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dipper-T **Four Function Water Level Meter**

With Auto-Sense



Operating and Maintenance Instructions



dipper-T Water Level Meter Instructions

General Care of the dipper-T

The dipper-T is a high quality, robust, premium water level meter capable of Four Functions – static and Drawdown levels, well casing* and well depth* indications (*optional probe required). The dipper-T will provide many years of reliable service when these recommendations are followed:

- Avoid sharp edged casing, use the tape guide on the unit to prevent damage to the tape.
- Take care to avoid the tape becoming entangled with other equipment in boreholes or wells, use stilling pipes when possible.
- Neatly rewind and clean the tape after each use. Refer to: Cleaning the dipper-T

DO NOT use the dipper-T as a guide to backfilling, bentonite sealing or sand packing in wells. This type of material falls through the water column at a much slower rate than the dipper-T probe and can result in a trapped tape and probe.

DO NOT allow the tape to "freefall" down the well, it may become caught in other equipment in the well.

Warranty is conditional upon adherence to these guidelines.

Equipment Check

Before taking the unit into the field, carry out these simple tests.

- First time use, remove the pull tab on the battery
- Check the condition of battery and circuit by pressing the Change Mode button from static to drawDown. The unit will sound and the indicator light will come on when the probe is in air. If the unit does not respond, replace battery and try again.
- Test the entire unit by placing the probe in tap water. If the dipper-T is working properly, the unit will sound as above. DO NOT test in distilled water.
- Adjust the blue indicator on the tape to the caution level desired.

Use in Field

The dipper-T operates in two modes, static and Drawdown. In static mode, the unit is silent until the probe touches the water. In Drawdown mode, the unit sounds and the light remains on when the probe is **not** in water.

NOTE: There is no on/off switch on the instrument. If using in **Drawdown** mode, return the unit to **static** mode to turn indicators off. The **dipper-T c**onsumes no power in **static** mode when probe is not in water.

- To avoid damaging the tape on the side of the casing, hang the dipper-T on the
 casing and run the tape over the guide on the frame leg. If you cannot hang the
 unit, hold the dipper-T away from the side of the casing and guide the tape down
 the center of the well.
- Swivel the probe holder on the frame to allow the tape free movement down the well (see Image 2).
- Note the inverted triangle on the probe holder serves as a datum point indicating "top of casing" (see Image 2).
- The dipper-T does not have a sensitivity knob. Sensitivity is automatically adjusted using the Auto-Sense system to automatically filter out cascading water.
- Adjust the audio sound by turning the Volume Control knob (Image 1).
- Reel the tape down the well carefully avoiding the edge of the casing.

FOR STATIC MODE

- The unit will sound when the probe touches the water, measure the depth to water indicated on the tape from your datum point (inverted triangle).
- Raise and lower the probe in and out of the water to ensure a consistent result.

FOR DRAWDOWN MODE

- When the probe is in water at the desired Drawdown level, push the
 Drawdown button (Image 1) the unit will now be silent in water. Start pumping
 the water out. Once the water goes past the tip of the probe, the unit will sound
 in air.
- Turn off pump and put the dipper-T back in static mode.

Caution: Note the blue indicator on the tape to avoid injury from the probe coming out of the well too quickly.

WATCH THE VIDEO ON "HOW THE DRAWDOWN FEATURE WORKS" FOUND ON HERON INSTRUMENTS' YOUTUBE CHANNEL.

FOR WELL DEPTH MEASURING

- Remove the water level meter probe from the detachable link and replace with the Well Depth Indicator Probe. Make sure the connection is tight but do not over tighten (see Image 3).
- While the dipper-T is in static level mode, lower the probe down the side of the casing (use the tape guide to protect the tape from sharp edges), avoid hitting other objects within the well. When the probe reaches the bottom of the well, the pressure sensitive plunger enters the probe body closing a switch, initiating an audible and visual signal at the top of the well. The well depth reading is taken directly from the tape. The datum point indicator is on the back of the probe holder (see Image 2).

FOR WELL CASING MEASURING

- Remove the water level meter probe from the detachable link and replace with Well
 Casing Indicator Probe. Make sure the connection is tight but do not over tighten
 (see Image 4).
- While the dipper-T is in static level mode, lower the probe down the side of the steel
 casing in the well (use the tape guide to protect the tape from sharp edges). While
 the probe is within the magnetic field of the steel casing, an auditory and visual signal
 is active. When the probe leaves the magnetic field the signal stops, indicating the
 bottom of the steel casing. The well casing measurement is then taken directly from
 the tape. The datum point indicator is on the back of the probe holder (see Figure 3).
- NOTE: The unit may not signal fully in wells with deteriorating steel casing.

When rewinding the tape, remove as much water and debris as possible from the tape and the probe.

Cleaning the dipper-T

Always clean the **dipper-T** after use in the field to maintain optimal performance and extend the life of the unit.

The dipper-T may be cleaned with any mild household dishwashing detergent and rinsed with water.

If the electronic panel is removed first, the reel and tape can be washed gently with a power washer. Remove the screws (see Image 1) to release the panel.

DO NOT use abrasives, partially halogenated hydrocarbons or ketones to clean the reel.

Troubleshooting the dipper-T

- Q. What if there is no sound or indicator light when the unit is tested?
 A. Refer to Equipment Check and follow procedures. Change the battery if necessary.
- Q. Why doesn't the unit sound when testing the probe?
- A. Make sure there is no cuts or nicks in the tape cuts or nicks in the tape
- Q. If I check the above and the unit still doesn't sound?
- A. Loosen the screws from the electronic panel and take the panel off the unit, make sure the tape connectors are connected to the back of the electronic panel.
- Q. Why would the instrument continue to sound when not in water?
- A. The unit may be in **drawDown** mode. Press the **drawDown** button, putting the unit into static mode (silent in air). Dry the probe with a clean cloth.
- Q. Why is the Well Casing Indicator Probe giving false readings?
- A. False or intermittent readings may indicate a screen or that the well casing has deteriorated causing the probe not to pick up the magnetic field of the steel casing. The well casing may have holes, be rusty and/or have a material buildup.

Contact Heron Instruments or your Heron Distributor if you cannot isolate the problem.

Warranty (2 years, probe 1 year)*

Heron Instruments Inc. warrants to repair or replace any defective equipment or part upon inspection by a **Heron** service technician. Warranty will be determined to our satisfaction to have a defect in workmanship or original material. The customer is responsible for all shipping fees to return the item to **Heron**.

This warranty shall not apply to damage of equipment caused by improper installation, usage, storage, alteration or inadequate care.

In no event shall **Heron** be held liable for any direct, indirect or consequential damages, abuse, acts of third parties (rental equipment), environmental conditions or expenses which may arise in connection with such defective equipment.

Heron Instruments Warranty coverage does not extend to the following:

- Tape, bag or batteries used with the product.
- Products used as rental equipment.
- Products contaminated by materials which are known to be hazardous and have rendered the unit unserviceable.
- Parts failure due to neglect in cleaning or servicing.
- Failure of parts caused by misuse.
- * unless otherwise specified under local law

For Service information:

•visit www.heroninstruments.com •email service@heroninstruments.com

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