

# GASGUARD H<sub>2</sub>-EC

Hydrogen Sensor



## OPERATING & INSTALLATION MANUAL

**CALIBRATION  
TECHNOLOGIES  
INC.**

## **Warning**

**Use this product only in the manner described in this manual. If the equipment is used in a manner not specified by Calibration Technologies, the protection provided by the equipment may be impaired.**

**This equipment should be installed by qualified personnel.**

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## General Description

The GasGuard H2 sensor is a +24 VDC, three-wire, 4/20 mA sensor for hydrogen which utilizes proven electrochemical sensor technology for fast and accurate detection. The GasGuard H2 provides real-time continuous monitoring of hydrogen concentrations accurately without false alarms. Two ranges are available: 0-2,000 ppm and 0-10,000 ppm H<sub>2</sub> (0-1% or 0-25%LEL)

The GasGuard H2 provides an industry standard linear 4/20 mA output signal compatible with most gas detection systems and PLCs. The output signal is not affected by drastic temperature and moisture variations, or by other atmospheric variations.

The transmitter circuit board is sealed in potting compound, protecting sensitive electronic components and copper tracing from corrosion. The specially vented chemical-resistant polycarbonate enclosure protects the sensor from accidental damage, weather and direct hose-hits from clean-up crews.

## Installation

### Locating the sensor

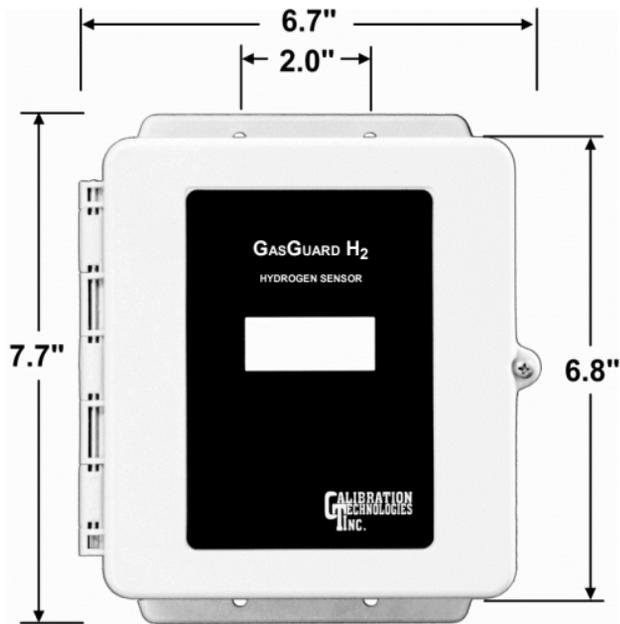
One of the most important considerations when installing GasGuard H2 sensors is that they must be easily accessible for calibration and maintenance.

Since hydrogen gas is lighter than air, the sensor should be located close to the ceiling. This is where hydrogen gas will typically accumulate. This mounting location will usually provide the best personnel and property protection.

As a general rule of thumb, try to mount sensors within 30 feet of potential leak sources.

## Installation Guidelines:

- Remove enclosure lid to access mounting holes.
- Remove and discard protective cell cap
- Always mount the sensor vertically.
- Must be easily accessible for calibration and maintenance.
- Mount the sensor close to the potential leak source.
- For optimum detection, mount sensor close to ceiling (1' – 3' below ceiling level).
- Take air movement and ventilation patterns into account.
- To prevent electrical interference, keep sensor and wire runs away from mercury vapor lights, variable speed drives, and radio repeaters.
- Protect sensor from physical damage (forklifts, etc.).
- If mounting on a wall with studs, the mounting screws should be screwed into the studs.
- Never mount the sensor in CA (controlled atmosphere) rooms because normal atmospheric levels of oxygen are required for operation.
- For highly critical locations more than one sensor should be installed in each room.
- Mount sensor enclosures through the mounting holes as shown in **Figure 1**. Use the supplied self-tapping screws for mounting on sheet metal surfaces.



**Figure 1: Mounting dimensions**

## Wiring

Electrical wiring must comply with all applicable codes.

**Electrical Power:** 24 VDC regulated, 350 mA.

**Output:** Linear 4/20 mA output. Monitoring equipment may have a maximum input impedance of 700 ohms.

**Cable Recommendation:** 20/3 shielded cable (General Cable 2525A or equivalent). Length of cable to sensor should be no greater than 1,500 feet.

**Monitoring:** Monitoring equipment must be configured to indicate a fault if the signal is below 1 mA. All signals over 20 mA must be considered high gas concentrations. Alarm setpoints should not be lower than 10% of full-scale range.

## Wiring Guidelines:

- Always use three conductor, insulated, stranded, shielded copper cable.
- Do not pull sensor wiring with AC power cables. This can cause electrical interference.
- If cable runs cannot be made without a splice, all splice connections should be soldered.
- Ground the shield at the main control panel. Connect the shield wire in the sensor terminal block labeled *SHLD*.
- Always disconnect power at the controller before performing any wiring at the sensor.
- To maintain NEMA/IP rating of the enclosure, conduit fittings of the same rating or better must be used.



Figure 2: Wiring diagram

## Operation

### Start-up

Before applying power, make a final check of all wiring for continuity, shorts, grounds, etc. It is usually best to disconnect external alarms and other equipment from the sensor until the initial start-up procedures are completed.

After power-up, allow at least 1 hour for the system to stabilize before testing the sensors. Because sensors are normally located at a distance from the main unit, the test time required and accuracy of the response checks will be improved if two people perform the start-up procedures and use radio contact.

#### Start-Up Test:

- 1) One person exposes each sensor to hydrogen test gas.
- 2) The second person stays at the control unit to determine that each sensor, when exposed to the gas, is connected to the proper input and responds, causing appropriate alarm functions.

### Calibration

The GasGuard H<sub>2</sub> Sensor comes factory calibrated and should require only minimal adjustments after installation. There are two pots on the preamp that are used for calibration.

**Note: Never measure sensor output in mA. Always use mVDC or VDC voltmeter settings.**

**Zero Calibration:** After the unit is installed and has been powered up for a minimum of 12 hours, the unit can be zero calibrated by the following:

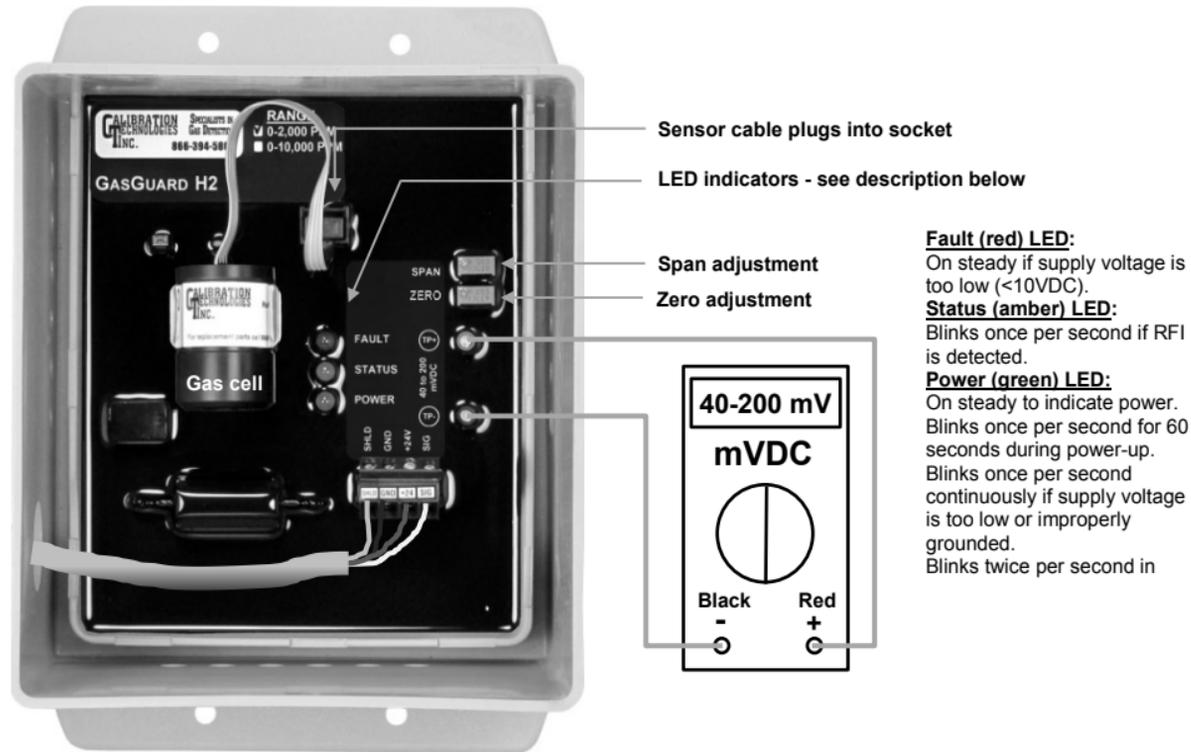
- Be sure the unit is in clean air.
- Adjust the zero pot until the sensor outputs 40 mV from Test [-] to Test [+] (see **Figure 3**).

**Span Calibration:** The unit is factory calibrated and normally does not need to be spanned upon initial installation. DO NOT ADJUST THE SPAN POT WITHOUT CERTIFIED CALIBRATION GAS! If span adjustment is required, the following procedure will span the unit:

- Perform zero adjustment before spanning.
- Apply span gas at 0.8 L/min (span gas must be in air, not nitrogen or other carrier).
- Sensor should react to gas within 10 seconds
- Once the output signal has peaked (or two minutes maximum) adjust the span pot until the correct output is achieved (see **Figure 3**).

Note: Below are a few response characteristics which may be an indication that the gas sensor is at or near the end of its useful life. If any of these are observed, the cell should be replaced:

- Slow response to / recovery from calibration gas.
- Failure of the output to reach 50% of the calibration gas value prior to span adjustment.
- Unable to achieve correct output during span adjustment.



**Figure 3: Sensor board components and zero/span adjustments**

## Maintenance

The GasGuard H<sub>2</sub> was designed for long life and minimal maintenance. For proper operation it is essential that the test and calibration schedule be adhered to. Calibration Technologies recommends the following maintenance schedule

### Maintenance Guidelines:

- The sensor is shipped with a factory calibration. Sensor should be calibrated 6 months from purchase date.
- Calibrate the detector at least once every 6 months.
- Calibration should be performed with certified calibration gas. Calibration kits and replacement cylinders are available from Calibration Technologies.
- In highly critical areas, a response test should be performed between calibrations to verify proper sensor response and alarm functions. This can be done with calibration gas. The response test is not required if multiple electrochemical sensors are installed in the same room.
- All tests and calibrations must be logged.
- Always disconnect power at the controller before performing any wiring at the sensor.

**Sensor Life:** These electrochemical cells are extremely reliable, but several things can cause the cell chemicals to become depleted including:

- a period of time
- exposure to high temperatures
- continuous, long term exposure to hydrogen

When the cell becomes depleted, the unit will give no indication of failure other than that the sensor will not respond. For this reason it is **absolutely essential that these sensors be calibrated on a regular basis.**

When the cell becomes depleted, a replacement cell can be obtained from Calibration Technologies. Simply unplug the cell's ribbon cable from the transmitter, pull the old cell from the spring clip, discard the old cell and replace it with a new one. The sensor can be span calibrated after a 5 minute warm-up period, but best to wait 12 hours before zeroing due to acclimation.

## Specifications

**Input Power:** +24 VDC, 350 mA

**Detection Principle:** Electrochemical

**Detection Method:** Diffusion

**Gases:**

Hydrogen (H<sub>2</sub>)

**Ranges:**

0-2,000 ppm

0/25%LEL (1% Vol.) (10,000 ppm)

**Output Signal:**

Linear 4/20 mA (max input impedance: 700 Ohms)

**Response Time:**

T<sub>50</sub> = less than 10 seconds

T<sub>90</sub> = less than 30 seconds

**Accuracy:**

+/- 5% of value, but dependent on calibration gas accuracy and time since last calibration

**Zero Drift:** Less than 0.1% of full-scale per month, non-cumulative

**Span Drift:** Application dependent, but generally less than 3% per month

**Linearity:** +/- 0.5% of full-scale

**Repeatability:** +/- 1% of full-scale

**Wiring Connections:** 3-conductor, shielded, stranded, ≥ 20 AWG cable (General Cable C2525A or equivalent) up to 1500 ft.

**Terminal Block Plug (Field Wiring):** 26-12 AWG, torque 4.5 lbs-in.

**Power (green) LED:** Blinks once per second for 60 seconds during power-up. If supply voltage is too low (<10VDC) or improperly grounded, will blink once per second continuously. Stays on steady to indicate power. Blinks twice per second in calibration mode (10 minute timeout delay).

**Status (amber) LED:** Blinks once per second if RFI (radio frequency interference) is detected.

**Fault (red) LED:** Stays on steady if supply voltage is too low (<10VDC).

**Enclosure:** Injection-molded, NEMA 12 Washdown-Duty, polycarbonate sensor housing with hinged lid and captive screw. For non-classified areas. Optional 18 GA, NEMA 3RX Washdown-Duty stainless steel enclosure with hinged lid and captive screw. For non-classified areas.

**Temperature Range:**

-20°F to +120°F (-29°C to +49°C)

**Humidity Range:** 5% to 100% condensing

**Dimensions:** 7.7" high x 6.7" wide x 3.8" deep

**Weight:** 3 lbs

**Certification:**

ETL Listed: Conforms to UL 61010-1

Certified to CSA C22.2 No. 61010-1

## **Limited Warranty & Limitation of Liability**

Calibration Technologies, Inc. (CTI) warrants this product to be free from defects in material and workmanship under normal use and service for a period of two years (including gas sensor), beginning on the date of shipment to the buyer. This warranty extends only to the sale of new and unused products to the original buyer. CTI's warranty obligation is limited, at CTI's option, to refund of the purchase price, repair, or replacement of a defective product that is returned to a CTI authorized service center within the warranty period. In no event shall CTI's liability hereunder exceed the purchase price actually paid by the buyer for the Product.

This warranty does not include:

- a) routine replacement of parts due to the normal wear and tear of the product arising from use;
- b) any product which in CTI's opinion, has been misused, altered, neglected or damaged by accident or abnormal conditions of operation, handling or use;
- c) any damage or defects attributable to repair of the product by any person other than an authorized dealer or contractor, or the installation of unapproved parts on the product

The obligations set forth in this warranty are conditional on:

- a) proper storage, installation, calibration, use, maintenance and compliance with the product manual instructions and any other applicable recommendations of CTI;
- b) the buyer promptly notifying CTI of any defect and, if required, promptly making the product available for correction. No goods shall be returned to CTI until receipt by the buyer of shipping instructions from CTI; and
- c) the right of CTI to require that the buyer provide proof of purchase such as the original invoice, bill of sale or packing slip to establish that the product is within the warranty period.

THE BUYER AGREES THAT THIS WARRANTY IS THE BUYER'S SOLE AND EXCLUSIVE REMEDY AND IS IN LIEU OF ALL OTHER WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO ANY IMPLIED WARRANTY OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. CTI SHALL NOT BE LIABLE FOR ANY SPECIAL, INDIRECT, INCIDENTAL OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES OR LOSSES, INCLUDING LOSS OF DATA, WHETHER ARISING FROM BREACH OF WARRANTY OR BASED ON CONTRACT, TORT OR RELIANCE OR ANY OTHER THEORY.



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