



Model 9302 Atomizer

Instruction Manual

Manual History

The following is a manual history of the Model 9302 Atomizer manual (part number 1990142).

Revision	Date
A	1988
B	May 1989
C	January 1994
D	May 1996
E	August 1999
F	September 2000

- Revision A, editorial changes made
- Revision B, editorial changes made
- Revision C, customer service number changed
- Revision D, warranty page updated
- Revision E, editorial changes made and manual reformatted
- Revision F, TSI's Limitation of Warranty and Liability was updated.

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(effective July 2000)

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Contents

Manual History	ii
Warranty	iii
About This Manual	vii
Purpose	vii
Reusing and Recycling	vii
Getting Help	vii
Submitting Comments	viii

Sections

Description	1
Operation	1
Generating Water Droplets	2
Generating Salt or Sugar Particles	2
Dispersing Polystyrene Latex Particles	3
Generating Oil Droplets.....	3
Adjusting the Dilution Air	3
Maintenance and Troubleshooting	4

About This Manual

Purpose

This manual describes how to use TSI's Model 9302 Atomizer.

Reusing and Recycling



As part of TSI Incorporated's effort to have a minimal negative impact on the communities in which its products are manufactured and used:

- This manual has been printed on recycled or recyclable paper.
- This manual has been shipped, along with the instrument, in a reusable carton.

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To obtain assistance with this product, or simply to submit suggestions, please contact Laser Diagnostics Division:

TSI Incorporated
P.O. Box 64394
St. Paul, MN 55164 USA
Fax: (651) 490-3824
Telephone: 1-800-874-2811 (USA) or (651) 490-2811
E-mail Address: fluid@tsi.com

Submitting Comments

TSI values your comments and suggestions on this manual. Please use the comment sheet, on the last page of this manual, to send us your opinion on the manual's usability, to suggest specific improvements, or to report any technical errors.

If the comment sheet has already been used, mail or fax your comments on another sheet of paper to:

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MODEL 9302

Atomizer

Description

The Model 9302 Atomizer is an aerosol generator specifically designed to align and check out laser velocimeters (LV). A supply of laboratory compressed air is connected directly to the input of its built-in pressure regulator; the pressure gauge shows the air pressure at the output side of the pressure regulator.

In this aerosol generator, the compressed air expands through a small orifice (0.5 millimeter in diameter) in the form of a high-velocity jet located in the jet-nozzle assembly. The jet creates an area of low pressure near the orifice which, in turn, causes the liquid in the reservoir to be sucked up into the orifice. The liquid is then broken into tiny liquid droplets and the compressed air carries the droplets through the outlet tube.

To perform laser velocimeter checkout, direct the atomizer's output tube at the point of beam-crossing. Adjust the height of the output tube by loosening the hex nut and shifting the tube up or down. The Atomizer is designed primarily for LV system checkout and should not be used to feed aerosols into a system under pressure.

Operation

Connect the ¼-inch-diameter (6.35 mm) compressed air hose to your laboratory air supply. Fill the reservoir half-full with the selected liquid. Set the pressure regulator to 25 pounds per square inch (172 kPa). The aerosol output rate is a function of the pressure setting and the atomizer can be operated at any pressure between 5 and 55 pounds per square inch (34 and 379 kPa, respectively). The table below shows the relationship between pressure, as indicated by the pressure gauge, and output rate. Note that the atomizer outlet is open to the atmosphere.

Relationship Between Input Pressure and Aerosol Output Rate

Pressure		Aerosol Output
Psi	kPa	L/min
5	34.5	2.4
10	68.9	3.7
15	103	4.7
20	138	5.7
25	172	6.6
35	241	8.3
45	310	10.2
55	379	12.0

The Atomizer may be used to generate aerosols from different materials. Four common applications are described in the following sections.

Generating Water Droplets

The easiest way to use the Atomizer for laser velocimeter alignment is to fill the liquid reservoir with tap water.

Note: *It is normal for some water to drip from the outlet tube; simply collect it.*

The diameter of the water droplet at the outlet depends on the pressure setting—droplet diameter decreases with increased pressure. A setting of 25 pounds per square inch (172 kPa) will yield a number mean diameter of approximately 1.5 micrometers.

Generating Salt or Sugar Particles

The Atomizer generates solid particles from water-soluble materials such as salt or sugar. Fill the Atomizer's reservoir with an aqueous solution of the desired material. The atomizer will then generate droplets of that solution. Smaller diameter particles of the solute will result if sufficient time is allowed to evaporate the water from the droplets. The resultant particle size depends on the concentration of the solute in the solution.

Dispersing Polystyrene Latex Particles

A common method of generating monodisperse aerosols is to atomize a hydrosol that contains monodisperse particles.* For this application, add a drop of monodisperse particles to one liter of distilled water in the reservoir. Such a large dilution is necessary to ensure that each droplet contains only one polystyrene latex particle. The Atomizer output must be mixed with a large volume of dry air. When all the water from these droplets is evaporated, polystyrene latex particles of the original diameter are obtained.

Generating Oil Droplets

The Atomizer can also generate particles from silicon oil, dioctyl phthalate and various vegetable oils such as corn and peanut oil.



C a u t i o n

The mist of any oil, even that of edible oil, is unhealthy; exhaust it into free air outside the laboratory. The atomizer is not recommended for atomizing suspensions of solid particles such as aluminum oxide, titanium oxide, and silica; they will damage the jet-nozzle assembly.

To generate these particles, fill the Atomizer's reservoir with the selected oil. The diameter of the droplets depends on the setting of the pressure regulator. For a setting of 25 pounds per square inch (172 kPa), the number mean diameter of the particles will be approximately 0.8 micrometer.

Adjusting the Dilution Air

A design change has been made to the Model 9302 Atomizer. Previously, the entire airflow through the Atomizer passed through an orifice nozzle and generated particles. Thus, the full pressure drop was across the nozzle. A rough-adjustment screw has now been added to allow some of the pressure to bleed off as dilution air. (This is useful if the seeding concentration is too high.) Now, a portion of the pressure drop is across the nozzle and the rest of the pressure drop is across an orifice that supplies dilution air to the

*A wide size range of monodisperse particles is available from Dow Chemical, 1-800-258-2436.

flow and decreases the concentration of particles out of the larger exit nozzle.

The rough adjustment screw is factory-set to provide no dilution air. To change this setting, follow these steps:

- 1.** Remove the plastic reservoir bowl from the bottom of the Atomizer.
- 2.** Located along the outside diameter of the black aluminum cylinder (attached to the plastic cap) is a no. 10-32 setscrew. Turn it counterclockwise to open the orifice for dilution. Since slight rotation increases the dilution air substantially, withdraw the setscrew slowly. Several adjustments may be necessary before you achieve the correct particle density.

Again, this adjustment is useful only if you want to decrease the particle concentration at the exit of the nozzle. This feature may be useful if you are looking at signals from the flow produced by the Atomizer.

- 3.** To shut off the dilution air flow, turn the setscrew clockwise and tighten firmly.

Maintenance and Troubleshooting

Generally, the Atomizer requires little maintenance. However, should a piece of dirt become trapped in the parts of the jet-nozzle assembly, compressed air may bubble through the assembly's long plastic tube. To correct this minor problem, simply dismantle the assembly and carefully clean each part.

Reader's Comments

Please help us improve our manuals by completing and returning this questionnaire to the address listed in the "About This Manual" section. Feel free to attach a separate sheet of comments.

Manual Title Model 9302 Atomizer

P/N 1990142

Rev. F

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