

HOBIT Technical Safety Bulletin No. 4

SUBJECT: Removing Oxygen Sample Flow Indicator

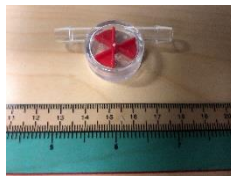
Issue Date: 12/11/18



NOTICE:

Immediately remove small flow indicator connected to the Magellan Ventilator FiO₂ sample line. Please refer to larger photo (Fig. 1) at the end of this bulletin.

CONCERN:



POTENTIAL FOR FIRE.

Normally this indicator is run at a low lpm flow of around 2-10 lpm. However, if the adjusting valve supplying this indicator is turned on too quickly, this can create a sudden excessive flow of oxygen traveling through the indicator and spinning the indicator at a very high RPM. This high RPM can create heat in the area of the metal shaft which is in contact with the plastic housing and can actually melt the plastic.

In the presence of high oxygen levels, with increased heat, this becomes a serious fire hazard that could potentially ignite into a fire and travel through the plastic housing and connecting tubing.

ACTIONS TO TAKE IMMEDIATELY:

REMOVE THIS PLASTIC FLOW INDICATOR AND RECONNECT THE SAMPLE LINE TO THE OXYGEN ANALYZER.

DISCUSSION:

This flow indicator was originally placed in the sample line to visualize the flow rate and help throttle down the flow rate to a minimal level (2-10 lpm) flowing to the oxygen analyzer. Adjusting to a low gas flow rate was done to conserve the limited gas volume being supplied by the Magellan ventilator manifold system. Please now adjust to a low flow rate by listening to the flow “noise” going through the sensor. You may need to get close to the sensor to hear, if the room has other loud noises.

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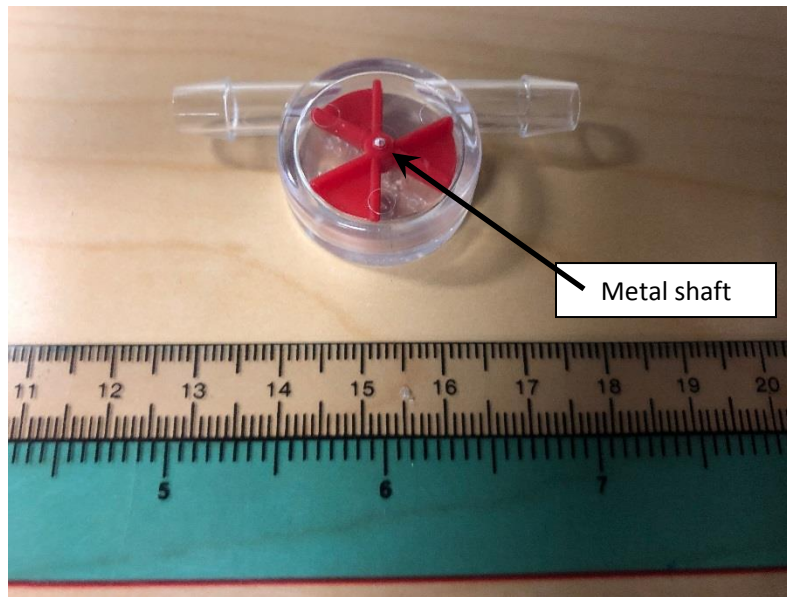


FIGURE 1 SAMPLE LINE FLOW INDICATOR

Please contact me with any concerns or questions.

Thank you,

Bill Gossett CHT, RRT

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