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Section 1 - General Information

Product Description

The **CPN MC-S Strata Gauge** is a rugged, state-of-the-art microprocessor-based instrument that measures the density and moisture in strata layers down to a depth of 24 inches (600 mm) in increments of 2 inches (50 mm). In Civil/Geotechnical applications it determines the effectiveness of the compaction effort at each depth and one key application is quality control of roller compacted concrete (RCC), also determines the effect of compaction on crop growth.

The **CPN MC-S Strata Gauge** provides fast and accurate measurements, rapidly calculates and converts the data to English or metric engineering units, and displays the results on a liquid crystal display (LCD).

The CPN MC-S Strata Gauge complies with the following ASTM standard test methods:

D 2922 - Density of Soil and Soil Aggregate in Place by the Nuclear Method D 3017 - Moisture Content of Soil and Soil Aggregate by the Nuclear Method

The keypad of the **CPN MC-S Strata Gauge** allows the operator to enter target maximum density values and density and moisture calibration biases. Other keys on the pad permit the operator to record and recall test results and transfer records to either a printer or a computer.

Proper use of the **CPN MC-S Strata Gauge** will impose no radiation hazard on the operator. However, a potential danger does exist if the equipment is improperly used. Operators should read and understand the literature covering radiation safety, and attend a radiation safety and applications training course offered by the manufacturer or other competent instructor.

CPN MC-S Strata Gauge Features

• Simultaneous, direct readout of all test data and results on an easy-to-read, 160-character liquid crystal display:

Total (wet) density
Total moisture
Dry density
% Compaction - total (wet) or dry
Moisture content (%)
% Air voids
Record and test number
Time and date of test
Maximum values: wet density, dry density and bulk specific gravity
Density and moisture biases

- Memory storage and recall of up to 128 test results by record number
- Serial interface to personal computer or printer
- Operator-selectable time or precision of test
- Programmable maximum values from laboratory compaction tests
- Easy-to-use keyboard functions for all measurement parameters
- Rechargeable NICAD battery pack; up to 600 tests between charges
- Self-calibration (self-coefficient determination)

Functional Description

The CPN MC-S Strata Gauge operates by emitting radiation from two safety-sealed radioactive sources:

- Cesium-137, a gamma emitter for density measurement
- Americium-241:Beryllium, a neutron emitter for moisture measurement.

To determine density, the Cesium-137 source emits gamma radiation into the test material. Some of the gamma radiation will pass through the material and be detected by the Geiger-Mueller detector located within the density detector rod. A material of low density will give a high count per time of test. A material of high density will give a low count for the same period of time, as the high-density material absorbs more gamma radiation.

To determine moisture content, the Americium-241:Beryllium source emits neutron radiation into the test material. The high-energy neutrons are moderated by collision with hydrogen atoms in the moisture of the material. Only low-energy, moderated neutrons are detected by the Helium-3 detector. A material that is wet will give a high count per time of test. A material that is dry will give a low count for the same period of time.

Standard Equipment

Each **CPN MC-S Strata Gauge** is provided with a durable shipping case and the items shown in Figure 1-1. There are no special instructions for unpacking the gauge. It comes fully assembled.

Item	Part Number
CPN MC-S Strata Gauge	119200
Reference Standard, 3 in	401727
Handle Lock Key	400925
Guideplate	401720
Drill Pin	100035
Lubricant	704394
Operating Manual	400747
Leak Test Certificate	700762
Leak Test Kit	401197
Radiation Sign Kit	101085
Padlock and Keys	700472
Battery Charger, 115/230 VAC	400950
Shipping Case	400754
Phillips Screwdriver	700646
Allen Head (Hex Drive) Wrench	700760
Hex Ball Driver, 9/64 in	700764
Cleaning Brush	702403

Standard Equipment

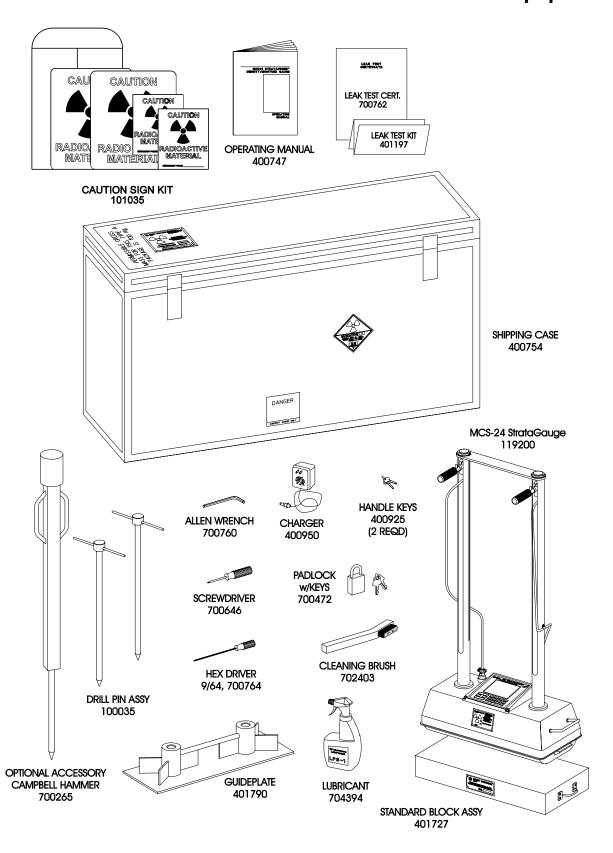


Figure 1-1. CPN MC-S Strata Gauge Standard Equipment

Specifications

Dimensions/Shipping Weights

Model Weight Length Width Height

MC-S (gauge only) 47 lbs/21.2 kgs 21 in/533 mm 9.25 in/235 mm 407 in/1016 mm MC-S (with carrying case) 180 lbs/81 kgs 50 in/1270 mm 16.5 in/419 mm 27.75 in/705 mm

Performance

Functions Sub-surface strata density/moisture measurements to a

depth of 24 in (600mm) in 2 in (25mm) increments

Density Range 60 to 180 pcf (0.96 to 2.88 Mg/m³)

Moisture Range 0 to 25 pcf (0 to 40% vol, 0 to .4 Mg/m3, 0 to 4.8 in/ft)

Precision Density: 0.68 pcf at 125 pcf (0.011 at 2.00 Mg/m³)

Moisture: 0.5% at 24% at one minute.

Display High resolution display, with readable characters under all

light conditions. Incorporates a back-light feature for testing

in low light or darkness.

Counting Time Operator - selected precision (± pcf or g/cm³) or time of test.

Calibration Factory calibration; operator entered or automatic determination of

calibration coefficients

Units of Measurements Operator selectable: pcf or g/cm³

Memory Storage Up to 200 readings of all displayed data

Data Interface RS-232-C for upload to computer or printer (300 to 9600 baud)

Electrical

Power Source Internal battery pack (8 welded AA NICAD batteries), 5Wh.

Battery Life 500 to 1000 charge-discharge cycles

Power Consumption 12 mA, average (based on 600+ 30-sec. counts)

Charging Time 14 hours at C/10 via charging unit

Specifications

Environmental

Operating Temperature Ambient: 32° to 158° F (0° to 70° C)

Storage Temperature -4° to 140° F (-20° to 60° C)

Humidity (non-condensing) 95%

Radiological

Gamma Source 0.37 GBq (10 mCi) Cesium-137

Neutron Source 1.85 GBq (50 mCi) Americium-241:Beryllium

Encapsulation Double-sealed capsule, CPN-131

Shipping Requirements Radioactive material, Special form, N.O.S., UN2974,

Transport index 0.4

Yellow II label, USA DOT 7A, Type A

Special Form Approval GB/24/S and GB/281/S

An NRC or agreement state license is required for domestic use. Contact Boart Longyear/CPN for assistance in obtaining training for a license.

Definitions

DEPTH OF MEASUREMENT:

The depth through which 95% of the counted photons and thermal neutrons pass before reaching the detectors.

PRECISION (Pr):

standard repeated value. The statistical precision of the gauge computed at the 68.3% confidence level (± 1 deviation). It states that the repeatability of the gauge is such that 68.3% of measurements on the same site will fall within the average ± precision

Precision (Pr) =
$$\frac{\sqrt{\text{actual accumulated counts}}}{\text{slope of the calibration curve}}$$

The total density and total water precision values are calculated as follows:

$$Pr, Dwet or Pr, H2O = \frac{\sqrt{actual accumulated counts}}{slope of the calibration curve}$$

The dry density precision value is calculated as follows:

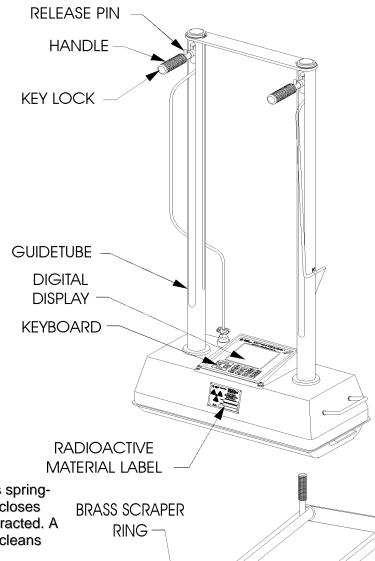
$$Pr, Dry = \sqrt{Pr, Dwet^2 + Pr, H_2O^2}$$

Boart Longyear/CPN reserves the right to change equipment specifications and/or design to meet industry requirements or improve product performance.

CPN MC-S Strata Gauge Inspection

To familiarize yourself with the **MC-S**, perform the following review.

- 1. Remove the Strata Gauge from shipping case and place on solid flat surface, such as a concrete floor.
- 2. Examine the keyboard, display screen, handles, and guidetubes.

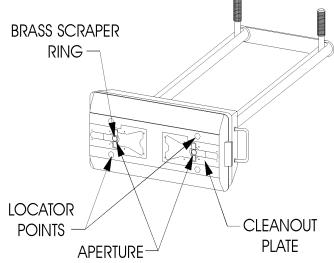


3. Examine the bottom of the unit.

Behind the aperture in the cleanout plate is a carbide shutter block which is springmounted and automatically opens and closes when the source rod is lowered and retracted. A brass scraper ring around the opening cleans the source rod as it is retracted.

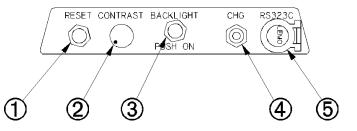
NOTE

Both radioactive sources are located in the source rod behind the shutter block. Do not touch the source rod or place yourself in front of unshielded source rod.

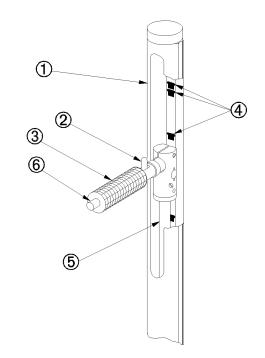


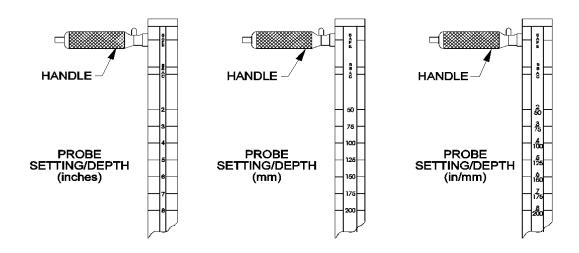
CPN MC-S Strata Gauge Inspection

- 4. Examine the rear panel.
 - Reset Pushbutton. The power is normally ON. Holding the pushbutton depressed for 5 seconds or longer and then releasing it will act as a master reset. Master reset is only necessary if the gauge locks up.



- 2. Contrast Knob. Adjusts liquid crystal display.
- 3. Back light pushbutton.
- 4. Battery Charger Jack.
- 5. RS-232-C Connector. Port for uploading data to printer or computer.
- 5. Examine the guide tubes assembly.
 - 1. Guide Tube.
 - 2. Release Pin.
 - 3. Probe Handle.
 - 4. Locking Recesses.
- 5. Source Rod (gamma and neutron sources at bottom).
 - 6. Button Key Lock.



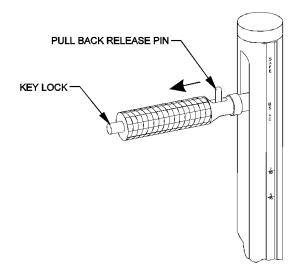


Learning to Use the CPN MC-S Strata Gauge

Use key to unlock handles. Pull back release pins, and set handles to the desire position.

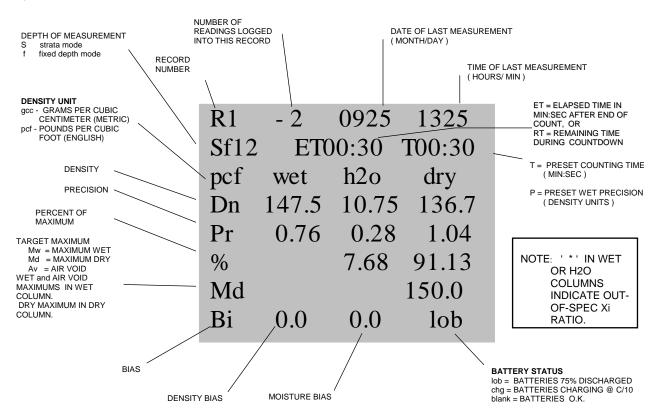
Instrument is now, set up to perform a

Instrument is now set up to perform a measurement.



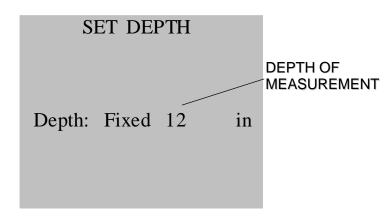
2. Press **CLEAR** key.

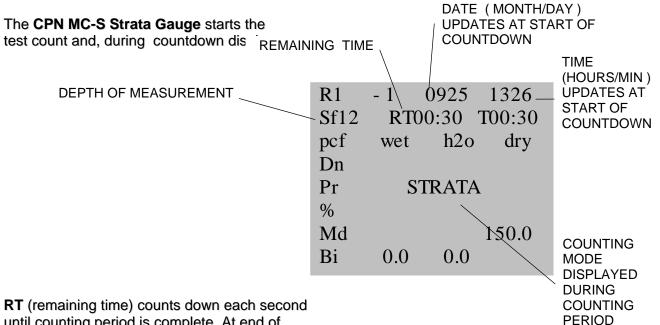
Screen displays results of factory test measurement made with CPN MC-S Strata Gauge prior to shipment.



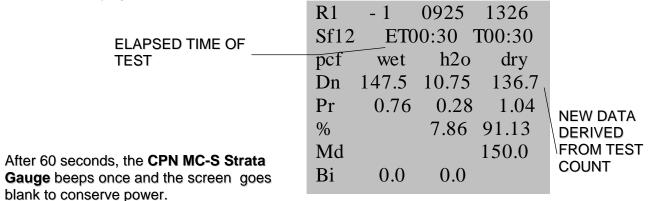
Learning to Use the CPN MC-S Strata Gauge

3. Press **START** to begin a test. After **START** is pressed the **CPN MC-S Strata Gauge** shows the following screen. With the numeric key in the depth at which the count is going to be taken and press **ENTER** to start the count.





RT (remaining time) counts down each second until counting period is complete. At end of count, CPN MC-S Strata Gauge beeps twice and screen displays results:



Press CLEAR key to display data again.

Keyboard Functions

Figure 2-1. shows the keyboard of the CPN MC-S Strata Gauge

Key	Function
START	Starts a count.
STEP	Acts as shift key. Steps cursor to next parameter or display.
CLEAR	Clears operator-entered data if pressed before ENTER key. Stops in-progress measurements. Displays previous display or (from a blank screen) most recent measurement.
ENTER	Stores data in memory. Steps to next display.
ID	Sets record identification for logging data.
RECALL	Displays stored records from logging memory.
PRINT	Displays PRINT menu.

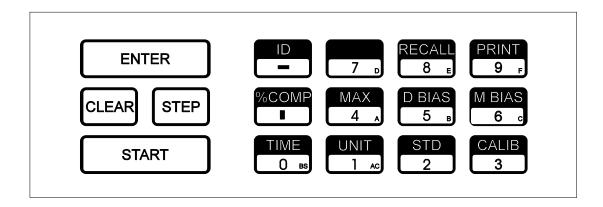


Figure 2-1. CPN MC-S Strata Gauge Keyboard

Keyboard Functions

Key Function

%COMP Selects percent compaction to be calculated:

Mw: Maximum wet density. Md: Maximum dry density.

Av: Air void ratio.

MAX Prompts for entering the maximum compaction values in pcf or

g/cm³.

D BIAS Prompts for entering density bias value (+ or - pcf or g/cm³).

M BIAS Prompts for entering moisture bias value (+ or - pcf or g/cm³).

TIME Prompts for setting counting to:

Fixed time or constant precision mode.

New time or precision value.

UNIT No action.

STD Displays density and moisture standard counts and prompts for

new standard counts.

Takes new standard counts.

CALIB prompts for setting the depth.

Keyboard Functions

The following functions are initiated by pressing the STEP key and holding it pressed while pressing a second key (i.e. the STEP key acts as a shift key).

Key	Function
STEP + TIME	Prompts for setting realtime clock (time/date).
STEP + UNIT	Displays menu to select between English (pcf and inches) or metric (gcc and mm) measurement units and select between density screen and counts per minute (cpm) screen.
STEP + CALIB	Displays menu to select displaying/entering coefficients, self-calibration, or setting fixed or automatic depth of measurement. (See Appendix B: Troubleshooting Guide.)
STEP + CLEAR	Master clear. Restores main screen display directly from any other display.
ID, then STEP + ID	Clears entire record space of stored data.
STEP + ENTER	Displays monitor program, information used by a Boart Longyear/CPN service technician.

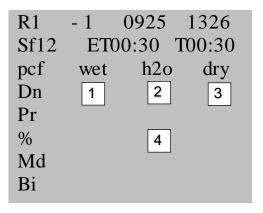
The CPN MC-S Strata Gauge displays the following direct measurements after all tests.

1. Dn wet: Wet or total density (pcf or g/cm³).

2. Dn H₂O: Total moisture (pcf or g/cm³).

3. Dn dry: Dn wet - Dn H₂O (pcf or g/cm³).

4. % H₂O: (Dn H₂O / Dn dry) x 100



The operator may enter target maximum values determined by standard laboratory tests (ASTM or comparable) before or after a test is taken.

- 5. Mw: The maximum wet density of a soil-aggregate or bulk specific gravity of a material in pcf or g/cm³.
- 6. Av: The theoretical maximum specific gravity of a material in pcf or g/cm³.
- 7. The maximum dry density of a soil-aggreagte in pcf or g/cm³ (ASTM D 1557).

```
R1
      - 1
            0925
                   1326
Sf12
        ET00:30
                  T00:30
              h2o
                     dry
pcf
       wet
Dn
Pr
%
Md
       5 or 6
                      7
Bi
```

The CPN MC-S Strata Gauge will now calculate and display relative (%) compactions.

For asphalt pavements and soils using total or wet maximum values:

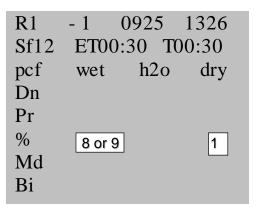
8.
$$\% \text{ Mw} = (\text{Dn wet } / \text{Mw}) \times 100$$

For materials using maximum specific gravity values:

9. % Av =
$$\frac{\text{Av - Dn wet}}{\text{Av}} \times 100$$

For soil/aggregates using dry maximum values:

10. %
$$Md = (Dn dry / Md)x 100$$



The operator may enter density and moisture bias values as needed.

- 11. ± density value (pcf or g/cm³).
- 12. ± moisture value (pcf or g/cm³)

The following parameters can be configured for the CPN MC-S Strata Gauge to meet your needs.

Parameter	Factory Configuration	Range
units	pcf	pcf, g/cm ³ or cpm.
time or precision	T01:00	user selectable mode: time or precision, and value: ± pcf or g/cm ³ .
% compaction	Md	Mw, Md, or Av
maximums Mw Md Av	150.0 150.0 150.0	0 to 999.9
biases density moisture	0.0 0.0	+99.9 to -99.9

Enter the CPN MC-S Strata Gauge parameters according to the following instructions.

Action	Result
UNITS Parameters	
1. Press STEP + UNIT .	Displays menu to select units.
2. Press ENTER .	Toggles units between pcf and g/cm³, displaying current selection on screen.
3. Press CLEAR.	Displayed units selected.
4. Press STEP.	
5. Press ENTER .	Toggles between density and counts-per-minute (cpm) screen, displaying current selection on screen.
6. Press CLEAR.	Display option selected.

Action	Result
TIME and PRECISION Parameters 1. Press TIME	Cursor moves to time field on screen.
Press STEP to toggle between time and precision.	Time or precision mode, as toggled, is displayed on screen.
Key in new time or precision value and press ENTER .	Value is displayed and stored (any previous value is replaced).

COMPACTION % and MAXIMUM Parameters

1. Press % COMP	Compaction field rolls through Mw, Av, and Md. Continue pressing until desired maximum is displayed.
2. Press MAX.	Prompts for new maximum value.
3. Key in maximum value and press ENTER .	Value displayed and stored (any previous value is replaced).

DENSITY and MOISTURE BIAS Parameters

1. Press D BIAS	Cursor moves to first digit in density bias field.
Key in density bias value and press ENTER.	Value is displayed and stored (any previous value is replaced).
3. Press M BIAS.	Cursor moves to first digit in H ₂ O bias field.
Key in moisture bias value and press ENTER.	Value is displayed and stored (any previous value is replaced).

Date and Time Reset

1. Press STEP + TIME .	Screen displays date and time and prompts for entering the year.
Key in each prompted value and press ENTER.	Each value is stored; date and time updated.
3. Press START.	Clock begins again.

Standard Counts

Because the radioactive sources in the **CPN MC-S Strata Gauge** decay slowly over time, the user must periodically take a standard count on the reference standard provided. When this is done, the previous standard count is replaced and the **CPN MC-S Strata Gauge** program uses the new standard to calculate the field count/standard count ratio to compensate for source decay.

"Xi" is displayed and signifies the chi-squared distribution of the counts. This is the ratio of the actual distribution of the counts compared to the expected distribution. A ratio near 1.0, and small changes between previous and new counts, indicate that the **CPN MC-S Strata Gauge** is working properly.

While standard counts need only be taken monthly to account for source decay, it is recommended that a new standard be taken daily to check "Xi" and changes in counts. The Xi ratio should be between 0.75 and 1.25, and the change between the present and previous standard counts should be smaller than the square root of the average count (1 standard deviation). This will verify the performance of the Strata Gauge every day of use. If the Xi value is outside of expected limits, repeat the standard count. If the statistics are again poor, consult the Troubleshooting Guide (Appendix B).

Standard Count Procedure

Action

 Place the reference standard block on top of the shipping case. Seat the gauge on the block with the gauge and the block serial numbers to the front. Put the right hand rod in the 2 inches position.

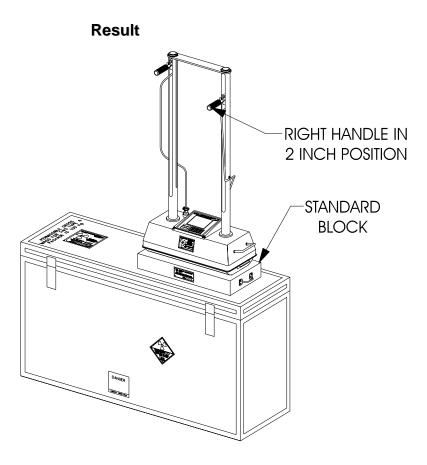


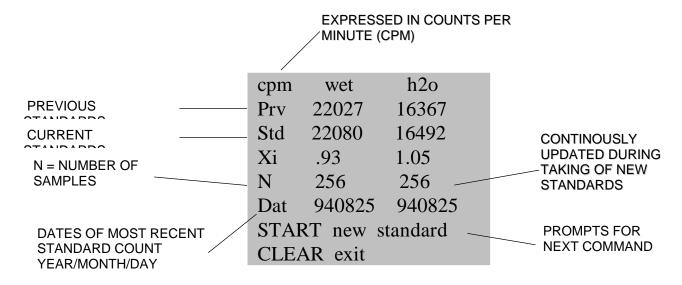
Figure 2-2. Standard Count Procedure

Standard Counts

Action Result

2. Press STD.

Screen displays existing standard count data:



3.Press START key.

The Strata Gauge starts a standard count of 256 1-second samples. As each sample is taken, the sample number from 1 to 256 is displayed. A standard count takes approximately 4.4 minutes.

NOTE

To terminate the count and exit while the standard count is in progress, press **CLEAR**.

To stop the count early, press **STEP** (count is terminated and values stored).

At the end of the count, the **CPN MC-S Strata Gauge** displays and stores the new standard count data, replacing previous values.

Taking a Test

To take a field test, perform the following:

Action

Configure the CPN MC-S Strata Gauge (see Configuring CPN MC-S Strata Gauge for Measurements instructions).

- Prepare the site to be tested (see site preparation instructions in Field Use section).
- 3. Set the **CPN MC-S Strata Gauge** on the site to be tested and set the handles to the position (depth) in which the test will be performed.
- 4. Press **START**.
- Press ENTER or key in a new DEPTH setting and then press ENTER.

Result

CPN MC-S Strata Gauge configured.

Site prepared for testing.

CPN MC-S Strata Gauge prepared for testing.

Current calibration depth setting is displayed.

Test counting begin.

Typical test display:

R1	-1	0925	1326
Sf12	ET00):30 T	00:30
pcf	wet	h2o	dry
Dn	147.5	10.75	136.7
Pr	0.76	0.28	1.04
%		7.86	91.13
Md			150.0
Bi	0.0	0.0	

Units of Measurement

To Change Units

From pcf (pounds per cubic foot) to gcc (grams per cubic centimeter) From gcc (grams per cubic centimeter) to pcf (pounds per cubic foot)

Action

1. Press STEP + UNIT

Result

Screen displays units menu.

Units

Unit: pcf

Screen: Density

STEP & ENTER choice

2. Press ENTER one or more times.

Display alternates between pcf and gcc units.

3. Press CLEAR.

Units displayed is now selected. Screen returns to **READY.**

To Change Screen Results

From density (pcf or gcc) to cpm (count per minute From cpm (counts per minute) to density (pcf or gcc)

Action

1. Press STEP + UNIT

Result

Screen displays units menu, as above.

2. Press STEP.

Cursor moves to screen result options.

3. Press ENTER one or more times.

Display alternates between density and cpm screen results. If the cpm screen has been selected, the **CPN MC-S Strata Gauge** will count and display results as in the example:

R101 -2 0630 0712 Sf12 ET00:30 T00:30 pcf wet h2o Ct 21840 4738 cpm Xi 0.95 1.01

4.Press CLEAR.

Screen result displayed is now selected. Screen returns to **READY**.

Calibration

Each **CPN MC-S Strata Gauge** is calibrated at the Boart Longyear/CPN factory. A typical computer printout of the calibration data is shown in Figure 2-3. If you require a different calibration, perform the following steps.

Figure 2-3. Computer Calibration Printout

	$\overline{}$			
Boart Longyear/CPN CALIBRATION				
SERIAL NO: 2103 MODEL: MCSA-00B				
DENSITY STANDARD COUNT: 8919 DATE: 940712 CALIBRATION DATE: 940712				
COUNT AT DEPTH 107.2 133.6 164.3 A B C lb / ft^3				
2 4686 2499 1225 7.07559 40.94229 .00943				
4 5204 2662 1300 10.44992 36.48533 .03004				
6 5316 2738 1280 9.06413 39.24758				
8 5363 2693 1288 11.57744 35.64698				
TO 24				
WHERE: DENSITY IN lb / ft^3 = B * Ln()				
R - C COUNT R = RATIO = STD CNT				
MOISTURE STANDARD COUNT: 2117 DATE: 940712 CALIBRATION DATE: 940712				
COUNT AT 0.0 33.0 A B lb / ft^3				
2 153 1411 55.69393 40.94229 4 138 5283 13.61768 .88781 6 170 9395 7.59572 .61004 8 188 10572 6.7472 .59926 TO				
WHERE: MOISTURE IN lb / ft^3 = (A * R) - B				

Edit Coefficient

The wet density and H₂O coefficients allow the operator to edit (view/change/enter) density and moisture calibration coefficients. Write down factory calibration coefficients before overwriting with new ones in the **CPN MC-S Strata Gauge** so they can be reentered later.

Action Result

1. Press STEP + CALIB.

Screen displays calibration menu with cursor prompting wet coefficients:

Calibration		
wet coefficients h2o coefficients wet selfcal h2o selfcal		
STEP & ENTER choice		

Calibration

Action

- 2. Press ENTER.
- 3. Press **STEP** until desired depth and calibration

- 4. Press ENTER.
- Enter the A coefficient value and press ENTER. Pressing ENTER will store the current value and a new value is not entered.
- Repeat step 5 for B and C coefficients.
- 7. Repeat steps 3 through 6 for each depth.
- Press CLEAR twice to exit Wet calibration coefficients screen.
- Press STEP to move cursor H₂O field.
- 10. Press **ENTER**.

Result

CPN MC-S Strata Gauge displays Wet calibration screen with cursor prompting depth field (2 in initially).

Depths field rolls through 2, 4, 6, etc. (Current coefficients are displayed for each depth), example:

oromoromo and and play	
Wet cal	2 in
A 10.65422	
B 81.63265	pcf
C220318	
STEP & ENTER	R depth
CLEAR twice to	exit

Cursor moves to A coefficient field and prompts for entry of new value.

Value displayed in A coefficient field and stored. Cursor moves to B coefficient field and prompts for entry of new value.

B and C coefficient values are displayed and stored. Cursor then moves to top of screen and prompts for next depth.

Wet calibration coefficients are entered in **CPN MC-S Strata Gauge** memory.

Calibrations menu is displayed with cursor prompting.

Cursor prompts H₂O coefficients.

H₂O calibration coefficients screen is displayed. Cursor prompts for entry in the A coefficient field.

h2o cal	2 in
A 64.26693 B 4.78088	pcf pcf
Enter coefficients CLEAR twice to	exit

Calibration

Action Result

11. Enter A coefficient value and press Value displayed in A coefficient field. Cursor moves to B coefficient field and prompts for entry of new

value.

12. Enter **B** coefficient value and press Value displayed in B coefficient field. H₂O calibration coefficients are entered in **CPN**

calibration coefficients are entered in CPN MC-S Strata Gauge memory and calibration menu is

displayed.

13. Press **CLEAR** twice to exit H₂O Calibration menu is displayed with cursor

calibration coefficients screen. prompting.

14. Press **CLEAR** to return to main Main screen is displayed.

Self Calibration

menu.

The wet selfcal and H₂O selfcal options allow the operator to calibrate the **CPN MC-S Strata Gauge** on a set of three standards of known density (low, intermediate, and high) and two standards of known equivalent moisture (low and high). Calibration coefficients are automatically computed and stored in the **CPN MC-S Strata Gauge**.

Action Result

Take a standard count.

2. Press **STEP + CALIB**. Screen displays calibration menu with cursor

prompting wet coefficients.

3. **STEP** to wet selfcal, then **ENTER**. Screen displays option: create a new calibration or

edit old calibration data.

NOTE Last cal: 94-08-12

calib option will erase the previous calibration counts.

Create new calib

STEP & ENTER choice

Edit old calib data

Wet Selfcal

4. Press **ENTER** to create a new

Selecting the Create new

26

calibration and move to step 6, or move to step 5 to edit calibration data.

Action

 Press STEP, then ENTER to edit old calibration data. Selecting "edit" retains previous calibration counts but allows one or more of them to be changed.

 The wet density of H₂O density block values may be left unchanged by pressing ENTER on each value or keying in a new value followed by ENTER.

7. Press STEP to select or change the calibration block density. Move the source rod to the next desired depth. Press START to take a calibration count (automatically four minutes). If prior calibration data is known, place the gauge in the FIXED Depth Mode via the STEP+CALIB menu

place the gauge in the **FIXED** Depth Mode via the **STEP+CALIB** menu and follow the above sequence except press "-" to advance to a new depth and key in the count data as appropriate.

When the coefficients are displayed, press ENTER to accept them or CLEAR to abort and start over.

Result

The existing density values of three wet density calibration blocks or two H₂O density calibration blocks will be displayed. For example:

Wet Selfcal Block Weights

Low: 107.2 Med: 133.6 High: 164.3

Key weight & ENTER

The **CPN MC-S Strata Gauge** will then display the density value of one of the calibration blocks and the last count for the selected depth.

Wet Selfcal 107.2 pcf BLOCK 2 in *.* cpm

Minus to roll depth STEP to roll block START to count or enter a value

When all three blocks have counts for a depth, the **CPN MC-S Strata Gauge** will compute the coefficients for that depth. While computing, a term will be displayed which will reduce to a small number before the gauge accepts the solution.

Data Logging

The **CPN MC-S Strata Gauge** can log up to 128 tests in record numbers chosen by the operator. The information can be reviewed on the display screen at a later time or transferred to a computer or printer.

Storing Test Results

Action Result

- 1. Pick a record number between 0 and 65535.
- Press ID, then enter record number chosen. Entering a previously used record number allows user to append test results to end of that record. If no number is picked, the previous record will be used.
- After a test, press ENTER to store contents of main test screen. If a reading has already been stored, the Strata Gauge will abort storage

and await another command.

 To clear entire record space, first review and print out stored data (see Data Transfer section), press ID and then hold down STEP and press ID. **CPN MC-S Strata Gauge** sets up record number, or positions user at end of existing record.

Test results are stored in new record or appended to existing record. Number-of-tests counter on screen changes. **CPN MC-S Strata Gauge** beeps twice and displays RECS FULL when record space is full.

Record space and site numbers are all erased. Data that has been erased cannot be recovered from the Strata Gauge. The gauge beeps twice and displays RECS EMPTY.

Reviewing Test Results

Action

- Press RECALL. User can now move to next record with STEP, but not to next test within record.
- Enter desired record number, then press ENTER. If first record displayed is desired, press ENTER to recall results within record.
- 3. Move from test to test within record with **STEP.**
- 4. To move from within a record to the next record, press **CLEAR** once.
- To return to main screen (most recent results) from the first test in a record, press CLEAR once. To return from a test within a record, press CLEAR twice.

Result

Because a test may be stopped before completion by the operator, the **TIME/PRECISION** value is omitted.

User is now in desired record and first test result is displayed.

Test results are displayed in order they were taken. At the end of a record, **STEP** moves user to next record.

User can now move to next record with **STEP**, or to any record by entering record number and pressing **ENTER**.

User has left RECALL mode.

Operation Summary

To take a Count

Standard Count STD, START handle in SAFE position

STEP early finish clear abort

Field Count START handle in desired depth

Display last reading CLEAR

To Program

Time/Precision TIME (T), xxxx (min/sec)

or TIME, STEP (P),xx.xxx (pcf or

gcc)

% Compaction
% COMP
Press to display compaction calculation

Mw: Wet/wetmax x 100 Md: Dry/drymax x 100

Av: (Avmax - wet)Avmax x 100

Maximum MAX, xxx.x, ENTER
Density bias D BIAS, xxx.x, ENTER
Moisture bias M BIAS, xxx.x, ENTER

Units STEP + UNIT units menu displayed

STEP selects units or screen display

ENTER toggles units between pcf and gcc, and screen

between density and counts

CLEAR display units selected

Record Operation

Clear memory ID, STEP + ID ID, xxxxxx, ENTER

Store last reading ENTER stores last reading into record once after each

START, up to 128 readings per site number,

128 readings maximum

Display log **RECALL**, **xxxxxx**, **ENTER**

or STEP...STEP, ENTER, then to view readings within a site number

STEP

Printer dump PRINT, ENTER display screen format

Computer dump PRINT, STEP, ENTER data compressed and separated by commas

Miscellaneous

Real time clock STEP + TIME follow prompt to set date/time Display counts/min STEP + UNIT, STEP. follow prompt to set date/time repeat to return to nomal display

ENTER, CLEAR

Calibrate STEP + CALIB select choice from calibration menu and follow

instructions on display

Abort (one level) CLEAR clear entry, abort, stop

Abort (master) STEP + CLEAR clears to most recent reading on screen

For your convenience, this Operation Summary is printed on the clipboard provided in the shipping case

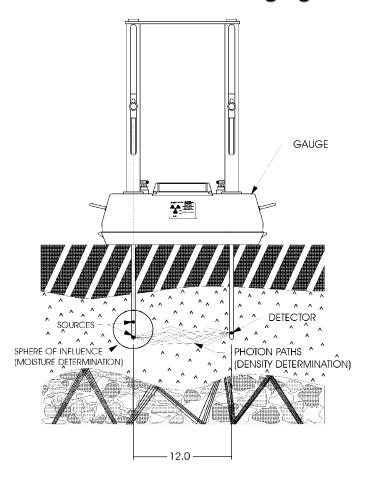
Section 3 - Field Use

Soils / Agregates

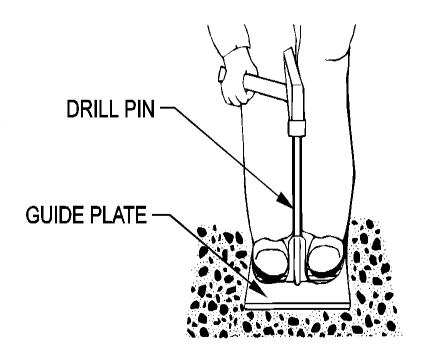
Transmission Measurements

The transmission mode of the **CPN MC-S Strata Gauge** measures density of soils and aggregates to depths of 2 to 24 in (50 to 200 mm).

Density measurements are made with the **CPN MC-S Strata Gauge** set to one of the transmision mode depths. Measurements performed on soils require no special preparation other than preparing a surface that is level and relatively smooth, and drilling a hole for inserting the source rod.



The guideplate can be used to smooth loose soil on an uneven surface. For soft soils, the hole can be drilled with the drill pin and a hammer or mallet, using the guideplate as a template. Extract the pin while standing on the guideplate to ensure undisturbed holes. Do not use the guideplate as a tool to remove the drill pin.



Soils/Aggregates

Transmission Measurements

For hard soils, a Campbell hammer (optional accesory) may be required, as shown in Figure 3-2. The weighted hammer is used to both drive and extract the pin while the operator stands on the guideplate. Drill the holes a minimum of 2 in (50 mm) deeper than the intended depth of measurement.

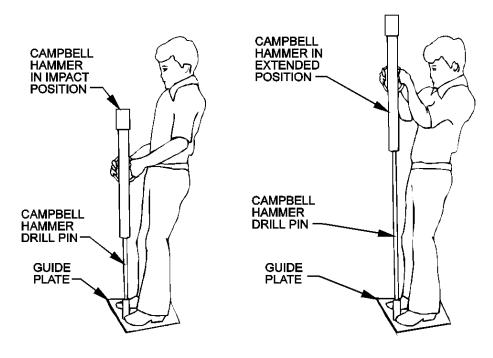


Figure 3-2. Using the Campbell Hammer

After drilling the transmission hole, place the gauge in place and lower the two rods to the desired position. Select the appropriate calibration and press START to begin a test.

Soils/Aggregates

Moisture Measurements

Moisture measurements are taken simultaneously with density measurements by the **CPN MC-S Strata Gauge**. The center of moisture measurement is the depth of source (right) rod setting. The volume of measurement is approximately spherical with a radius of measurement that averages 6 in. (15 cm) in a soil at 15 pcf (0.240 g/cm3) moisture. The **CPN MC-S Strata Gauge** moisture mode measures all hydrogen in the material. In most soils and aggregates this hydrogen is in free water. Serpentine soils, clays, organic matter, and lime-treated soils, which contain bound hydrogen, produce higher moisture readings on the **CPN MC-S Strata Gauge**.

To establish the correct bias in such a soil, use the following procedure, condensed from ASTM D-3017:

- 1. On a compacted soil having a uniform moisture content, determine the total density (Dw) and moisture H₂O) using the **CPN MC-S Strata Gauge**.
- 2. Obtain one or more soil samples (150 to 200 g) from the site of the nuclear gauge test.
- 3. Weigh each sample, oven dry to a constant weight at 110 C, and weigh each dry sample. Compute the average moisture content as follows:

$$\frac{\text{Weight of water x 100}}{\text{Weight of dry soil sample}} = MC, \% \text{ moisture, dry weight basis}$$

4. Determine the actual moisture in pounds per cubic foot follows:

$$M = \frac{MC \times Dw}{MC + 100}$$
 where: M = moisture, pcf
$$MC = moisture \ content, \ \% \ of \ dry \ weight \ (step 3)$$

$$Dw = wet \ density, \ pcf \ (from \ step 1)$$

5. Determine the correction factor to be entered into the M BIAS:

6. This value can be used for all field testing of the same soil type.

Example:

MC-S test results: Dw = 130.0 pcf

$$H2O = 12.5$$
 pcf
Oven dry MC = 9.0%
Then, M = $\frac{9.0 \times 130.0}{9.0 + 100}$ = 10.73 pcf
M BIAS = 10.73 - 12.50 = -1.77 pcf

Over-sized Rock Correction

Often rocky, natural soils are tested for density. The **CPN MC-S Strata Gauge** will measure the total density of the material under test, including rocks. For this reason, a series of random tests on this material will show a greater deviation around the average than on an area of processed uniform material. A number of separate soil volumes can be tested at one prepared site by rotating the gauge 90 or 180 degrees around the transmission hole and recording the average density value. This procedure should be used whenever the material requires a rock correction in the laboratory test of

moisture-density relationships, whenever 10 to 30 percent of the material is retained on the $\frac{3}{4}$ inch sieve.	

Section 4 - Maintenance

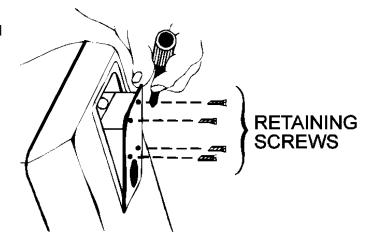
Clean and Lubricate Shutter Mechanism

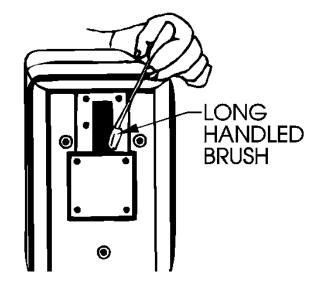
The shutter should be cleaned and lubricated weekly during use, or whenever the source rod becomes dirty and begins to stick.

- 1. Remove the four screws securing shutter plate block assembly.
- 2. Remove shutter assembly.

CAUTION

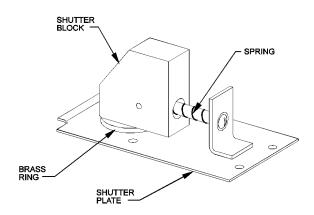
Radioactive source is located in base cavity. Do not touch the source rod tip and do not place yourself in front of the opening after the shutter block is removed.





- Stand behind the gauge and use a long-handled brush or compressed air to clean exposed area inside
 - **CPN MC-S Strata Gauge.**
- 4. Clean entire shutter assembly and spray with the greaseless silicone lubricant provided.
- 5. Allow assembly to dry, then reinstall shutter block and plate.
- 6. Check **CPN MC-S Strata Gauge** handle to ensure it slides freely in guidetube.

Cleaning and lubrication completed.



Handle Assembly Inspection

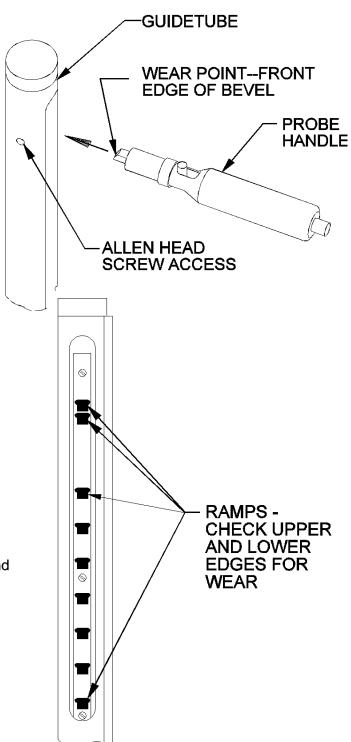
Inspect the handle assembly monthly for wear.

- Loose 5/32 in Allen head hex screw on side of guide tube ONLY until handle is free. Do not remove screw.
- 2. Pull handle away from guide tube.
- 3. Check beveled front edge of handle latch for excessive wear.
- 4. Check notches inside guide tube for excessive wear.

NOTE

If wear on the notches or latch appears to be excessive, contact your Boart Long year/CPN service representative for assistance.

5. Reassemble handle to guide tube assembly and tighten Allen screw.



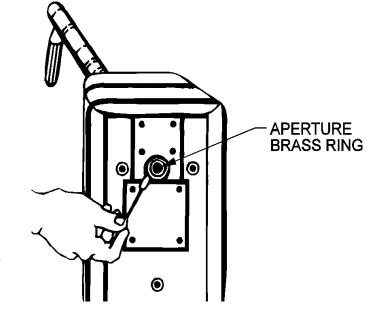
Leak Test

The leak test is required every six months or yearly. Check your Radioactive Materials license for the time interval.

1. Use the CPN TD-11 LTK Leak Test Kit to perform this required test for leakage of the source

material from its capsule. Set handle to

SAFE position.



- 2. Use the cotton swab in the kit to swab around cleanout plate ring on the aperture. This will pick up any removable contamination from either Am -241/Be sealed sources.
- 3. Break swab stick in half and place in plastic envelope. Complete form and staple envelope to it; mail to address on the kit. Within approximately six weeks you will receive notification of results.

Charging Battery Pack

A battery pack of 8 welded AA rechargeable nickel cadmium batteries is located beneath the keyboard/display electronics package.

When "lob" appears in the lower right hand corner of the main screen, the instrument will take approximately 100 more 30-second tests before it will go into cutoff. Test for the presence of the "lob" by pressing the **CLEAR** key. This should be done before going into the field, preferably the evening before to allow time to recharge if necessary.

- 1. Set Strata Gauge handle to SAFE position.
- Connect battery charger power cord to 120 VAC power outlet.
- 3. Connect battery charger to jack on rear panel. Press any key to update the screen.
- 4. Main display screen message "lob" is replaced with "chg", indicating batteries are being charged at C/10 charge rate. Full charge time is 12 to 14 hours.

NOTE

Prolonged overcharging or failure to allow the battery pack to discharge to "lob" condition may cause a loss of battery capacity which will be difficult to recover.

Storage

To protect the **CPN MC-S Strata Gauge**, store it in the shipping case when not in use. The normal 8 year shelf life of the internal memory keep-alive lithium battery will be reduced to 4 years if the NICAD battery is not kept charged or is disconnected. For long term storage, charge the gauge before placing in storage and recharge every 3 months.

Close and latch the lid of the shipping container when not in use to prevent moisture intrusion.

INTENTIONALLY BLANK

Appendix A

Display Messages and Prompts

Message:	Meaning:	Action:
chg	Battery charging at C/10.	None.
lob	Low battery condition 25% charge remaining.	Charge battery.
START new standard CLEAR exit	Message displayed on standard count screen.	Press START to initiate a standard count. Press CLEAR to return to main display.
Put rod in SAFE and press START	Standard count attempted when probe is set to a depth other than SAFE position.	Set the handle to SAFE position and press START .
Press STEP to stop Press CLEAR to abort	Message displayed during a stan dard count.	No action required unless operator wishes to stop the standard count in progress. To stop the count and store the count taken to that point, press STEP. To abort the count, press CLEAR .
Bad depth: Put handle in proper position and press START.	Test attempted when source rod is set to an unprogrammed depth position.	Set rod depth to correct depth position and press START.

Appendix B

Troubleshooting Guide

standard counts Xi value is out of limits.

The **CPN MC-S Strata Gauge** can generally be repaired by isolating the problem and replacing the defective component. Only the tools supplied in the shipping case are needed for component exchange.

Problem	Action
Display remains blank. No beep, no response to keyboard commands.	 Push the reset button on the rear panel. Batteries are discharged below cutoff voltage and require charging. OR
	Batteries are dead and require replacement.
Same condition as above, except batteries are fully charged.	Replace main electronic assembly.
CPN MC-S Strata Gauge operational but no change in density readings. Xi = 0.0 in count mode, wet* displayed.	 Replace density detector assembly.§ Replace wire harness. Replace main electronic assembly.
MC-S operational but no change in moisture readings. $Xi = 0.0$ count mode, H_2O^* displayed.	 Replace moisture detector.§ Replace wire harness. Replace main electronic assembly.
On all counts wet* displayed. On standard counts Xi value is out of limits.	Replace density detector assembly.§
On all counts H ₂ O* displayed. On	Replace moisture detector assembly.§

[§] Involves recalibration. Contact the Boart Longyear/CPN Service Center for further information.

Appendix B

Troubleshooting Guide

Problem

PRINT or DUMP reports fails to operate but screen displays "PRINTING REPORTS" or "DUMPING REPORTS".

PRINT or DUMP reports fails to operate. NO "Printing Reports" or "Dumping Reports" appear on **CPN MC-S Strata Gauge** screen.

Action

- Check for proper baud rate setting in MENU field. Printers are usually 9600 BPS and computers can be 300, 600, 900, 1200, or 9600 BPS.
- Check RS232 serial cable pin connectors. Check pins 2, 3, and 7 on 25-pin connector and handshake pins. If necessary check device manual or call CPN Service Center.

Record Log is empty. Data must be taken.

Appendix C

Data Transfer

Printing Records

To transfer (upload) stored data from the **CPN MC-S Strata Gauge**, you will need a printer or computer with the following characteristics:

Asynchronous RS-232-C data interface (ASCII format) 300- to 9600-bps baud rate (to which the **CPN MC-S Strata Gauge** will be set) 11-bit character length (1 start bit, 7 data bits, 1 space parity bit, 2 stop bits)

Action Result

- Connect RS-232-C cable to printer and CPN MC-S Strata Gauge.
- 2. Press PRINT.

Screen displays printer menu with cursor prompting:

PRINT

Print reports

Dump reports

Baudrate = 9600

Control characters

Print coeffs

STEP & ENTER choice

- 3. Press **STEP** until prompt is at baud rate, then press **ENTER**.
- 4. Press **STEP** until desired baud rate is displayed, then press **ENTER**.
- Press STEP until prompt is on control characters, then press ENTER. Follow prompted instructions on screen to select control characters.

Ready to select baud rate.

Baud rate selected.

Printer control characters set.

Appendix C

Data Transfer

Action

Press STEP to select the printout format.

Result

Either Print reports or Dump reports is selected. Print reports is a formatted output with headings identical to the test screen display. Dump reports is a condensed format with all numerical data separated by commas.

DUMP REPORT FORMAT

101, 1, 10, 16, 13, 44 pcf, Da, 8, 00, 30 134.6,0.44,0.0 14.2,0.25,0.0 120.4,0.69 11.8, Md, 125.5, 96.0 8160,0.95,4738,1.01 ID, TESTS, MONTH, DAY, HOUR, MIN UNITS, DEPTHMODE, DEPTH, ELAPSED MIN, ELAPSED SEC DWET, DWET PREC, DWET BIAS H2O, H2O PREC, H2O BIAS DRY, DRY PREC

WATER%, COMPACTION TEST, MAXIMUM VALUE, % COMPACTION DCOUNT, DXi, MCOUNT, MXi

PRINT REPORT FORMAT

Da8 ET00:30 pcf wet h2o drv Dn 134.6 14.2 120.4 Pr 0.44 0.25 .7 % 11.8 96.0 Md 125.5 Bi 0.0 0.0 R101 -1 1016 1344 Da8 ET00:30 pcf wet 8160 4738 0.95 1.01

ID, TESTS, MONTH/DAY, HOUR/MIN
DEPTHMODE,/DEPTH, ELAPSED TIME
UNITS, WET HEADER H2O HEADER, DRY HEADER
DENSITY ROW, WET DENSITY, H2O DENSITY, DRY DENSITY
PREC ROW, DWET PREC, H2O PREC, DRY PREC
% ROW, WATER %, % COMPACTION
COMPACTION TEST, MAXIMUM VALUE
BIAS ROW, DWET BIAS, H2O BIAS

ID, TESTS, MONTH/DAY, HOUR/MIN DEPTHMODE/DEPTH, ELAPSED TIME UNITS, WET HEADER, H2O HEADER COUNTS ROW, DWET COUNT, H2O COUNT XI ROW, DWET XI, H2O XI

7. Press ENTER.

Printer starts printout and the CPN MC-S Strata Gauge screen displays:

Print Reports

REC: 15 of 200

Line numbers on display will vary according to number of records stored in CPN MC-S Strata Gauge memory and currently being printed.

Printer stops printing and **CPN MC-S Strata Gauge** screen returns to print menu.

8. Press **STEP + CLEAR** to stop upload or to exit from print mode.

Appendix C

Data Transfer

Print Calibration Coefficients

To print calibration coefficients, proceed as follows:

Action	Result
 Set correct baudrate and control characters as above. 	
Press STEP until prompt is at print coefficients option, then press ENTER.	Printer starts printout and screen displays line number currently being printed.
	Upon completion, or by pressing STEP + CLEAR to stop transfer, screen returns to print menu.

Data Transfer

MC-3 Dump Software

This is an optional software supplied by CPN in a 3½ in diskette (P/N 704506) or in a 5¼ in diskette (P/N 704507). Two programs are included in those diskettes MC3DUMP.EXE and LOTUSMC3.EXE and both are intended to be used with all versions of **CPN MC-S Strata Gauge** nuclear gauges.

Both programs perform the same basic function; they establish a link to the **CPN MC-S Strata Gauge** through one of the PC's COM ports, send commands to the gauge to retrieve stored records, and output the data to a file on the PC. The only difference between them is in the format of the file produced.

The **CPN MC-S Strata Gauge** outputs its data in "Print Reports" format or "Dump Reports" format (see the description of these formats in Step 6 of Printing Records), the MC3DUMP program copies the data in either of these formats to the output file. The data as it appears in the output file is unaltered by the MC3DUMP program. The LOTUSMC3 program reads the data from the **CPN MC-S Strata Gauge** in the native "Dump Reports" format, and then modifies the data to a comma and quote delimited ASCII format before outputting it to the file.

If you will be using a spreadsheet or database program such as Lotus 1-2-3, Borland Quattro Pro, Microsoft Excel, dBase, Paradox, or similar application for your reports, it is recommended that you use the LOTUSMC3 program. This program formats the data in the output file MC3LOTUS.PRN to accommodate the File Import feature of most spreadsheet and database applications. When importing the MC3LOTUS.PRN file into the application, it is sometimes necessary to specify to the application program that the data format is ASCII, with fields (columns) delimited by a comma, text delimited by quotes (""), and records (rows) terminated by a carriage return <CR>.

In Lotus 1-2-3, the keystrokes required to import a file are /FIN (mnemonic /File:Import:Numbers). If you use a program other than Lotus 1-2-3, refer to the program documentation to determine the exact procedure for importing a comma and quote delimited ASCII file.

The CPN MC-S Strata Gauge connects to one of the COM ports on your computer via a serial cable fitted with a miniature LEMO connector on one end (for connection to the CPN MC-S Strata Gauge) and a DB-25S (P/N 501516) or an AT-style DB-9S (P/N 500658) on the other end (for connection to your computer). Both MC3DUMP and LOTUSMC3 will work with either COM1 or COM2 on your computer.

NOTE

To use special upload options, contact Boart Longyear/CPN for assistance.

Appendix D

Accesories

Part Number	Description
101050	Campbell Hammer, impact type
702815	Cable, 6 ft (1.8m), battery charger, equipped with cigarette lighter connector
702816	Cable, 6 ft (1.8m), battery charger, equipped with battery clips
700496	Survey Meter (GM detector)
501544	Cable, 6 ft (1.8m), equipped with RS-232-C/DP25P connectors (computer uploading) IBM PC
501516	Cable, 6 ft (1.8m), equipped with RS-232-C/DP25S connectors (computer uploading) Apple, etc.
500658	Cable, 6 ft (1.8m), equipped with RS-232-C/DP9S connectors (computer uploading) IBM, AT, PORTABLES
501575	Cable, 6 ft (1.8m), equipped with unterminated RS-232-C connector
700126	Connector, LEMO, 7-pin
702632	Printer Set (Cable-Asy, Printer-transformer, Batt Pack)
702685	Printer, hand-held, IMP-24, 24 characters per line, battery or line powered
702683	Printer, hand-held, IMP-24, 24 characters per line, battery or line powered (European)
702678	Printer Set (Cable-asy, Printer-transformer, Batt Pack (European))
701439	Battery Pack, IMP-24
702726	Cable, 6 ft (1.8m), equipped with RS-232-C connector (printer uploading)
704507	Prgm, MC3DMP, MSDOS, 5 1/4 in Disk
704506	Prgm, MC3DMP, MSDOS, 31/2 in Disk

Appendix E

Conversion Factors

Multiply	Ву	To Obtain
inches (in)	25.4	millimeters*
millimeters (mm)	0.03937	inches
pounds per cubic foot (pcf)	16.01846	kilograms per cubic meter
kilograms per cubic meter (kg/m³)	0.06243	pounds per cubic foot
pounds per cubic foot (pcf)	0.01601846	grams per cubic centimeter
grams per cubic centimeter (gr/cm³)**	62.428	pounds per cubic foot

^{*} On the source rod depth settings of the **CPN MC-S Strata Gauge** guidetube, 1 inch equals 25.0 millimeters.

^{**} The CPN MC-S Strata Gauge displays grams per cubic centimeter as gcc.

Glossary

ASTM: American Society of Testing and Materials. Publish standard test methods for all materials, including moisture and density determination of soil- aggregates and pavements.

COMPACTION (DENSITY) CONTROL: The testing of soil and aggegate mixtures during field construction to assure that specified compaction levels are obtained relative to laboratory-determined values. The following ASTM standard test methods are used to obtain the maximum values to be entered into the **CPN MC-S Strata Gauge** for relative (%) compaction determinations.

D 1557: Moisture-Density Relations of Soils and Soil-Aggregate Mixtures Using 10lb (4.54 kg) Rammer and 18-in (457 mm) Drop.

DRY DENSITY (Dn Dry): Mass of soil, after drying for 24 hours at 110° C, contained in a unit volume of undried soil, expressed in pcf or g/cm³. Calculated by the **CPN MC-S Strata Gauge** as follows:

Dn wet - Dn H_2O = Dry Density.

DRY DENSITY-MOISTURE CONTENT RELATIONSHIP: The relationship between dry density and moisture content of a soil under a given compactive effort. Commonly known as a Proctor Test after its originator, R.R. Proctor.

MAXIMUM BULK SPECIFIC GRAVITY (Av):

the maximum bulk specific gravity of a material. Determined by laboratory test and programmable into the **CPN MC-S Strata Gauge** for percent air void calculations (%Av).

MAXIMUM DRY DENSTIY (Md): The dry density obtained using a specified amount of compaction at the optimum moisture content. Commonly known as the Proctor value and programmable into the CPN MC-S Strata Gauge.

MAXIMUM WET DENSITY (Mw): The maximum density of a material. Determined by laboratory test and commonly known as Marshall value. Programmable into the CPN MC-S Strata Gauge for relative compaction calculations (%Mw).

MOISTURE CONTENT: (%H2O): The mass of water in a soil expressed as a percent of the dry soil mass. Calculated by the CPN MC-S Strata Gauge as:

Dn H_2O/Dn dry x 100.

OPTIMUM MOISTURE CONTENT (OMC):

The moisture content of a soil at which a specified amount of compaction will produce the maximum dry density, expressed as % moisture.

PERCENT AIR VOIDS (%Av): The volume of air voids in a soil or paving mixture expressed as a percentage of the total volume of the material. Calculated by the CPN MC-S Strata Gauge as:

((Av - Dn wet)/Av) x 100.

RELATIVE or % COMPACTION,
PAVEMENTS (%Mw): The percentage ratio between the total density of an in-place pavement (Dn wet) and its maximum total density (Mw) as determined by a specified laboratory compaction test.

RELATIVE or % COMPACTION, SOILS (%Md or Av): The percentage ratio between the dry density of an in-place soil (Dn dry) and its maximum dry density (Md), determined by a specified laboratory compaction test.

TOTAL MOISTURE (Dn H20): The mass of water in a unit volume of soil, expressed in pcf or g/cm3. A direct measurement of the **CPN MC-S Strata Gauge**.

WET DENSITY (Dn wet): Mass of bulk soil, including solids, water, and air, contained in a unit volume, expressed in pcf or g/cm³. A direct measurement of the **CPN MC-S Strata Gauge**.

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