cable pressure AirMAIL

System Studies Incorporated

June, 2010 Issue #8

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On-site Training Upgrade

Did you know that you can arrange to have System Studies add a day or two of Field Instruction to the on-site Leak Locating Training that we provide?

If you're thinking about signing up for a course, or are currently evaluating a training proposal, we can modify the proposal to include actual field leak locating instruction.

Having our Field Engineers demonstrate classroom leak locating strategies and principles in the field has proven to be an exceptionally effective teaching method. Why not sign on to add some actual leak locating to your leak locating training?

System Studies Incorporated

2-1340 East Cliff Drive
Santa Cruz, CA 95062
(831) 475-5777
(800) 247-8255
(831) 475-9207 FAX
www.airtalk.com

Newly Designed AirTalk Website Now Online!

Over the past several months, we've been busy re-designing our AirTalk website (www.airtalk.com). Whether you're one of our regular visitors or someone who hasn't yet logged onto AirTalk, we hope you can take some time to visit the new site. We think you'll like what you see and find it easy to access the specific information you need.

One of the things that you should notice initially is that navigation links to the primary website sections are available from every page. Secondary links to more specific information are provided as well. And, to help keep information in front of you, pages have been designed to minimize scrolling, whenever possible. We're hopeful these improvements will translate into streamlined user interaction and an enjoyable site visit.

After you've had a chance to visit the site, give us a call and let us know what you think. If there is something you'd like to see added or have a suggestion for improving the website, we'd like to know. Your input is important to us.

You can reach us, toll free, on (800) 247-8255 or contact us by email.

Helping with Route Analysis

Sometimes it's impossible not to get bogged down with details when analyzing an air pipe route. Too much familiarity with a route sometimes will prevent you from seeing the big picture clearly, and it can actually slow down your efforts to improve the quality of your cable pressure protection.

If you're having trouble figuring out the best approach to take, System Studies will be glad to help you analyze your route(s). We've been doing this kind of work for over 30 years, and we're confident we can get you on the right track. For one thing, we have the advantage of looking at your route from afar and drawing from our past experiences. We can recommend a strategy for making whatever level of improvement you feel is necessary.

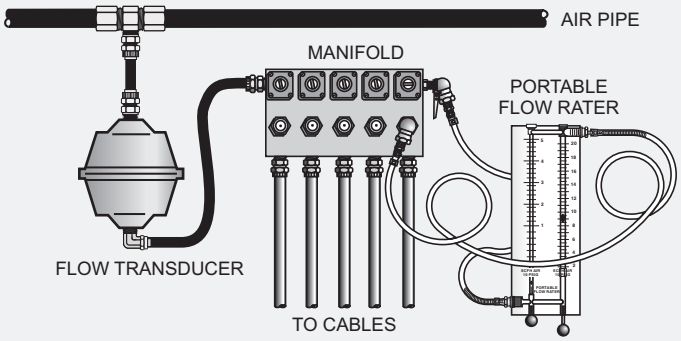
Give us a call at (800) 247-8255 and find out more.

Why Air Flow Measurements Don't Add Up

If you've ever wondered why your air pipe manifold flow measurements don't add up to the total flow at the pipe panel, don't second-guess your math skills. Most likely it's not your methods that are giving you a bum steer, it's your flow measurement tools.

One of the reasons we developed and introduced our Flow Finder™ system of measurement years ago was because the primary tool used to measure air flow, the portable flow rater, was just not accurate enough for a flow-based approach to leak locating. Unfortunately, some systems today still use old-style air pipe manifolds that need to be read by a portable flow rater. And that's the problem.

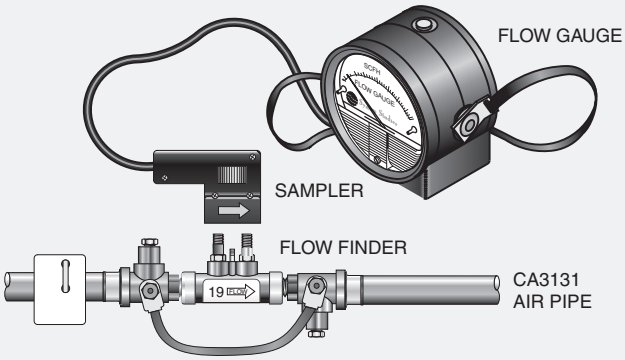
When a flow rater is used to take a flow measurement at an air pipe manifold, its air chucks must first be installed on the manifold's pressure testing valves. Then, a shutoff valve on the manifold is closed and the air is redirected through the flow rater (as shown below).



This rerouting of air flow is the actual cause of inaccurate readings. Because the air must travel through the flow rater, the air chucks, the pressure testing valves and the tubing, it's restricted along the way. This restriction reduces or slows down the "real" flow and causes a reading that does not reflect the true flow rate. The higher the flow being measured, the greater the inaccuracy. Let's say, for example, that a flow transducer at an air pipe manifold indicates a flow of 18 Standard Cubic Feet per Hour (SCFH). But if you take manual readings with a portable flow rater at each of the ports on that manifold, you might see a total flow rate of only 10 or 11 SCFH.

The Flow Finder eliminates the question of whether flows are accurate or not. Having Flow Finders installed in the pipe at the pipe panel, at air pipe junctions, and at air pipe manifolds allows you to chase flows efficiently and accurately. The Flow Finder provides the means of measuring an uninterrupted flow rate. Unlike the portable flow rater, the Flow Finder is actually part of the system. Once installed, it does not interfere with flow rates. And taking readings with System Studies' Flow Gauge™ is easy and accurate.

The Flow Gauge is equipped with a sampler valve that quickly and securely connects to the tank valves on the Flow Finder or Flow Finder Manifold port being read. Its color-coded analog gauge face and needle make it easy to quickly determine the precise flow rate for the Flow Finder range being read.



If you update your pipe routes by installing Flow Finders and Manifold Monitoring Assemblies, you can perform the following leak locating procedures with ease and accuracy: a) identify leaks, unrecorded ("ghost") manifolds, and cheater hoses, b) analyze and leak locate more efficiently, c) verify flow transducer readings, and d) verify (tag) air pipes.

Most importantly, you'll never again have to experience the frustration of measuring air flows that don't add up. Instead of being limited by your tools and having to search for explanations, you'll have all the correct flow information in the palm of your hand.

For more information about our Flow Finder equipment, check the *Hardware* and *Reference* sections of our new website, or give us a call on our (800) 247-8255 toll free number.

Trending Toward LAN Communications

Unquestionably, one of the most important functions of our PressureMAP™ monitoring software is establishing and maintaining effective communications. Despite PressureMAP's critical analysis, system quality indexing, and dispatch/alarm generation capabilities, the software would be ineffective without reliable communications.

Modems and Local Area Network (LAN) connections make it possible for remote users to access office and device data. They also make it possible for PressureMAP to obtain new device readings from office cable pressurization monitors, receive incoming alerts and alarms from office monitors, confirm the alarms, and send dispatches and alarms to Alarm Centers and individuals.

What we are seeing lately is a growing trend toward state-wide implementation of LAN communications. And, of course, there's good reason for this:

- Communicating over a LAN is more reliable (it eliminates the issue of dropped calls)
- Local area networks are supported by in-house telephone company IT personnel
- It provides a more secure connection, and
- It provides considerably faster data transmission.

If you're using modem-based cable pressurization system monitors, it may be time to consider switching to LAN communications. System Studies offers LAN Controller Cards for its 289H LSS™ and 289H-M LSS™ monitors, as well as a LAN version of the uM260 Micro Monitor™.

Check the Hardware and Reference sections of our new website for LAN Controller Card information, or give us a call.