

# EXRADIN Spherical Ion Chambers A3. A4

**REF** 92717 . 92715









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# **General Precautions**

Warnings and Cautions alert users to dangerous conditions that can occur if instructions in the manual are not obeyed. Warnings are conditions that can cause injury to the operator, while Cautions can cause damage to the equipment.



# WARNING:

Electrical shock hazard when connected to 300 V bias supply.



### CAUTION:

Proper use of this device depends on careful reading of all instructions and labels.



### **CAUTION:**

Do not drop, mishandle, or disassemble unit since it may result in change of calibration factor, or damage to thin-walled Thimble tip. Refer all servicing to qualified individuals.



### CAUTION:

Do not sharply bend triax cable. Damage to the cable may result in high leakage currents.

# **Table of Contents**

### PAGE

- 2 | General Precautions
- 3 | General Operation
- 5 | Service Notes
- 5 | Parts and Accessories List
- 6 | Customer Responsibility
- 7 | Features and Specifications
- 8 | Warranty







# **General Operation**

The **Exradin** A3 and A4 Spherical Chambers are attached to a 1.5-m length of low-noise flexible triaxial cable that is terminated by a triaxial or coaxial connector. The collector of the chamber is common with the center wire of the cable and the center contact of the connector. The guard is common with the inner cable braid and the middle connector contact in the case of triaxial connectors, and the connector body in the case of coaxial connectors. The shell (outer electrode), usually ground, is common with the outer braid of the cable and the connector body in the case of triaxial connectors, and the pigtail extending out the rear of coaxial connectors.

### Operating Instructions

- 1. With nothing connected to the input jack of the electrometer, turn the power on and wait at least 15 minutes for warm up.
- Verify the leakage of the electrometer is within the manufacturer's stated acceptable limits.
- 3. Connect the ionization chamber to the electrometer and apply 100% voltage bias.
- 4. Allow the electrometer and ionization chamber system at least 10 minutes to stabilize, making certain that all cabling is lying flat and unkinked.
- 5. Verify the leakage of the ionization chamber is within the manufacturer's stated acceptable limits. If measured in the presence of background sources, note that this signal will add to the leakage of the chamber.
- 6. Some electrometers, such as the Standard Imaging MAX-4000 Electrometer, allow the user to zero the device at any time. If desired, perform this system zeroing now.

# **General Operation**

- 7. Check the system leakage. Take a reading without exposing the chamber to radiation. This reading should be less than 0.1% of the final signal expected. If it is not, the leakage should be subtracted from the signal.
- Measure atmospheric temperature and pressure. For well chambers, measure the temperature in the well of the chamber.
- 9. Insert the ion chamber and take at least 3 measurements. Generally, the measurements should not be moving in only one direction (i.e. three readings that continue to drop and hence may not yet be stabilized). If a current measurement is done, allow sufficient time for value to stabilize.
- 10. Analyze the data taking into account the average of the readings, system leakage, temperature/pressure corrections, calibration factors and any other appropriate corrections to be made. Keep in mind that the calibration factor consists of the electrometer calibration and the ionization chamber calibration factor.
- **11.** When all measurements are completed, set bias voltage to 0 VDC, turn off the electrometer and disconnect the ionization chamber.

# **Service Notes**

## Calibration Caps

To remove calibration caps from these ionization chambers, use the following procedure: Hold the calibration cap in one hand, allowing the chamber handle to hang freely. Insert a small screwdriver or similar tool into the neck hole and simply pry the cap open. The prying force is to act between the cap and handle. In this manner, caps are readily removed without stressing the chamber proper. It is important that the handle is not held while opening caps. Hold chamber by cap and permit handle to respond freely to prying force.

### Stem

The stem is an integral part of the ionization chamber assembly and is not to be removed under any circumstances.

### Venting

The chamber volume is vented to the ambient via (2) vent holes located on the neck of the shell.



### Service and Maintenance

There are no user-serviceable parts within these ionization chambers. Under no circumstance should the user attempt to repair or disassemble the chamber and/or connector, as the warranty will become void and the calibration factor will change. Under normal use, the chambers should provide years of trouble-free service.

If assistance is desired in the proper disposal of this product (including accessories and components), after its useful life, please return to Standard Imaging.

# **Parts and Accessories**

REF	Description
72106	A3 Co-60 Buildup Cap. 2.3 mm, C552
72107	A3 Buildup Cap, 5.6 mm, Delrin
72108	A3 Buildup Cap, 8.5 mm, Delrin
72109	A3 Buildup Cap, 11.5 mm, Delrin
72110	A4 Co-60 Buildup Cap, 2.0 mm, C552
72111	A4 Buildup Cap, 11.0 mm, Delrin

# **Customer Responsibility**

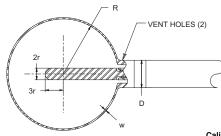
This product and its components will perform properly and reliably only when operated and maintained in accordance with the instructions contained in this manual and accompanying labels. A defective device should not be used. Parts which may be broken or missing or are clearly worn, distorted or contaminated should be replaced immediately with genuine replacement parts manufactured by or made available from Standard Imaging, Inc.

Caution: Federal law in the U.S.A and Canada restricts the sale, distribution or use of this device to, by or on the order of a licensed medical practitioner. The use of this device should be restricted to the supervision of a qualified medical physicist.

Should repair or replacement of this device become necessary after the warranty period, the customer should seek advice from Standard Imaging Inc. prior to such repair or replacement. If this device is in need of repair, it should not be used until all repairs have been made and the product is functioning properly and ready for use. After repair, the chamber may need to be calibrated. The owner of this device has sole responsibility for any malfunction resulting from abuse, improper use or maintenance, or repair by anyone other than Standard Imaging Inc.

The information in this manual is subject to change without notice. No part of this manual may be copied or reproduced in any form or by any means without prior written consent of Standard Imaging Inc.

# **Features and Specifications**



MODEL	R mm	r mm	w mm	D mm	Stem Diameter mm	Collecting	Factor R/nC (nominal)
A3	9.7	1.0	0.25	7.9	7.9	3.6	3.6
A4	19.1	2.0	0.50	9.5	9.5	30	30

Collecting Volume: See table

Collector Diameter: 2r (see table for values of r)
Shell Wall Thickness: w (see table for values of w)

Shell, Collector, and Guard

Material: Shonka air-equivalent plastic C552

Black phenolic; see table for diameters; length is 22.9 cm; not

removable

Waterproof: No; this sort of chamber is not

used in water

Venting: Two holes, open to the ambient,

are located on the neck of the

chamber

Buildup Caps Available: A3 – 2.3 mm wall C552 (Co-60),

5.6 mm wall Delrin, 8.5 mm wall Delrin, 11.5 mm wall Delrin **A4** – 2.0 mm wall C552 (Co-60),

11.0 mm wall Delrin

Options:

Stem:

Connector: Triaxial BNC Plug (2-Lug Male)

and protective cap connected by chain (standard); others available

upon request

Low-Noise Triaxial Cable: 1.5 m long; 50 ohms; 29 pF/ft

10<sup>-15</sup> A

Nominal Inherent Leakage

Currents:

Maximum Polarizing
Potential: 10

Potential: 1000 V Temperature Range: -15 - 50 °C

Humidity Range: 10-80%, non-condensing

Pressure: 600 to 800 mm Hg

Recommended Bias for

**Chamber Use:** A3 - 300V A4 - 500V

Nominal Collection

Efficiency: 100%

# Warranty

Standard Imaging, Inc. sells this product under the warranty herein set forth. The warranty is extended only to the buyer purchasing the product directly from Standard Imaging, Inc. or as a new product from an authorized dealer or distributor of Standard Imaging, Inc.

For a period of twenty-four (24) months for ionization chambers and twelve (12) months for all other Standard Imaging, Inc. products from the date of original delivery to the purchaser or a distributor, this product is warranted against functional defects in materials and workmanship, provided it is properly operated under conditions of normal use, and that repairs and replacements are made in accordance herewith. The foregoing warranty shall not apply if the product has been dissembled, altered or repaired other than by Standard Imaging, Inc. or if the product has been subject to abuse, misuse, negligence or accident.

Standard Imaging's sole and exclusive obligation and the purchaser's sole and exclusive remedy under the above warranties are limited to repairing or replacing free of charge, at Standard Imaging's option, a product: (1) which contains a defect covered by the above warranties; (2) which are reported to Standard Imaging, Inc. not later than seven (7) days after the expiration date of the 12 or 24 month warranty period; (3) which are returned to Standard Imaging promptly after discovery of the defect; and (4) which are found to be defective upon Standard Imaging's examination. Transportation charges are the buyer's responsibility. This warranty extends to every part of the product except fuses, batteries, or glass breakage. Standard Imaging, Inc. shall not be otherwise liable for any damages, including but not limited to, incidental damages, consequential damages, or special damages. Repaired or replaced products are warranted for the balance of the original warranty period, or at least 90 days.

This warranty is in lieu of all other warranties, express or implied, whether statutory or otherwise, including any implied warranty of fitness for a particular purpose. In no event shall Standard Imaging, Inc. be liable for any incidental or consequential damages resulting from the use, misuse or abuse of the product or caused by any defect, failure or malfunction of the product, whether a claim of such damages is based upon the warranty, contract, negligence, or otherwise.

This warranty represents the current standard warranty of Standard Imaging, Inc. Please refer to the labeling or instruction manual of your Standard Imaging, Inc. product for any warranty conditions unique to the product.