



INSTRUMENTATION

COURSE 510: 3 DAYS: Max 8 Candidates

This course covers the key aspects of industrial instrumentation and is designed to enable maintenance personnel to carry out commissioning, calibration and maintenance of the typical devices used for measurement in industrial systems.

PARTICIPANTS

The course is ideal for those who presently possess some electrical knowledge, work in a maintenance environment and seek to expand their activities to include process control and instrumentation systems. The 3 Term (PID) Controllers (course 515) is the perfect complement to this course, as it explores how the instrumentation sensors would be used in a complete closed-loop control system.

COURSE PRESENTATION

The course is extensively 'hands on', giving participants considerable practical experience of the devices typically found in industry. Comprehensive course notes are provided.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

On completion of the course, participants will be able to

- understand the health and safety implications of working with closed-loop control systems
- identify the various methods of signal transmission
- correctly connect electrical and air-powered devices
- understand the equipment used in temperature, pressure, level and flow measurement
- understand current loops and recognise the common output devices
- correctly use a range of industrial calibration equipment
- correctly connect, commission and calibrate current loop devices, temperature transmitters, pressure switches, pressure sensors, dp cells, ultrasonic level meters, load cell amplifiers, I to P converters and HART devices
- understand the principles of turbidity, density, pH, and weight measurement.



Successful completion of the course leads to the award of the Technical Training Solutions Certificate of Competence 510: Instrumentation.

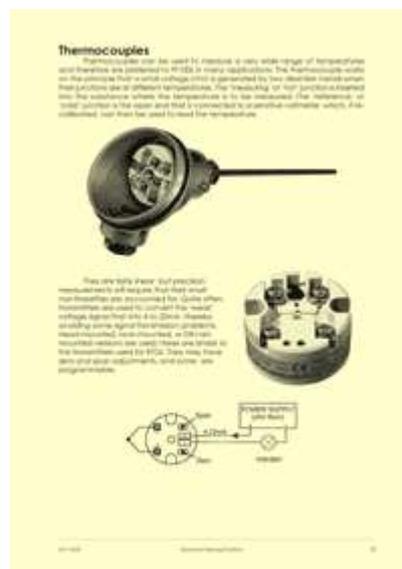
What do candidates on the Instrumentation course actually do?

The instrumentation course involves an extensive understanding of current loops and the devices typically found on them. Candidates look in detail at the devices used to measure temperature, pressure, level and flow, and briefly at control valves, load cells, turbidity, density and pH.

The course notes are quite extensive and explain how the various devices are used, without getting involved in the underlying theory. For example, we would look in detail at what signals a thermocouple produces, but only very briefly at how it works. Some sample pages from the course notes give an indication of this approach, the following pages describing how burden resistors are fitted to the rear panels of instruments, what industrial temperature sensors and transmitters actually look like, our own specially-designed calibration tables for thermocouples, the use of dp cells, how hydrostatic pressure measurements are converted to level measurements using pressure sensors and how manifolds are used to zero dp cells used in flow metering:



Page 10 of the instrumentation training course notes: Describing the burden resistors connected across current loop devices' terminals



Page 29 of the instrumentation training course notes: Analysing the various types of industrial temperature sensors used

Page 32 of the instrumentation training course notes: Checking the voltages produced by various thermocouples

The course involves connecting various devices into current loops so that candidates learn about how current loops work and how devices are connected into them. They also calibrate these devices using a range of professional industrial Time Electronics current calibrators, used throughout the instrumentation engineering world.



The Time Electronics current calibrators used on the instrumentation training course

We also connect up a range of industry-standard Beka loop indicators, looking at the various configuration options and adjusting them so that they indicate the required PV at the zero and span settings.



The Beka loop indicators used on the instrumentation training course

Candidates on the instrumentation course then learn about the various devices used in industrial temperature measurement systems - we concentrate on thermocouples and Pt100s and their associated cabling, connectors and transmitter heads. Candidates connect up various sensors, looking at the signals that they produce and build current loops around the relevant transmitters.



The thermocouple cables, connectors, sensors and transmitter heads used on the instrumentation training course

The circuits built by candidates are then calibrated using industrial temperature calibration units. Candidates learn about issues like cold junction compensation and three/four wire measurements.



The thermocouple calibrators and decade resistance boxes used on the instrumentation training course

Candidates then learn about pressure measurement: the various units used to quantify pressure and how industrial pressure measurement devices should be calibrated, using industrial pressure sources.



The industrial pressure sources used on the instrumentation training course

For further practice at using the pressure sources, candidates on the instrumentation course then connect and calibrate a range of industrial pressure switches.



The industrial pressure switches used on the instrumentation training course

Industrial pressure transmitters are then connected on to current loops and calibrated using the pressure sources.



The industrial pressure transmitters used on the instrumentation training course

Candidates then learn about level measurement systems and the various methods by which industrial measurements are made are analysed; we look at hydrostatic, load cell and bubbler systems. Ultrasonic measurement systems are quite common and are therefore the main focus of the instrumentation course.



The ultrasonic level measurement systems used on the instrumentation training course

Candidates are then introduced to the more modern field-programmed 'smart' devices, which provide for remote calibration. Candidates connect, configure and calibrate a smart device using hand-held programming units, allowing them to experience how modern instrumentation is calibrated.



The HART dp cells and smart communicators used on the instrumentation training course

Many instrumentation systems control processes using valves and we therefore look at the various types of control valves, I to P converters and valve positioners commonly used and how these would be connected and calibrated.



One of the control valves used on the instrumentation training course



One of the I to P converters used on the instrumentation training course

Weighing machines are commonly used in industrial instrumentation systems to quantify the contents of a container and we therefore look in detail at the range of 4-wire and 6-wire load cells in common use and examples of the transmitter electronics typically connected to them.



One of the 6-wire load cells used on the instrumentation training course



The load cell amplifier used on the instrumentation training course



One of the 4-wire load cells used on the instrumentation training course

Various other measurements (turbidity, density, conductivity and pH) are used in some industries, and we therefore look at each of these, giving candidates the opportunity to concentrate on them if they are relevant to their workplace. A stock of calibration and buffer fluids are used to create a range of readings for each measurement.



The conductivity meter used on the instrumentation training course



The turbidity meter used on the instrumentation training course



The pH meter used on the instrumentation training course

The instrumentation course requires a clean air supply and in order to simplify the logistics of the training course we use our own (silent) compressor. All the tools needed by the candidates to make the electrical and pneumatic connections to the devices involved in the practical exercises are provided by us.



The silent compressor



The tools used on the instrumentation training course

If you would like to see some of the equipment used on the instrumentation course for yourself, then please call us to arrange a visit to our offices in Kent. Alternatively, we can visit you anywhere in the British Isles.



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