1 : Press to record current data plus date and time into memory.
F2 : Press to show or hide date and time.
F3 : Press to start and stop automatic logging.
    If logging period is set to zero, press to transmit current reading plus
    date and time to the RS232 port.

Menu : Press to access the user-friendly menu system, as detailed below.

```
├──► F1:Cal.        ──► F1:Cond./Sal.
│                   ──► F2:pH
│                   ──► F3:Temp
│
├──► F2:Notepad   ──► F1:Recall
│                 ──► F2:Erase
│                 ──► F3:Print (if RS232 option fitted)
│                 ──► F4:Prog.   ──► F1:Min
│                                 ──► F2:Sec
│                                 ──► ↑↓:Set Period
│
├──► F3:Mode      ──► F1:Conductivity
│                 ──► F3:Salinity
│
└──► F4:Setup     ──► F1:Batt    ──► F1:OFF
                  │               ──► F2:ON
                  │
                  ──► F2:Clock
                  │
                  ──► F3:GLP     ──► F1:Recall
                  │               ──► F3:Print
                  │
                  ──► F4:Baud    ──► F1:300
                     (if RS232   ──► F2:1200
                     option fitted) ──► F3:9600
```
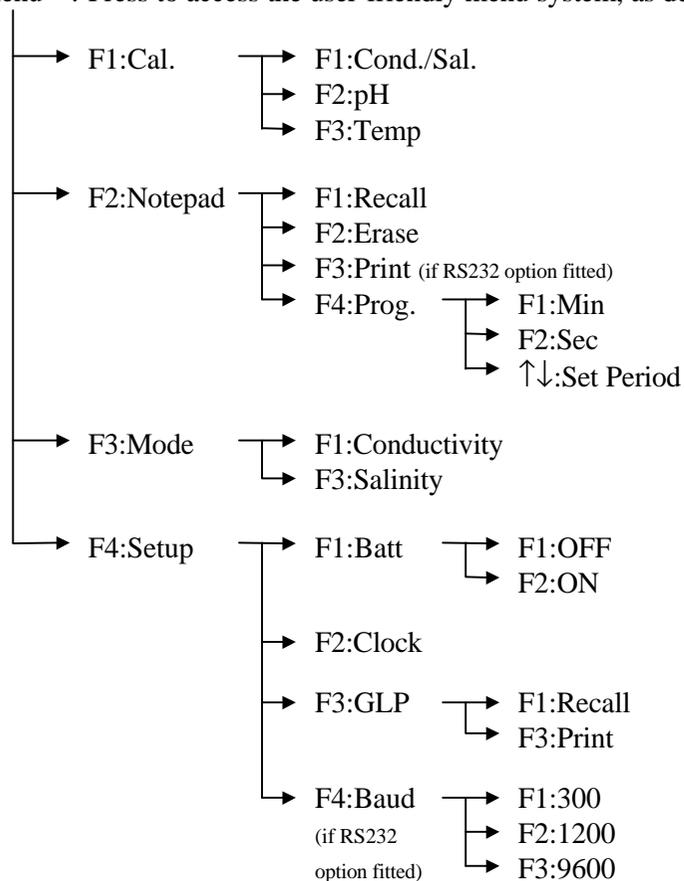
3. Operating Modes

The **WP-81** has two operating modes : Conductivity and Salinity.
To select a mode, access the mode menu by pressing Menu, then **F3:Mode**.

1. **F1:Conductivity**
   Displays Conductivity, pH and Temperature readings simultaneously.
   See section 13.2 for details on how to show or hide the date and time.
   eg :   **2.76mS   7.00pH**
   25.0^{o}c   12:00:00
   If the temperature probe is unplugged, the manual temperature setting is
   displayed with 1°C resolution.
   eg: **2.76mS   7.00pH**
   Man25^{o}c   12:00:00

2. **F2:Salinity**
   Displays Salinity, pH and Temperature readings simultaneously.
   See section 13.2 for details on how to show or hide the date and time.
   eg: **36.0ppK   7.00pH**
   25.0^{o}c   12:00:00
   If the temperature probe is unplugged, the manual temperature setting is
   displayed with 1°C resolution.
   eg: **36.0ppK   7.00pH**
   Man25^{o}c   12:00:00

3. **Notes**
   1) The decimal point is replaced by a ∗ if a Conductivity, Salinity, pH or
      Temperature calibration has failed (sections 4.1, 5.1, 6.1 & 7.1), or if the
      unit is initialised (section 16).

4. Conductivity Calibration

4.1 Calibration Procedure

1. Plug the Conductivity sensor into the **Conductivity/Salinity** socket.
   If a k=0.1 or k=10 sensor is being used, ensure that the **WP-81** is set to the correct k factor before using the instrument (see section 14).
2. Switch the meter on.   ON/OFF
3. Select Conductivity Mode.   Menu → **F3:Mode** → **F1:Conductivity**
4. Rinse the Conductivity electrode in distilled water. Shake off as much water as possible. Blot the outside of the electrode dry. DO NOT BLOT THE ELECTRODE WIRES.
5. **Zero Calibration**
   Let the electrode dry in air.
   Select Conductivity Calibration.   Menu → **F1:Cal.** → **F1:Cond.**
6. When the reading has stabilised at or near zero, press the F1 key to calibrate.
   The ∗ will not be removed after a zero calibration.
7. **Standard Calibration**
   Allowable Conductivity standards are 150μS/cm, 1413μS/cm, 2.76mS/cm, 12.88mS/cm and 58.0mS/cm, and should be selected according to your range of interest.

If the **WP-81** does not recognise the standard, it will display the message, "**NOT STD**" during calibration. Calibration will fail if this message is displayed.

Place the electrode into a sample of Conductivity standard, so that it is immersed at least to the vent hole in the white plastic cover. The white plastic cover MUST be in place for correct readings.

DO NOT place the electrode directly into the bottle of standard. Discard the used sample of standard after use. It is advisable to use a narrow sample vessel to minimise the use of standard solution.

8. Select Conductivity Calibration.   Menu → **F1:Cal.** → **F1:Cond.**
9. When the reading has stabilised, press the F1 key to calibrate.
   The ∗ will now be replaced by a decimal point, if calibration was successful.
10. The **WP-81** is now calibrated for Conductivity and is ready for use in this mode.

4.2 Calibration Notes

1. A Zero calibration should be performed at least monthly. In low conductivity applications (where a zero error is particularly significant) a zero calibration may have to be done weekly.
2. A Standard calibration should be performed at least weekly. Of course, more frequent calibration will result in greater confidence in results.
3. Conductivity and Salinity calibration data is stored separately in memory. Ensure that the **WP-81** has been correctly calibrated for the mode in which it will be used. The **WP-81** does not require recalibration when alternating between Conductivity and Salinity modes, providing the instrument has been correctly calibrated for both.
4. All calibration information is retained in memory when the **WP-81** is switched off, even when the battery is removed. This information can be recalled or printed later using the GLP function (see section 8).
5. The **WP-81** displays the value of the standard to which it will attempt to calibrate. Ensure that the standard value displayed corresponds to the standard that you are using.
6. If the **WP-81** does not recognise the standard, it will display the message, "**NOT STD**" during calibration. Calibration will fail if this message is displayed.

4.3 Calibration Messages

1. If a Zero calibration has been successfully performed, the **WP-81** will display the following message, and the zero value of the electrode.

   eg: **Calibrate OK**
   Zero= 0.00uS

2. If a Standard calibration has been successfully performed, the **WP-81** will display the following message, and the k factor of the electrode.

   eg: **Calibrate OK**
   k= 1.0

3. If a Standard calibration has failed, the **WP-81** will display the following message, and the failed k factor of the electrode.

   eg: **Calibrate Fail**
   k= 1.5

5. Salinity Calibration

5.1 Calibration Procedure

1. Plug the Conductivity sensor into the **Conductivity/Salinity** socket.
   If a k=0.1 or k=10 sensor is being used, ensure that the **WP-81** is set to the correct k factor before using the instrument (see section 14).
2. Switch the meter on. `ON OFF`
3. Select Salinity Mode. `Menu` → **F3:Mode** → **F3:Salinity**
4. Rinse the Conductivity electrode in distilled water. Shake off as much water as possible. Blot the outside of the electrode dry. DO NOT BLOT THE ELECTRODE WIRES.
5. **Zero Calibration**
   Let the electrode dry in air.
   Select Salinity Calibration. `Menu` → **F1:Cal.** → **F1:Sal.**
6. When the reading has stabilised at or near zero, press the `F1` key to calibrate.
   The ∗ will not be removed after a zero calibration.
7. **Standard Calibration**
   Allowable Salinity standards are 69.5ppM, 2.00ppK, 8.00ppK, and 36.0ppK, and should be selected according to your range of interest.

   If the **WP-81** does not recognise the standard, it will display the message, "**NOT STD**" during calibration. Calibration will fail if this message is displayed.

   Place the electrode into a sample of Salinity standard, so that it is immersed at least to the vent hole in the white plastic cover. The white plastic cover MUST be in place for correct readings.

   DO NOT place the electrode directly into the bottle of standard. Discard the used sample of standard after use. It is advisable to use a narrow sample vessel to minimise the use of standard solution.
8. Select Salinity Calibration. `Menu` → **F1:Cal.** → **F1:Sal.**
9. When the reading has stabilised, press the `F1` key to calibrate.
   The ∗ will now be replaced by a decimal point, if calibration was successful.
10. The **WP-81** is now calibrated for Salinity and is ready for use in this mode.

5.2 Calibration Notes

1. A Zero calibration should be performed at least monthly. In low salinity applications (where a zero error is particularly significant) a zero calibration may have to be done weekly.
2. A Standard calibration should be performed at least weekly. Of course, more frequent calibration will result in greater confidence in results.
3. Salinity and Conductivity calibration data is stored separately in memory. Ensure that the **WP-81** has been correctly calibrated for the mode in which it will be used. The **WP-81** does not require recalibration when alternating between Salinity and Conductivity modes, providing the instrument has been correctly calibrated for both.
4. All calibration information is retained in memory when the **WP-81** is switched off, even when the battery is removed. This information can be recalled or printed later using the GLP function (see section 8).
5. The **WP-81** displays the value of the standard to which it will attempt to calibrate. Ensure that the standard value displayed corresponds to the standard that you are using.
6. If the **WP-81** does not recognise the standard, it will display the message, "**NOT STD**" during calibration. Calibration will fail if this message is displayed.

5.3 Calibration Messages

1. If a Zero calibration has been successfully performed, the **WP-81** will display the following message, and the zero value of the electrode.

   eg: **Calibrate OK**
   Zero= 0.00ppM

2. If a Standard calibration has been successfully performed, the **WP-81** will display the following message, and the k factor of the electrode.

   eg: **Calibrate OK**
   k= 1.0

3. If a Standard calibration has failed, the **WP-81** will display the following message, and the failed k factor of the electrode.

   eg: **Calibrate Fail**
   k= 1.5

6. pH Calibration

6.1 Calibration Procedure

1. Plug the pH sensor into the **pH** socket. Temperature measurements are made via the Conductivity sensor, so this needs to be connected to the **Conductivity/Salinity** socket for Automatic Temperature Compensation.
2. Switch the meter on. `ON OFF`
3. Ensure that temperature has already been calibrated, or manually set (see sections 7.1 and 7.4). NOTE: If the decimal point in the temperature reading is shown by a *, then the temperature readout is not calibrated.
4. Remove the wetting cap from the pH sensor.
5. Rinse the pH and Conductivity sensors in distilled water and blot them dry.
6. Ensure that you are using the primary buffer for which the **WP-81** has been set (see section 15).
   Place both electrodes into a small sample of pH6.88 (or pH7.00) buffer, so that the bulb and reference junction are both covered.
   DO NOT place the electrodes directly into the buffer bottle.
7. Select pH Calibration. `Menu` → **F1:Cal.** → **F2:pH**
8. When the reading has stabilised, press the `F1` key to calibrate. If a 1 point calibration has been performed, the * will not be removed until a full 2 point calibration has been performed.
9. Rinse the pH and Conductivity electrodes in distilled water and blot them dry.
10. Place both sensors into a small sample of pH4.00 or pH9.23 Buffer, so that the bulb and reference junction are both covered. **DO NOT** place the electrodes directly into the buffer bottle.
    NOTE: pH9.23 buffer is highly unstable. Avoid using this buffer if possible. Discard immediately after use.
11. Select pH Calibration `Menu` → **F1:Cal.** → **F2:pH**
12. When the reading has stabilised, press the `F1` key to calibrate. The * will now be replaced by a decimal point, if calibration was successful.
13. The **WP-81** is calibrated for pH and is ready for taking pH measurements. Discard the used samples of buffer.

6.2 Calibration Notes

1. A 1-point calibration should be performed at least weekly. In applications where the electrode junction can become blocked, such as dairy products, mining slurries etc., a 1-point calibration may have to be done daily.
2. A full 2-point calibration should be performed at least monthly. Of course, more frequent calibration will result in greater confidence in results.
3. All calibration information is retained in memory when the **WP-81** is switched off, even when the battery is removed. This information can be recalled or printed later using the GLP function (see section 8).
4. The **WP-81** displays the value of the pH buffer to which it will attempt to calibrate. Ensure that the buffer value displayed corresponds to the buffer that you are using.

6.3 Calibration Messages

1. If a 1-point calibration has been successfully performed, the **WP-81** will display the following message, and the asymmetry of the electrode.

   eg: **1 Point Cal.OK**
            Asy= 0.10pH

2. If a 1-point calibration has failed, the **WP-81** will display the following message, and the failed asymmetry value of the electrode.

   eg: **1 Point Cal.Fail**   or: **1 Point Cal.Fail**
            Asy= 1.50   Hi   **Asy=-1.50   Lo**

3. If a 2-point calibration has been successfully performed, the **WP-81** will display the following message, and the asymmetry and slope of the electrode.

   eg: **2 Point Cal.OK**   then: **2 Point Cal.OK**
            Asy= 0.10pH   **Slope=100.0%**

4. If a 2-point calibration has failed, the **WP-81** will display the following message, and the failed slope value of the electrode.

   eg: **2 Point Cal.Fail**   or: **2 Point Cal.Fail**
            Slope=130.0% Hi   **Slope= 70.0% Lo**

7. Temperature Calibration

7.1 Calibration Procedure

1. Plug the Conductivity/Temperature sensor into the **Conductivity/Salinity** socket.
2. Switch the meter on.   ⬜ON/OFF
3. Place the sensor into a beaker of room temperature water, alongside a good quality mercury thermometer. Stir the sensor and the thermometer gently to ensure an even temperature throughout the beaker.
4. Select Temperature Calibration.   ⬜Menu → **F1:Cal.**   → **F3:Temp**
5. The reading from the probe is now displayed on the right of the display, and the value you are going to set is shown on the left.

    eg: → **25.0**←   **20∗0°c**
          ↑↓:Set   F1:Cal.

6. When the reading on the right has stabilised, press the ⬆ and ⬇ keys until the reading on the left shows the same temperature as the mercury thermometer.
7. Press the ⬜F1 key to calibrate the temperature readout.
    The ∗ will now be replaced by a decimal point, if calibration was successful.
    Alternatively, press the ⬜Menu key to abort temperature calibration.

7.2 Calibration Notes

1. Temperature calibration information is retained in memory when the **WP-81** is switched off, even when the battery is removed. This information can be recalled or printed later using the GLP function (see section 8).
2. Temperature does not need to be recalibrated unless the sensor is replaced or the meter is initialised.

7.3 Calibration Messages

1. If a temperature calibration has been successfully performed, the **WP-81** will display the following message and the offset value of the probe.

    eg: **Calibrate OK**
          Offset=   1.0^{o}c

2. If a temperature calibration has failed, the **WP-81** will display the following message, and the failed offset value of the probe.

    eg: **Calibrate Fail**
          Offset= 10.5^{o}c

7.4 Manual Temperature Setting

If the Conductivity/Salinity/Temperature sensor is not connected, and a temperature sensor is not used in its place, the temperature of the sample solution must be set manually for accurate pH measurements. A separate thermometer will be required for this.

NOTE: The Conductivity sensor has a separate sensor built in for automatic temperature compensation for Conductivity and Salinity.

1. Switch the meter on. ⬛ON/OFF
2. Measure the temperature of the sample.
3. Select Temperature Calibration ⬛Menu → **F1:Cal.** → **F3:Temp**
4. The current temperature setting is now displayed.

    eg: → **25.0**← **Man Temp**
    　　　↑↓**:Set**　　　**F1:Save**
5. Press the ⬛▲ and ⬛▼ keys until the display shows the temperature of the sample.
6. Press the ⬛F1 key to save the temperature value.
    Alternatively, press the ⬛Menu key to quit and retain the current setting.

8. Good Laboratory Practices (GLP)

The **WP-81** keeps a record of the date and time of the last Conductivity, Salinity, pH and Temperature calibrations as part of GLP guidelines. The zero and span values for Conductivity and Salinity are stored separately.

8.1 To recall GLP information on the display

1. Switch the meter on.   `ON OFF`
2. Select the GLP menu.   `Menu` → **F4:Setup** → **F3:GLP**
3. Select recall.   **F1:Recall**
4. The instrument model, firmware version number, and instrument serial number are displayed, along with a prompt describing how to scroll through the GLP information.

    eg: **WP81 V1.0 R1234**
          ↓:More   ↑:Back

5. Press the ▼ key to sequentially scroll through the GLP information for all parameters. Press the ▲ key to scroll back to previous data. The sequence of information displayed is shown below. Press `Menu` to abort at any time.

WP81 V1.0 R1234
↓:More   ↑:Back

Cond Zero 0.00uS
@ 31/12/97 11:00

k=1.00 @ 2.76mS
@ 31/12/97 11:10

Sal Zero 0.00 ppM
@ 31/12/97 11:20

k=1.00 @ 2.00ppK
@ 31/12/97 11:30

pH Asy 0.10pH
@ 31/12/97 11:40

pH Slope 100.0%
@ 31/12/97 11:50

Temp Offset 1.0°c
@ 31/12/97 12:00

Exit
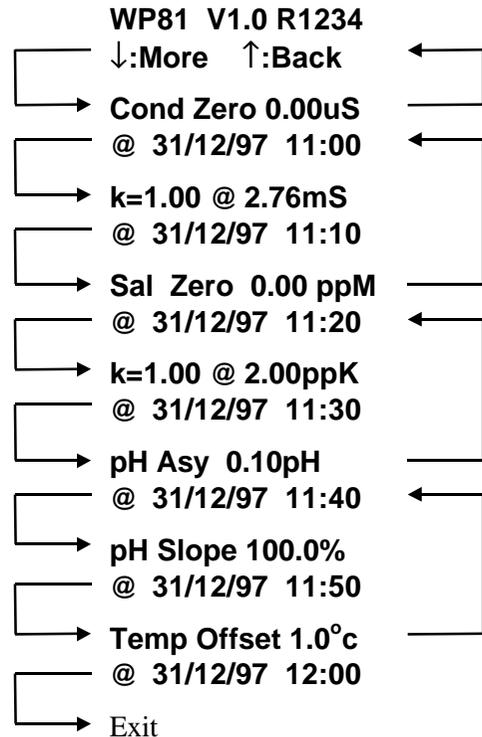
8.2 Failed Calibration

If calibration has failed, the GLP function will reset the date and time to zero. The **WP-81** still shows the results of the last successful calibration.

eg: **Cond Zero 0.00uS   k=1.00**
  @ 00/00/00 00:00   @ 00/00/00 00:00

  Asy 0.10pH   Slope 100.0%   Temp Offset 1.0^{o}c
  @ 00/00/00 00:00   @ 00/00/00 00:00   @ 00/00/00 00:00

Note that these calibration values are still used if further measurements are taken without recalibrating.

8.3 Printing GLP Information to the RS232 Port
The GLP information stored in the instrument's memory can be sent to a printer or PC via the RS232 port. This function is available only when the optional RS232 port is fitted.
1. Switch the meter on.   `ON OFF`
2. Ensure that the **WP-81** RS232 cable is connected to the instrument and to the printer or PC.
3. Send the GLP information to the RS232 port:
   Menu → **F4:Setup** → **F3:GLP**   → **F3:Print**
4. The GLP information is sent to the RS232 port in formatted ASCII text.

```
eg: WP81  V1.0 R1234 @ 31/12/97 12:00
    Conductivity Zero=    0.00uS        @ 31/12/97 11:00
    Conductivity k=       1.00 @ 2.76mS  @ 31/12/97 11:10
    Salinity    Zero=    0.00ppM        @ 31/12/97 11:20
    Salinity    k=       1.00 @ 36.0ppK @ 31/12/97 11:30
    pH          Asy=     0.00pH         @ 31/12/97 11:40
    pH          Slope=  100.0%          @ 31/12/97 11:50
    Temperature  Offset=   1.0oC         @ 31/12/97 12:00
    ENDS
```

8.4 Instrument Serial Number

In case the serial number that is fitted to the rear of the **WP-81** is removed or becomes illegible, it is also available on the **WP-81** display.

- The serial number is displayed at turn-on,

  eg: **WP-81 V1.0 R1234**

       Cond Sal pH Temp

  where **R1234** is the serial number.

- The serial number is display when recalling the GLP information (section 8.1).

- The serial number is included on the printout of GLP information (section 8.3).

8.5 Additional GLP Features

Another GLP requirement is to record the date and time of every reading. The **WP-81** does this for you when readings are recorded either with the Notepad function (section 9) or the Automatic Logging function (section 10).

9. Notepad Function

9.1 Recording Readings into the Notepad
To record readings into the Notepad memory:
1. Press F1 in normal display mode. The display should now look like this:

   eg: **2.76mS   7.00pH   or   2.00ppK   7.00pH**
   F1: 1   12:00:00   F1: 1   12:00:00

2. If you now press F1, the Conductivity/Salinity, pH, Temperature, Date and Time will be recorded into the notepad, and labeled as reading number 1.
3. Repeat steps 1 & 2 as often as required. The maximum number of readings that can be stored in the Notepad is 150.

9.2 Recalling Records from the Notepad
To recall records from the Notepad onto the **WP-81** display:
1. Select the Notepad menu   Menu → **F2:Notepad**
2. Select Recall from the menu   **F1:Recall**
3. Record number 1 is now displayed,

   eg: **2.76mS   7.00pH**
   25.0°c   1 F2:Clk
4. Press F2 to alternatively display the date and time or the data for this record.
   Press ▲ to move forward through the records.
   Press ▼ to move backward through the records.
   Press and hold the ▲ or ▼ keys to roll rapidly through the readings.

9.3 Erasing Records from the Notepad
To erase all records from the Notepad:
1. Select the Notepad menu   Menu → **F2:Notepad**
2. Select Erase from the menu   **F2:Erase**
3. The **WP-81** now asks if you are sure that you wish to erase all records.
   Erase, You Sure?
   F1:Yes   F2:No
4. Press F1 to erase all records from the Notepad
   Press F2 to quit without erasing the records from the Notepad.

9.4 Printing Records from the Notepad to the RS232 Port

This function is only available when the optional RS232 port is fitted.

1. Connect one end of the RS232 cable to the **Charger/RS232** socket of the **WP-81**. The charger, optional solar panel, or optional car battery lead can be connected into the spare socket on the cable for long term use, if required.
2. Connect the other end of the RS232 cable to an RS232 Printer, or to COM1 or COM2 of a PC.
3. Ensure that the baud rate for the printer or PC and the **WP-81** are the same. If necessary, alter the baud rate of the **WP-81** (see section 11.1). The **WP-81** uses XON/XOFF protocol. Ensure that the printer is set accordingly.
4. Select the Notepad menu.   Menu → **F2:Notepad**
5. Select Print from the menu.   **F3:Print**
    Printing starts as soon as F3 is pressed. The display shows the word "**Printing**" until printing is completed.

10. Automatic Datalogging

The **WP-81** can automatically log records into the Notepad. First the logging period must be programmed, then automatic logging can be started and stopped as required.

1. Select the Program menu ⌨Menu → **F2:Notepad** → **F4:Prog.**
2. The display should now look like this:

   eg: **→00← F1:Min F2:Sec**
       ↑↓:Set Period
3. Use the ▲ and ▼ keys to set the period at which the **WP-81** will automatically log records.
4. When the logging period has been correctly set, select whether this period is in minutes or seconds.

   Press F1 to save the period as minutes.

   press F2 to save the period as seconds.

   eg: If the period was set to **05**, followed by F2, then the **WP-81** will automatically log a record every 5 seconds.
5. If the optional RS232 port is fitted, the **WP-81** will ask if the records are to be logged into the Notepad, or sent directly to the RS232 port.

   Press F1 to log records into the Notepad (maximum of 150 readings).

   Press F3 to send records directly to the RS232 port.
6. The automatic logging function is now programmed, and can be started and stopped as required.
7. To start automatic logging, press F3 in normal display mode.

   If the **WP-81** is logging into the Notepad, the display will look like this:

   eg: **2.76mS   7.00pH**
       Log#   1 12:00:00

   The log number will increment and the **WP-81** will beep each time a reading is recorded.

   If the **WP-81** is sending records directly to the RS232 port, the display will look like this:

   eg: **2.76mS   7.00pH**
       Sending 12:00:00

   The **WP-81** will beep each time a record is sent to the RS232 port.
8. Press F3 to stop automatic logging.
9. **Note:** The clock must be set before the **WP-81** will allow automatic logging to start. The message "**Clock Not Set**" is displayed if the clock is not set.

11. RS232 Port

This section is applicable if the optional RS232 port is fitted.

11.1 Setting the Baud Rate

1.   Select the RS232 Set-up menu |Menu| → __F4:Setup__ → **F4:Baud**
2.   The available baud rates are listed on the display.
     ie: **F1:300   F2:1200**
            → **F3:9600**

     The arrow shows the current selection.
3.   Press |F1| to select 300 baud
     Press |F2| to select 1200 baud
     Press |F3| to select 9600 baud.
     Press |Menu| to quit and retain the current setting.

11.2 Sending Readings to the RS232 Port

Press |F3| to instantly send readings to the RS232 port whenever the **WP-81** is in normal display mode. This function is disabled if the automatic logging period is set to greater than zero (see section 10).

Records can be sent directly to the RS232 port rather than stored in memory during automatic datalogging. See section 10 for details.

11.3 RS232 Configuration

The **WP-81** RS232 configuration is 8 bits, No Parity, 1 Stop Bit, XON/XOFF Protocol.

11.4 Communication and Statistical Software

Communication between the **WP-81** and a PC can be handled with any RS232 communication software. The diskette supplied by TPS contains a BASIC program for this purpose.

Once the data is saved to disk, the next problem is how to use it. The data is formatted columns that can be imported by programs such as Microsoft® Excel® and Lotus 123®.

Information on how to use the software is provided in the README files on the diskette.

11.5 Commands

The following commands can be sent from a PC to the **WP-81**. Note that <cr>
denotes carriage return and <lf> denotes a line feed.

Action	Command	Notes
Request current data	?D<cr>	Returns the current Conductivity/ Salinity, pH, Temperature, date and time from the **WP-81**. The log number returned is set to Zero.
Request logged data	?R<cr>	Returns all logged records from the **WP-81** memory. The data ends with the message **ENDS**<cr>
Erase logged data	?E<cr>	Erases all logged records from the **WP-81** memory. Returns the message **ERASED**<cr> to confirm that the records have been erased.
Request status information	?S<cr>	Returns the model name, firmware version number, instrument serial number and number of logged readings in memory, eg: **WP81♦♦V1.0♦R1234♦9999**<cr>, where ♦ are spaces. Note that the number of logged readings is right-justified.
Request GLP information	?G<cr>	Returns all calibration GLP information, plus the instrument model and current date (see section 11.6 for data format and handshaking).

11.6 Data Format

A. Data is returned to the RS232 port by the **WP-81** in the following format when requested by a PC with the ?D or ?R commands (section 11.5):

LLLL♦**DDDDDDUUU**♦**PPPPPPuuu**♦**TTTTTToCm**♦**dd/mm/yy**♦**hh:mm:ss**<cr>

or B. Data is sent to the RS232 port by the **WP-81** in the following format when it is sent by the **WP-81** using the Print function (section 9.4) or the Instant Send function (section 11.2):

LLLL♦**DDDDDDUUU**♦**PPPPPPuuu**♦**TTTTTToCm**♦**dd/mm/yy**♦**hh:mm:ss**<cr><lf>

where:		
LLLL		is the Log Number. Maximum 4 characters, right justified. The **WP-81** sends Zero for instant readings (section 11.2)
♦		is one space.
DDDDDD		is the Conductivity or Salinity Data. Maximum 6 characters, right justified.
UUU		is the unit description, either "uS♦", "mS♦", "ppM" or "ppK" (where ♦ is 1 space).
♦		is one space.
PPPPPP		is the pH Data. Maximum 6 characters, right justified.
uuu		is the unit description, sent as "pH♦" (where ♦ is 1 space).
♦		is one space.
TTTTTT		is the Temperature Data. Maximum 6 characters, right justified.
oCm		is the Temperature unit description. The **WP-81** sends "oC♦" for real temperature data (where ♦ is one space), or "oCm" when manual temperature compensation is being used.
♦		is one space.
dd/mm/yy		is the date, month and year data.
♦		is one space.
hh:mm:ss		is the hours, minutes and seconds data.

C.   GLP information is returned as 8 lines terminated by a carriage return. When using the "?G" command (section 11.5), the computer must respond with a character after receiving each line.

```
eg:   WP81  V1.0 R1234 @ 31/12/97 12:00
      Conductivity Zero=    0.00uS         @ 31/12/97 11:05
      Conductivity k=       1.00 @ 2.76mS  @ 31/12/97 11:10
      Salinity    Zero=     0.00ppM        @ 31/12/97 11:15
      Salinity    k=        1.00 @ 36.0ppK @ 31/12/97 11:20
      pH          Asy=      0.00pH         @ 31/12/97 11:25
      pH          Slope=  100.0%           @ 31/12/97 11:30
      Temperature Offset=   1.0oC          @ 21/12/97 11:35
      ENDS
```
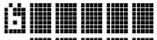
12. Battery Saver Function

The **WP-81** is equipped with a battery saver function. If no button has been pressed for five minutes, the unit beeps and flashes the display for 20 seconds, and then shuts off. This function can be switched off for continuous use.

To enable or disable the battery saver function:
1. Switch the meter on.   `ON/OFF`
2. Select Battery Saver Set-up   `Menu` → **F4:Setup** → **F1:Batt**
3. The battery saver menu is now displayed.
    eg: **Batt Saver   F1:OFF**
          ▯▮▮▮▮▮100%→F2:ON
    The arrow indicates the current selection.
    The bar graph and percentage indicate the approximate level of charge in the battery.
4. Press `F1` to disable the battery saver function for continuous use.
    Press `F2` to enable the battery saver function. The meter will switch itself off if no key has been pressed for five minutes.
    Press `Menu` to quit the battery saver menu and retain the current setting.
5. **NOTE:** For troubleshooting purposes, the battery volts can also be displayed in the battery saver menu. Press `F3` to display battery volts.

    The 🔋 symbol flashes when the battery volts drops below 5.60 volts.
    At 5.00 volts the meter turns itself off.

13. Clock Function

13.1 Setting the Clock

1. Select the Clock Set-up menu   [Menu] → **F4:Setup** → **F2:Clock**
2. The display now shows the current date and time. The cursor starts at the day.
    eg: **31/12/96   12:00**
        F1:←   F2:→   ↑↓:Set
3. Press the [▲] and [▼] keys until the day is correct.
4. Press [F2] to move to the month. Press the [▲] and [▼] keys until the month is
    correct.
5. Press [F2] to move to the year. Press the [▲] and [▼] keys until the year is
    correct.
6. Press [F2] to move to the hour. Press the [▲] and [▼] keys until the hour is
    correct.
7. Press [F2] to move the cursor to the minutes. Press the [▲] and [▼] keys until
    the minutes are correct.
8. Check that the date and time are correct.
    Press [F2] to save the settings.
    If any changes are needed, press the [F1] key to move left to the desired
    position.
    Press [Menu] to quit without resetting the clock.

Notes

1. The **WP-81** does not test for a valid day of the month when setting the clock
    (eg: attempting to enter 31/02/96 is not corrected).
2. The **WP-81** does test for leap years.

13.2 Displaying or Hiding the Clock

The time is normally displayed along with the Conductivity/Salinity, pH and
Temperature readings.
Press [F2] in normal display mode to hide the time.
Press [F2] again to display the time plus the date.
The temperature reading replaces the date after 5 seconds.

14. Selecting k=0.1 or k=10 Sensors

The **WP-81** automatically recognises a k=1.0 sensor. The **WP-81 does not** automatically recognise k=0.1 or k=10 sensors. When a k=0.1 or k=10 sensor is used, the **WP-81** must be set to the correct k factor before use. The following procedure describes how to select a k=0.1 or k=10 sensor.

1. Switch the meter **OFF** with the ⌷ key.
2. Connect the k=0.1 or k=10 sensor.
3. Press and HOLD the ⌷F2⌷ key while switching the meter back on.
4. The k factor selection menu is now displayed
   (only if the k=0.1 or k=10 sensor is connected).

   eg: **Select → F1:k=0.1**
          k Factor   F2:k=10

   The arrow indicates the current selection.
5. Press ⌷F1⌷ to select a k=0.1 sensor.
   Press ⌷F2⌷ to select a k=10 sensor.
   Press ⌷Menu⌷ to quit buffer selection and retain the current setting.
6. **Notes**
   1) The manual k factor selection is kept in memory when the meter is switched off, even if the battery is removed.
   2) The manual k factor selection is reset to k=10 during initialisation.
   3) The **WP-81** will always automatically recognise a k=1.0 sensor, regardless of the manual k factor selection.
   4) Calibration settings for k=0.1, k=1.0 and k=10 sensors are **NOT** stored separately. The **WP-81** requires recalibration when a new k factor sensor is connected.

15. Selecting pH6.88 or pH7.00 as the Primary Buffer

The **WP-81** is factory set to automatically recognise pH6.88 as the primary buffer. However, some users may prefer to use pH7.00. The following procedure describes how to alternate between pH6.88 and pH7.00 as the primary buffer.

1. Switch the meter **OFF** with the [ON OFF] key.
2. Press and HOLD the [F1] key while switching the meter back on.
3. The buffer selection menu is now displayed.

> eg   **Select → F1:6.88pH**
>   **Buffer   F2:7.00pH**

   The arrow indicates the current selection.
4. Press [F1] to select pH6.88 as the primary buffer.
   Press [F2] to select pH7.00 as the primary buffer.
   Press [Menu] to quit buffer selection and retain the current setting.
5. The setting is kept in memory when the meter is switched off, even if the battery is removed. The primary buffer is re-set to pH6.88 during initialisation.

   Note: pH6.88 buffer is a DIN 19266 and NBS Primary-standard pH solution. Its use is highly recommended for the most accurate possible results. If pH7.00 buffer is used, ensure that it is manufactured to 0.01pH accuracy. pH7.00 buffer has a buffer capacity less than half that of pH6.88 buffer and is therefore much less stable.

16. Initialising the WP-81

If the calibration settings of the **WP-81** exceed the allowable limits, the unit may need to be initialised to factory default values. This action may be required if the electrode is replaced.

To initialise the **WP-81**:
1. Switch the **WP-81** off, by pressing the [ON/OFF] key.
2. Press and hold the [▲] key while switching the **WP-81** back on with the [ON/OFF] key.
3. The following messages should be displayed:
   Initialized   then: **WP81s   V1.0 R1234**
   MUST ReCalibrate   **Cond Sal pH Temp**
   (The "s" after **WP-81** is shown when the RS232 serial port option is fitted)
4. The meter then displays Conductivity, pH and Temperature. Note that the decimal points have been replaced with a ∗, to indicate that the unit requires recalibration.

Note: When the **WP-81** is initialised, the manual k factor selection is re-set to k=10. See section 14 if you wish to select a k=0.1 sensor.

When the **WP-81** is initialized, the primary pH buffer value is re-set to pH6.88. See section 15 if you wish to select pH7.00 buffer.

17. Instrument firmware version number.

If you need to phone or fax TPS for any further technical assistance, the version number of your **WP-81** firmware may of benefit to us. The version number is displayed by the **WP-81** at turn-on.

18. Troubleshooting

18.1 General Errors

Error Message	Possible Causes	Remedy
Factory Cal. Failed **See** **Handbook**	The EEPROM chip which contains the factory calibration information has failed.	The unit must be returned to TPS for service. • Conductivity and Salinity readings will be accurate. only if used in same range in which unit was calibrated. • pH readings will be accurate after a 2-point calibration (use manual temp compensation). • Temperature readings may be up to 10% incorrect.
Memory Failed **Calibration Lost** **Initialised** **MUST ReCalibrate**	User calibration settings have been lost or corrupted.	Re-calibrate the instrument. A full 2-point calibration will be required for Conductivity, Salinity & pH (sections 4.1, 5.1 & 6.1) and a 1 point calibration for temperature (section 7.1).
Flashing 🔋 symbol.	Battery is below 5.60 volts.	Recharge the battery. Note that the unit will switch itself off when the battery falls below 5.00 volts.
Meter displays the word **OFF**, and switches off.	Battery is below 5.00 volts.	Recharge the battery. If this fails, check the charger. If charger OK, replace the battery.
Meter will not turn on.	1. Battery is exhausted.	Recharge the battery. If this fails, check the charger. If charger OK, replace the battery.
	2. Faulty Instrument	Return to factory for repair.
Battery does not charge up when charger is connected.	1. Faulty battery charger or faulty battery.	Connect the charger and switch the power on. Display the battery volts in the battery saver menu (section 12). If the battery volts are increasing then the charger is OK. If the battery volts do not increase, then the charger is faulty. Replace the charger or the battery, as required.
	2. Faulty instrument.	Return to factory for repair.

18.2 Conductivity and Salinity Troubleshooting

Symptom	Possible Causes	Remedy
Unit fails to calibrate, even with new electrode.	Calibration settings outside of allowable limits due to previous failed calibration.	Initialise the unit. See section 16.
Unit attempts Span calibration instead of Zero calibration.	Electrode has Zero error.	Thoroughly rinse electrode in distilled water and allow to completely dry in air before attempting zero calibration. If instrument does not calibrate at Zero with electrode disconnected, then the instrument is faulty.
Standard calibration fails, and k factor is greater than 0.133, 1.33 or 13.3, (depending on k factor of sensor).	1. Electrode is not immersed deeply enough.	Immerse electrode at least to the vent hole in the white plastic cover.
	2. Electrode may have a build-up of dirt or oily material on electrode wires.	Clean electrode, as per the instructions detailed in section 20.1.
	3. Platinum-black coating has worn off.	Electrode requires replatinisation. Return to the factory, or see details in section 20.2.
	4. Standard solution is inaccurate.	Replace standard solution.
	5. Electrode is faulty.	Return electrode to factory for repair or replacement.
	6. Faulty instrument.	Return to factory for repair.
	7. k-factor incorrectly set if using k=0.1 or k=10 sensor.	Set the correct k-factor, as per section 14.

Continued next page...

Conductivity and Salinity Troubleshooting, continued...

Standard calibration fails, and k factor is less than 0.075, 0.75 or 7.5, (depending on k factor of sensor).	1. White protective cover is not fitted or upside down.	The white protective cover MUST be fitted for correct readings. The vent hole must be towards the cable end of the electrode.
	2. Standard solution is inaccurate.	Replace standard solution.
	3. Electrode may have a build-up of conductive material, such as salt.	Clean electrode, as per the instructions detailed in section 20.1.
	4. Electrode is faulty.	Return electrode to factory for repair or replacement.
	5. Faulty instrument.	Return to factory for repair.
	6. k-factor incorrectly set if using k=0.1 or k=10 sensor.	Set the correct k-factor, as per section 14.
Inaccurate readings, even when calibration is successful.	1. Electrode may have a build-up of dirt or oily material on electrode wires.	Clean electrode, as per the instructions detailed in section 20.1.
	2. Platinum-black coating has worn off.	Electrode requires replatinisation. Return to the factory, or see details in section 20.2.
Readings drift.	1. Electrode may have a build-up of dirt or oily material on electrode wires.	Clean electrode, as per the instructions detailed in section 20.1.
Readings are low or near zero.	1. Electrode may have a build-up of dirt or oily material on electrode wires.	Clean electrode, as per the instructions detailed in section 20.1.
	2. Electrode is not immersed deeply enough.	Immerse electrode at least to the vent hole in the white plastic cover.
	3. Electrode is faulty.	Return electrode to factory for repair or replacement.
	4. Faulty instrument.	Return to factory for repair.
	5. k-factor incorrectly set if using k=0.1 or k=10 sensor.	Set the correct k-factor, as per section 14.

18.3 pH Troubleshooting

Symptom	Possible Causes	Remedy
Unit fails to calibrate, even with new probe.	Calibration settings outside of allowable limits due to previous failed calibration.	Initialise the unit. See section 16, Initialising the WP-81.
1 Point calibration fails (Asymmetry is greater than +/-1.00 pH).	1. Reference junction blocked.	Clean reference junction, as per instructions supplied with the electrode.
	2. Reference electrolyte contaminated.	Flush with distilled water and replace electrolyte.
2 Point calibration fails (Slope is less than 85.0%).	1. Incorrect primary buffer.	Ensure that you are using the primary pH buffer for which the **WP-81** has been set (see section 15).
	2. Glass bulb not clean.	Clean glass bulb as per instructions supplied with the electrode.
	3. Electrode is aged.	Attempt rejuvenation, as per instructions supplied with the electrode. If not successful, replace electrode.
	4. Connector is damp.	Dry in a warm place.
	5. Buffers are inaccurate.	Replace buffers.
Unstable readings.	1. Electrolyte chamber needs to be refilled.	Refill with saturated KCl filling solution.
	2. Reference junction blocked.	Clean reference junction, as per instructions supplied with the electrode.
	3. Glass bulb not clean.	Clean glass bulb as per instructions supplied with the electrode.
	4. Bubble in glass bulb.	Flick the electrode to remove bubble.
	5. Faulty connection to meter.	Check connectors. Replace if necessary.
	6. Reference junction not immersed.	Ensure that the bulb AND the reference junction are fully immersed.
	7. KCl crystals around reference junction, inside the electrolyte chamber.	Rinse electrolyte chamber with warm distilled water until dissolved. Replace electrolyte.

Continued next page…

pH and mV Troubleshooting, continued...

Inaccurate readings, even when calibration is successful.	Reference junction blocked.	Clean reference junction, as per instructions supplied with the electrode.
Displays 7.00 for all solutions.	Electrical short in connector.	1. Check connector. Replace if necessary. 2. Replace electrode.
Displays 4-5 pH for all solutions.	Glass bulb or internal stem cracked.	Replace electrode.

18.4 Temperature Troubleshooting

Symptom	Possible Causes	Remedy
Displays "**OVR°C**" when electrode is plugged in.	1. Faulty electrode.	Fit new electrode, part number 122201.
	2. Faulty instrument.	Return to factory for repair.
Temperature inaccurate and cannot be calibrated.	1. Faulty connector.	Check the connector and replace if necessary.
	2. Faulty electrode.	Fit new electrode, part number 122201.
	3. Faulty instrument.	Return to factory for repair.

19. Warranty

TPS Pty. Ltd. guarantees all instruments and electrodes to be free from defects in material and workmanship when subjected to normal use and service. This guarantee is expressly limited to the servicing and/or adjustment of an instrument returned to the Factory, or Authorised Service Station, freight prepaid, within twelve (12) months from the date of delivery, and to the repairing, replacing, or adjusting of parts which upon inspection are found to be defective. Warranty period on electrodes and batteries is three (3) months.

There are no express or implied warranties which extend beyond the face hereof, and TPS Pty. Ltd. is not liable for any incidental or consequential damages arising from the use or misuse of this equipment, or from interpretation of information derived from the equipment.

Shipping damage is not covered by this warranty.

PLEASE NOTE:
A guarantee card is packed with the instrument or electrode. This card must be completed at the time of purchase and the registration section returned to TPS Pty. Ltd. within 7 days. No claims will be recognised without the original guarantee card or other proof of purchase. This warranty becomes invalid if modifications or repairs are attempted by unauthorised persons, or the serial number is missing.

PROCEDURE FOR SERVICE
If you feel that this equipment is in need of repair, please re-read the manual. Sometimes, instruments are received for "repair" in perfect working order. This can occur where batteries simply require replacement or re-charging, or where the electrode simply requires cleaning or replacement.

TPS Pty. Ltd. has a fine reputation for prompt and efficient service. In just a few days, our factory service engineers and technicians will examine and repair your equipment to your full satisfaction.

To obtain this service, please follow this procedure:
Return the instrument AND ALL SENSORS to TPS freight pre-paid and insured in its original packing or suitable equivalent. INSIST on a proof of delivery receipt from the carrier for your protection in the case of shipping claims for transit loss or damage. It is your responsibility as the sender to ensure that TPS receives the unit.

Please check that the following is enclosed with your equipment:

- **Your Name and daytime phone number.**

- **Your company name, ORDER number, and return street address.**

- **A description of the fault. (Please be SPECIFIC.)**
  (Note: "Please Repair" does NOT describe a fault.)

- **either $13.50 for return freight for units under warranty,**
  or $24 to cover inspection costs and return freight.
    (These amounts are not applicable to full-account customers.)

Your equipment will be repaired and returned to you by air express where possible.

For out-of-warranty units, a repair cost will be calculated from parts and labor costs. If payment is not received for the additional charges within 30 days, or if you decline to have the equipment repaired, the complete unit will be returned to you freight paid, not repaired. For full-account customers, the repair charges will be debited to your account.

- **Always describe the fault in writing.**
- **Always return the sensors with the meter.**

20. Appendices

20.1 Care, Cleaning and Maintenance of Conductivity Electrodes

20.1.1 Care of Conductivity electrodes

The conductivity section of the electrode supplied with your **WP-81** consists of two platinum wires that are plated with a layer of "platinum-black". This is quite a soft layer and is required for stable, accurate measurements. In time, the platinum-black layer may wear off in some applications, at which time the electrode will require replatinising (see section 20.2). You can help to maintain the platinum-black layer by following these simple rules:

1. **NEVER** touch or rub the electrode wires with your fingers, cloth etc.
2. Avoid using the electrode in solutions that contain a high concentration of suspended solids, such as sand or soil, which can abrade the electrode wires. Filter these types of solutions first, if possible.
3. Avoid concentrated acids. If you must measure acids, remove the electrode immediately after taking the measurement and rinse well with distilled water.

Conductivity electrodes can be stored dry. Ensure that the electrode is stored in a covered container, to avoid dust and dirt build-up.

20.1.2 Cleaning of Conductivity of Electrodes.

Platinised platinum Conductivity electrodes can only be cleaned by rinsing in a suitable solvent. **DO NOT wipe the electrode wires**, as this will remove the platinum-black layer.

1. Rinsing in distilled water will remove most build-ups of material on the electrode wires.
2. Films of oils or fats on the electrode wires can usually be removed by rinsing the electrode in methylated spirits.
3. Stubborn contamination can be removed by soaking the electrode in a solution of 1 part Concentrated HCl and 10 parts distilled water. The electrode should not be soaked for more than approximately 5 minutes, otherwise the platinum-black layer may start to dissolve.
4. If all of these methods fail, then the last resort is to physically scrub the electrode wires, which will remove the contaminant and the layer of platinum-black. Use only a cloth or nylon scouring pad. DO NOT USE STEEL WOOL. The electrode will then need to be cleaned in HCl, as per step 3 and replatinised, as per section 20.2.

20.2 Replatinising Conductivity Electrodes

There are several ways to replatinise Conductivity electrodes.

1. The simplest way is to return the electrode to the TPS factory. We can fully clean the electrode, replatinise it and test all aspects of its performance.

2. An automatic replatiniser is available from TPS, along with replatinising solution. This will plate the electrodes for the right amount of time at the correct current. Ordering details are as follows:

    Automatic Conductivity Electrode Replatiniser   Part No 122160

    20mL Platinising Solution (suitable for approx 30 uses)   Part No 122300

3. Conductivity electrodes can be manually replatinised, according to the following procedure:

    1) Soak the electrode in a solution of 1 part Concentrated HCl and 10 parts distilled water for approximately 5 minutes.

    2) Rinse the electrode well in distilled water.

    3) Immerse the electrode in platinising solution at least to the vent hole in the white plastic cover. Platinising solution is available from TPS (part no 122300). Alternatively, platinising solution can be prepared by dissolving 1g of Hydrogen Chloroplatinate (H_2PtCl_{16}) in 30mL of distilled water, and including about 0.01g of Lead Acetate (($CH_3COO)_2Pb$) and a drop or two of concentrated HCl.

    4) Apply a direct current of 10mA between pins 1 and 5 of the electrode plug, as per the diagram below. Reverse the polarity every 30 seconds. After approximately 8 minutes (4 minutes per electrode wire), they should have an even "soot" like appearance. Avoid excess current and this will cause incorrect platinising.

    5) After platinising, rinse the electrode well in distilled water.

    6) If you have any doubts about any of these steps, then you should consider returning the electrode to the factory. The cost of replatinising is quite low, and you will be guaranteed of the best possible result.
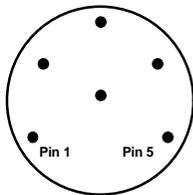
Electrode Connector

20.3 pH Electrode Fundamentals

A combination pH Electrode is two electrodes in one. The sensing membrane is the round or spear shaped bulb at the tip of the electrode. This produces a voltage that changes with the pH of the Solution. This voltage is measured with respect to the second part of the electrode, the reference section. The reference section makes contact with the sample solution using a salt bridge, which is referred to as the reference junction. A saturated solution of KCl is used to make contact with the sample. It is vital that the KCl solution has an adequate flow rate in order to obtain stable, accurate pH measurements.

20.3.1 Asymmetry of a pH Electrode

An "ideal" pH electrode produces 0 mV output at 7.00 pH. In practice, pH electrodes, generally produce 0 mV output at slightly above or below 7.00 pH. The amount of variance from 7.00 pH is called the asymmetry. Figure 20-1 illustrates how asymmetry is expressed.
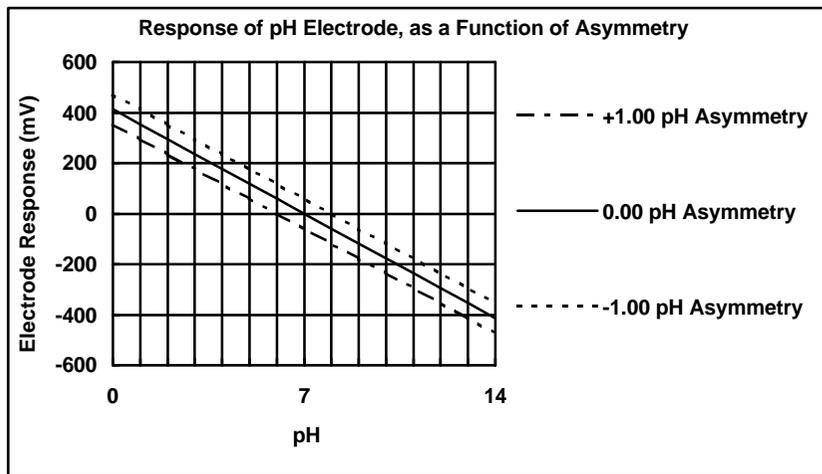

Figure 20-1

20.3.2 The Slope of a pH Electrode

As mentioned above, a pH electrode produces 0 mV output at around 7.00 pH. As the pH goes up, an "ideal" pH electrode produces -59mV/pH unit at 25 $^{\circ}$C As the pH goes down, an ideal pH electrode produces +59mV/pH unit. In practice, pH electrodes usually produce slightly less than this. The output of a pH electrode is expressed as a percentage of an ideal electrode. For example, an ideal electrode that produces 59mV/pH unit has "100% Slope". An electrode that produces 50.15mV/pH unit has "85% Slope" (see Figure 20-2).
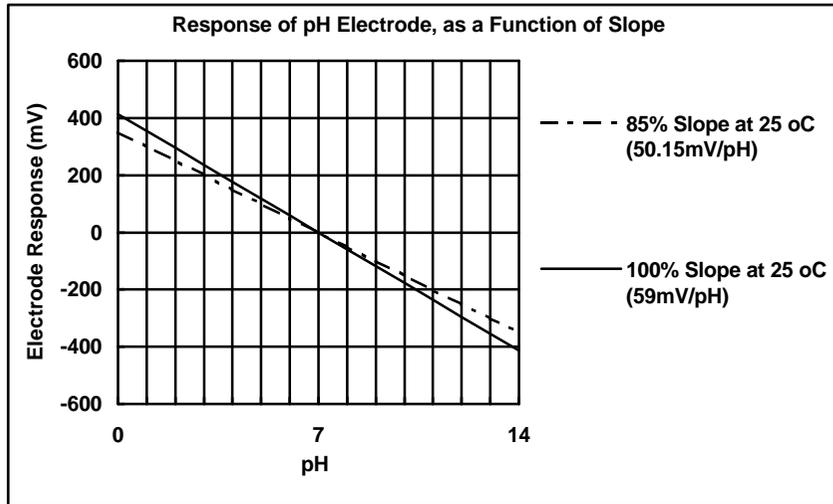

Figure 20-2

20.3.3 Temperature Compensation

The slope of a pH electrode (section 20.3.2) is affected by temperature. This effect is compensated for either by using an Automatic Temperature Compensation (ATC) probe or by entering the sample temperature manually. Figure 20-3 shows the slope of a pH electrode at various temperatures.
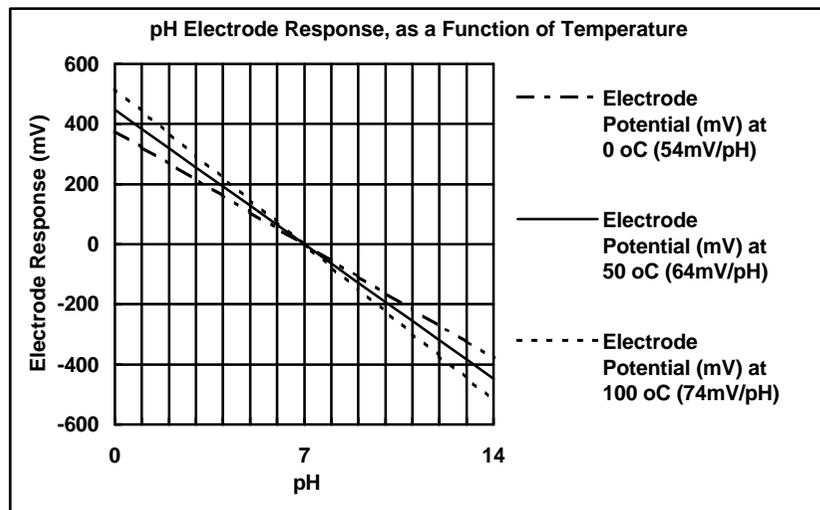

pH Electrode Response, as a Function of Temperature

- – · – · – **Electrode Potential (mV) at 0 oC (54mV/pH)**
- ——— **Electrode Potential (mV) at 50 oC (64mV/pH)**
- · · · · · · **Electrode Potential (mV) at 100 oC (74mV/pH)**

Figure 20-3

20.4 Checking the reference junction of a pH electrode.

If pH readings are inaccurate or unstable, the reference junction of the electrode may be blocked. The following test can be performed to determine if the reference junction of a pH electrode is making adequate contact with the sample solution.

1. Calibrate the pH section of the **WP-81**, as per section 4.1.
2. Dilute 1 part of pH6.88 buffer with 9 parts of distilled water.
3. Measure the pH of the diluted buffer. The result should be 7.06 +/-0.02 pH.
4. If the value obtained is outside of these limits, then clean the reference junction, as per the instructions supplied with the pH electrode.
5. Re-calibrate the **WP-81** and repeat the test.
6. If the value obtained is still outside 7.06 +/-0.02 pH, then the electrode should be replaced.

20.5 Determining if an instrument or pH sensor is faulty

The following test can be performed to help determine if the **WP-81** or the pH sensor is faulty.

1. Initialize the **WP-81** (see section16).
2. Disconnect the pH electrode.
3. Connect the centre pin of the **pH** connector with the outside frame of the connector, using a short piece of wire or a paper clip etc.
4. The meter should read approximately 7.00. If you press the ⌈Cal⌋ key, the **WP-81** will calibrate to around 6.88 pH, depending upon the temperature readout.
5. If the **WP-81** is operating correctly, the reading should be totally stable with the wire firmly in place. If not, the meter requires servicing.
6. Now carefully disconnect the wire from the centre pin only (make sure the other end of the wire remains connected to the outside frame of the connector).
7. The reading should steadily drift away from 7.00 (either up or down) at a rate of approximately 1 pH or less every 3 seconds. If the drift rate is faster than this, then input circuitry of the **WP-81** is faulty and requires servicing.