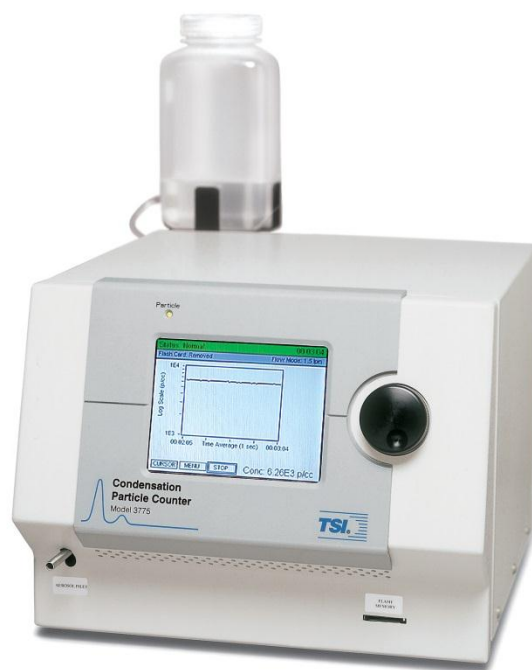


# CONDENSATION PARTICLE COUNTER MODEL 3775

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OPERATION AND SERVICE MANUAL

P/N 1980527, REVISION K  
APRIL 2014



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# CONDENSATION PARTICLE COUNTER MODEL 3775

OPERATION AND SERVICE MANUAL

- 1 Product Overview
  - 2 Unpacking and Setting Up the CPC
  - 3 Instrument Description
  - 4 Instrument Operation
  - 5 Technical Description
  - 6 Particle Counting
  - 7 Computer Interface and Commands
  - 8 Maintenance and Service
- Appendixes

# Manual History

The following is a history of the Model 3775 Condensation Particle Counter Operation and Service Manual (Part Number 1980527).

<b>Revision</b>	<b>Date</b>
A	November 2005
B	January 2006
C	April 2006
D	April 2007
E	September 2007
F	December 2009
G	February 2010
H	July 2011
J	October 2013
K	April 2014

# Warranty

**Part Number**

1980527 / Revision K / April 2014

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(effective June 2011)

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# Safety

This section provides instructions to ensure safe and proper operation and handling of the Model 3775 Condensation Particle Counter (CPC).

There are no user-serviceable parts inside the instrument. Refer all repair and maintenance to a qualified technician. All maintenance and repair information in this manual is included for use by a qualified technician.

---

## Laser Safety

The Model 3775 CPC is a Class I laser-based instrument. During normal operation, you will not be exposed to laser radiation. However, you must take certain precautions or you may expose yourself to hazardous radiation in the form of intense, focused visible light. Exposure to this light can cause blindness.

Take these precautions:

- Do *not* remove any parts from the CPC unless you are specifically told to do so in this manual.
- Do *not* remove the CPC housings or covers while power is supplied to the instrument



### W A R N I N G

The use of controls, adjustments, or procedures other than those specified in this manual may result in exposure to hazardous optical radiation.

---

## Chemical Safety

The Model 3775 CPC uses n-butyl alcohol (butanol) as a working fluid. Butanol is flammable. Butanol is also toxic if inhaled. Refer to a Material Safety Data Sheet for butanol and take these precautions:

- ❑ Use butanol only in a well-ventilated area. Under normal operating conditions butanol is exhausted into the air at approximately 0.01 g per minute.
- ❑ Butanol vapor is identified by its characteristically strong odor and can easily be detected. If you smell butanol and develop a headache, or feel faint or nauseous, leave the area at once. Ventilate the area before returning.



### C a u t i o n

Butanol is flammable. Butanol is also potentially toxic if inhaled. Use butanol only in a well-ventilated area. If you smell butanol and develop a headache, or feel faint or nauseous, leave the area at once. Ventilate the area before returning.



### W A R N I N G

Although the CPC is appropriate for monitoring inert process gases such as nitrogen or argon, it should not be used with hazardous gases such as hydrogen or oxygen. Using the CPC with hazardous gases may cause injury to personnel and damage to equipment.

---

## Description of Safety Labels

This section acquaints you with the advisory and identification labels on the instrument and used in this manual to reinforce the safety features built into the design of the instrument.

### Caution



### C a u t i o n

**Caution** means *be careful*. It means if you do not follow the procedures prescribed in this manual you may do something that might result in equipment damage, or you might have to take something apart and start over again. It also indicates that important information about the operation and maintenance of this instrument is included.



## Warning



### WARNING

**Warning** means that unsafe use of the instrument could result in serious injury to you or cause irrevocable damage to the instrument. Follow the procedures prescribed in this manual to use the instrument safely.

## Caution or Warning Symbols





The following symbols may accompany cautions and warnings to indicate the nature and consequences of hazards:

	Warns you that uninsulated voltage within the instrument may have sufficient magnitude to cause electric shock. Therefore, it is dangerous to make any contact with any part inside the instrument.
	Warns you that the instrument contains a laser and that important information about its safe operation and maintenance is included. Therefore, you should read the manual carefully to avoid any exposure to hazardous laser radiation.
	Warns you that the instrument is susceptible to electro-static dissipation (ESD) and ESD protection procedures should be followed to avoid damage.
	Indicates the connector is connected to earth ground and cabinet ground.

## Labels

Advisory labels and identification labels are attached to the outside of the CPC housing and to the optics on the inside of the instrument. Labels for the Model 3775 CPC are described below:

1. Serial Number Label (back panel)	
2. Laser Radiation Label (located internally on the optics housing)	

3. Electrical shock caution	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>CAUTION</b></p> <p>To avoid electrical shock, the power cord protective grounding conductor must be connected to earth ground.</p> </div>
4. Laser device compliance label	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Class I Laser Product</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">This product is in complete compliance with 21 CFR 1040.10 and 1040.11</p> </div>
5. Caution	
6. WEEE Directive Label (Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment). <i>(Item must be recycled properly.)</i>	
7. French language electrical safety and laser compliance labels	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>IMPORTANT</b></p> <p>Pour éviter l'électrocution, le connecteur du câble de masse doit être relié à une prise de terre.</p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Laser de Classe I</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Ce produit répond aux normes 21 CFR 1040.10 et 1040.11</p> </div>
8. ETL Label for safety certification.	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px;"> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <p style="font-size: small;">ETL LISTED <b>SAFETY REQUIREMENTS FOR ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT FOR MEASUREMENT, CONTROL, AND LABORATORY USE, PART 1: GENERAL REQUIREMENTS</b> 2003359 <b>CERTIFIED TO CAN/CSA C22.2 NO. 1010.1</b></p> </div> </div>
9. TSI Service Label	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px;"> <p style="text-align: center;">For Service and Information Contact TSI Customer Service <a href="http://www.tsi.com">www.tsi.com</a></p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center; margin-top: 10px;">  <p style="font-size: small; text-align: right;">500 Cardigan Road Shoreview, MN 55126 U.S.A.</p> </div> </div>

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# About This Manual

---

## Purpose

This is an operation and service manual for the Model 3775 Condensation Particle Counter (CPC).

---

## Organization

The following is a guide to the organization of this manual:

- ❑ **Chapter 1: Product Overview**  
This chapter gives an introduction to the Model 3775 Condensation Particle Counter, a list of features, and a brief description of how the instrument works.
- ❑ **Chapter 2: Unpacking and Setting Up the CPC**  
This chapter gives a packing list and the step-by-step procedure for getting the CPC ready to operate.
- ❑ **Chapter 3: Instrument Description**  
This chapter describes features and controls that run the CPC, including the components on the front-panel, back-panel, side-panel, and inside the instrument. It also covers the basic functions of the instrument.
- ❑ **Chapter 4: Instrument Operation**  
This chapter describes the operation of the instrument.
- ❑ **Chapter 5: Technical Description**  
This chapter details the principle of operation, theory, and performance of the condensation nucleus counter.
- ❑ **Chapter 6: Particle Counting**  
This chapter describes the particle counting modes.
- ❑ **Chapter 7: Computer Interface and Commands**  
This chapter describes the computer interface hardware, associated firmware commands, and flash memory card.
- ❑ **Chapter 8: Maintenance and Service**  
This chapter describes the recommended practices and schedule for routine cleaning, checking, and calibration.
- ❑ **Appendix A: Specifications**  
This appendix lists the specifications of the Model 3775 Condensation Particle Counter.
- ❑ **Appendix B: Firmware Commands**  
This appendix lists all the serial commands for communications between the CPC and the computer.

❑ **Appendix C: References**

This appendix lists all of the references that have been used within the text of the manual. In addition, a general list of references pertaining to condensation nucleus counters is included.

---

## Related Product Literature

- ❑ **Model 3007 Condensation Particle Counter Operation and Service Manual** (part number 1930035) TSI Incorporated
- ❑ **Model 3772/3771 Condensation Particle Counter Operation and Service Manual** (part number 1980529) TSI Incorporated
- ❑ **Model 3776 Ultrafine Condensation Particle Counter Operation and Service Manual** (part number 1980522) TSI Incorporated
- ❑ **Model 3783 EPC Environmental Particle Counter™ Monitor Operation and Service Manual** (part number 6003653) TSI Incorporated
- ❑ **Model 3785 Water-based Condensation Particle Counter Operation and Service Manual** (part number 1933001) TSI Incorporated
- ❑ **Model 3786 Ultrafine Water-based Condensation Particle Counter Operation and Service Manual** (part number 1930072) TSI Incorporated
- ❑ **Model 3787 General Purpose Water-based Condensation Particle Counter Operation and Service Manual** (part number 6003712) TSI Incorporated
- ❑ **Model 3788 Nano Water-based Condensation Particle Counter Operation and Service Manual** (part number 6003713) TSI Incorporated
- ❑ **Aerosol Instrument Manager® Software for CPC and EAD Instruction Manual** (part number 1930062) TSI Incorporated  
This manual contains operating instructions for Aerosol Instrument Manager Software for CPC and EAD, a software program that monitors, calculates, and displays particle concentration data collected by a CPC or an EAD.

---

# 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, please mail your comments on another sheet of paper to:

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Particle Instruments  
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# CHAPTER 1

## Product Overview

This chapter contains an introduction to the Model 3775 Condensation Particle Counter (CPC) and provides a brief explanation of how the instrument operates.

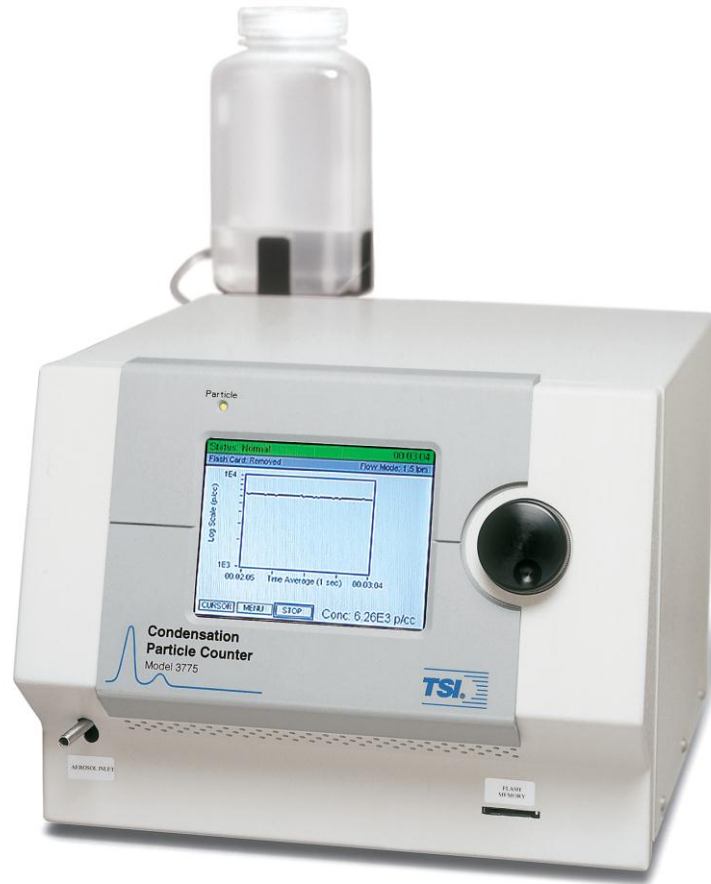
---

### Product Description

The Model 3775 Condensation Particle Counter (CPC) is a general-purpose counter that can detect airborne particles down to 4 nanometers in diameter. It provides highly accurate measurements over a wide concentration range from 0 to  $10^7$  particles per cubic centimeter. As a result, this CPC is quite versatile and well suited for a broad range of applications, including, but not limited to: basic aerosol research, filter and air-cleaner testing, combustion and engine exhaust research, health effects studies, inhalation and exposure studies, atmospheric and climate studies, and nanotechnology research. Additionally, it can be used as part of a TSI Scanning Mobility Particle Sizer™ (SMPS™) spectrometer to measure particle size distribution.

The successor to the Model 3022A CPC, the Model 3775 CPC offers many new features and improvements:

- Detects particles down to 4 nanometers
- Faster response to rapid changes in aerosol concentration ( $T_{95} \approx 4$  seconds)
- Extended single particle counting up to 50,000 particles/cm<sup>3</sup> with continuous, live-time coincidence correction for maximum accuracy
- Smooth transition to photometric mode that goes up to  $10^7$  particles/cm<sup>3</sup>
- Butanol friendly features, including anti-spill design, water-removal system, butanol odor absorber, and improved resistance to optics flooding
- Built-in data logging and storage capability with removable memory card
- Removable saturator wick for easy transport and maintenance
- USB and Ethernet available
- Built-in SMPS™ spectrometer compatibility
- Auto recovery from power failure
- Particle concentration, plots of concentration versus time, total counts, instrument status, and user settings shown on front-panel color LCD display



**Figure 1-1**  
Model 3775 Condensation Particle Counter

---

## How it Works

In the Model 3775 Condensation Particle Counter (CPC), an aerosol sample is drawn continuously through a heated saturator where butanol is vaporized and diffuses into the aerosol sample stream. Together, the aerosol sample and butanol vapor pass into a cooled condenser where the butanol vapor becomes supersaturated and ready to condense. Particles present in the sample stream serve as condensation nuclei. Once condensation begins, particles quickly grow into larger droplets and pass through an optical detector where they are counted easily. At low concentrations, the optical detector counts individual pulses produced as each particle (droplet) passes through the sensing zone. For very high particle concentrations, the Model 3775 transitions from the single count mode to a photometric mode where the total light scattered from the particles is used to determine concentration based on calibration.

The aerosol sample is drawn into the CPC inlet by an internal vacuum pump. The inlet flow can be configured for either a 1.5 liters per minute (L/min) high-flow mode operation to improve response time and minimize particle transport loss, or a 0.3 L/min low-flow mode operation, used as part of an SMPS system. In high-flow mode, 1.2 L/min of the inlet flow is diverted as a bypass flow. In the low-flow mode, 1.2 L/min clean air enters as makeup air through the back panel of the instrument. In both high- and low-flow modes, 0.3 L/min aerosol flow passes through “sensor” assembly, comprised of the saturator, condenser, and optics. Instrument flows are controlled by a variable orifice and an orifice operated at a critical pressure.

The Model 3775 CPC uses a laser-diode light source and diode photodetector to collect scattered light from particles. An internal microprocessor is used for instrument control and data processing.

A high resolution color LCD display presents real-time graphs of number concentration, enables easy-to-use menus for control operation functions and presents diagnostic information and instrument status. A variety of communication options for computer data acquisition and on-board data storage are available using a removable flash memory card.

The instrument offers a critical flow pump for high accuracy volumetric flows. It can also be used with an external vacuum pump with the necessary internal plumbing modifications.

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## CHAPTER 2

# Unpacking and Setting up the CPC

Use the information in this chapter to unpack the Model 3775 Condensation Particle Counter (CPC) and set it up.

---

## Packing List

Table 2-1 shows the components shipped with the Model 3775 CPC.

**Table 2-1**  
Model 3775 Condensation Particle Counter Packing List

Qty.	Description	Model/ Part Number
1	Model 3775 and Operation Manual	1980527
1	Power Cable	(based on ship location)
1	Aerosol Instrument Manager® Software	390065
1	Fill Bottle	1035590
1	Drain Bottle	1035591
1	Bottle Bracket	1503475
1	RS-232 Cable (9-pin M/F, 12 ft)	962002
1	USB I/O Cable A/B 6 ft	1303740
1	SanDisk ImageMate 5-in-1 Card Reader	1500208
1	Data Memory Card	1500108
1	Saturator Wick for CPC 3775	1500057
1	Orifice, Critical Flow ( $\frac{1}{8}$ "NPT x $\frac{1}{8}$ " barb)	1500221
1	Fitting (NY RSTR VR 0-.025 $\frac{1}{8}$ " barb)	1602171
3	Insulation Plug .50 dia x .50 thk	1500213
3	Insulation Plug .75 dia x .50 thk	1500214
1	Filter, Charcoal	1500101
1	SS Elbow Fitting for Mounting Charcoal Filter	1601012
2	Micro Pump Filter (Filter Inline, 25 micron)	1500192
3	Fill/Drain (Filter Inline, 73 micron)	1602088
1 each	Bypass Air/Makeup Air/Exhaust Filter	N/A
1	O-Ring for Reservoir Cover (FSI Ring 1-030)	2501875
1	Checkout Data Sheet	N/A
1	Certificate of Conformance	N/A

**Note:** Some items in the list above and those for future maintenance are available for purchase as kits from TSI. A complete list of replacement part kits is included in the maintenance section in [Chapter 8](#).

---

# Unpacking

The Model 3775 CPC comes fully assembled with protective coverings on the inlet sample port, exit ports, and analog connectors. The CPC comes packaged with the accessory kit. Use the packing list (Table 2-1) to make certain that there are no missing components.

The CPC box contains special foam cutouts designed to protect the instrument during shipment. Save the original packaging materials for future use should you need to return the instrument to TSI for service.

To avoid contaminating the instrument or the environment the CPC is monitoring, do *not* remove the protective covers until you are ready to install the instrument.

If anything is missing or appears to be damaged, contact your TSI representative or contact TSI Customer Service at 1-800-874-2811 (USA) or (651) 490-2811. Chapter 8, "[Maintenance and Service](#)," gives instructions for returning the CPC to TSI Incorporated.

---

# Setting Up

This section contains instructions for setting up the Model 3775 CPC. Follow the instructions in the order given.

## Remove Protective Caps

Remove all protective caps from the inlet sample port and exit flow ports at the back of the instrument. Also remove covers from the BNC connectors.

## Mounting the Bracket and Fill Bottle

Mount the black anodized aluminum Bottle Bracket to the back panel using two 8-32  $\times$   $\frac{3}{8}$ -inch screws and two no. 8 lock-washers found in the mounting hole locations. Refer to the location of the bottle bracket shown in Figure 2-1.



**Figure 2-1**  
View of Fill Bottle Bracket Mounting

Find the Fill Bottle in the accessory kit. Connect the bottle tube fitting to the Butanol Fill port at the back panel of the instrument. Position the bottle with the fitting oriented for minimal stress on the tubing connector on the back panel and place the bottle in the bracket. Both mated fittings are leak-tight when disconnected.

## Filling the Fill Bottle with Butanol

The CPC uses reagent-grade n-butyl alcohol (butanol) as the working fluid for particle growth. Pour the butanol into the Fill Bottle to at least one-third full. Because of the leak-tight fittings and internal solenoid valve, liquid will not flow into the CPC until the connections are made, the instrument is switched on, and the warm-up cycle is complete.

**Note:** Due to shipping regulations on flammable materials, n-butyl alcohol (butanol) is not supplied with the CPC. Butanol may be purchased from scientific chemical supply houses. Reagent grade butanol is required.

## Connecting the Butanol Drain Bottle

A drain bottle should be connected to the Liquid Drain port at the back panel of the CPC. The drain bottle collects butanol drained from the CPC prior to transport and holds condensed water and butanol removed from the condenser when the water removal system is turned on (see note below). Draining butanol is described in Chapter 8 "[Maintenance and Service](#)".

**Note:** *The water removal system will not work without a drain bottle connected to the drain port. Refer to [Chapter 4](#) for more details on water removal system.*



### Caution

Butanol is flammable. Butanol is also potentially toxic if inhaled. Use butanol only in a well-ventilated area. If you smell butanol and develop a headache, or feel faint or nauseous, leave the area at once. Ventilate the area before returning.

## Apply Power to the CPC

Plug the power cord into the receptacle on the back panel of the CPC and then plug it into the AC power source. The instrument uses a universal power supply that accepts a variety of input voltages identified below.

Power 100 – 240 VAC, 50/60 Hz, 335 W maximum

**Note:** *Make certain the power cord is plugged into a grounded power outlet. Position the CPC so the power connector is easily accessible.*

Apply power to the CPC by turning on the switch next to the power cord on the back panel.

The instrument begins a warm-up sequence. After warm-up, the fluid begins to fill the internal butanol reservoir in the saturator.

## Positioning the CPC

Place the CPC on a level surface. Ensure the cooling fan on the back panel of the CPC is exposed to ambient air.

**Note:** *If the CPC has n-butyl alcohol (butanol) in the reservoir, be very careful when moving the CPC. See "[Moving and Shipping the CPC](#)" section for details.*

## CHAPTER 3

# Instrument Description

Use the information in this chapter to become familiar with the location and function of controls, indicator, and connectors on the Model 3775 Condensation Particle Counter (CPC).

---

## Front Panel

The main components of the front panel include the color LCD display, rotate/select control knob, aerosol inlet, particle indicator light, and flash memory card slot. These are identified in Figure 3-1 and described below.\*

### LCD Display

The quarter VGA color LCD display provides continuous real-time display of sample data and is used in conjunction with the control knob to display user menus and instrument status information. Refer to [Chapter 4](#) for details on how to make selections and change options on the menus.

### Rotate/Select Control Knob

Turning the control knob highlights items on the LCD display. Depressing the knob inward selects the option. To spin the knob quickly, place your finger in the indent on the knob surface and rotate the knob.

---

\*A black cap is located at the bottom of the front panel to cover a hole. Do *not* remove it from the instrument.



**Figure 3-1**  
View of the Model 3775 CPC LCD Display and Control Knob

## Aerosol Inlet

The Aerosol Inlet is located on the front panel. The inlet consists of a ¼" OD tube suitable for use with common tube fittings. Permanent fittings with metal locking ferrules should be avoided since this may inhibit removal of the front panel in the event service is required. Aerosol inlet flows of 0.3 or 1.5 L/min can be set as needed.

## Particle Light

The particle light flashes each time a particle is detected. At high particle counting levels (>10 counts per second) the light appears continuously on.

## Flash Memory Card Slot

The Model 3775 CPC provides storage of particle concentration data using a standard flash memory card. A flash memory card is included. Refer to [Using the Flash Memory Card](#) in Chapter 4 for more on how to use the Flash Memory Card. Technical information is also found in [Chapter 7](#).

# Back Panel

As shown in Figure 3-2, the back panel of the Model 3775 CPC has power and data connections, analog input/output connections, pump exhaust port, makeup air port, butanol fill and drain ports, and cooling fan. The function of the ports and connectors are clearly labeled.

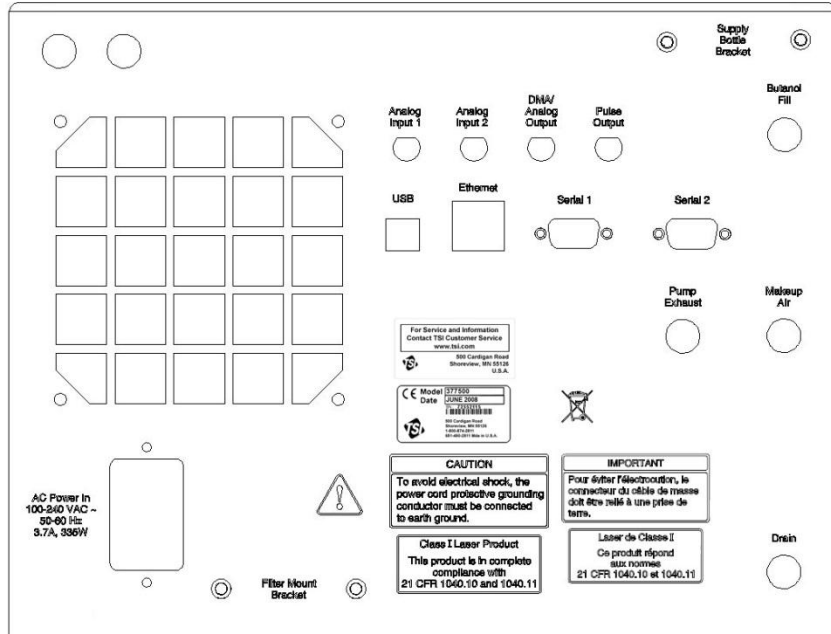
## AC Connector and Switch

Plug the supplied AC power cable into this receptacle. The instrument power switch is integrated above the AC receptacle.

## USB Communication Port

The Model 3775 CPC provides a USB port for use with the TSI Aerosol Instrument Manager<sup>®</sup> software included with the instrument. When USB communications are used with the software, the computer automatically recognizes the CPC as a TSI instrument. Additional information on USB communications is found in [Chapter 7](#) and also in the Aerosol Instrument Manager software manual.

**Note:** Up to three CPCs can be simultaneously connected to one computer running Aerosol Instrument Manager software with USB connections.



**Figure 3-2**  
Back Panel of the Model 3775 CPC

## RS-232 Serial Connections

The Model 3775 CPC provides two standard 9-pin RS-232 serial ports that allow communication between a computer and the CPC. Serial commands are sent to and from the computer to monitor instrument status information, to retrieve and monitor data, and to provide a variety of control functions such as turning the pump on and off (Serial 1 only). Aerosol Instrument Manager software may be used with Serial 1 as well as USB. Information on RS-232 communications can be found in Chapter 7, "[Computer Interfaces and Commands](#)".

## Analog Inputs

The CPC can monitor the analog voltages from two external sources via the analog input BNC connectors on the back panel, labeled Analog Input 1 and Analog Input 2. The input voltage range for these ports is 0 to 10 volts. Analog voltages can be displayed together with concentration data on the LCD display and saved to the removable Flash Memory Card or a computer. Voltages from pressure, flow, or temperature transducers can be correlated to particle concentration in real time.

Amplification must be supplied by the user to bring low voltage signals to the appropriate 0 to 10 volt range for best resolution.

## DMA/Analog Output and Pulse Output

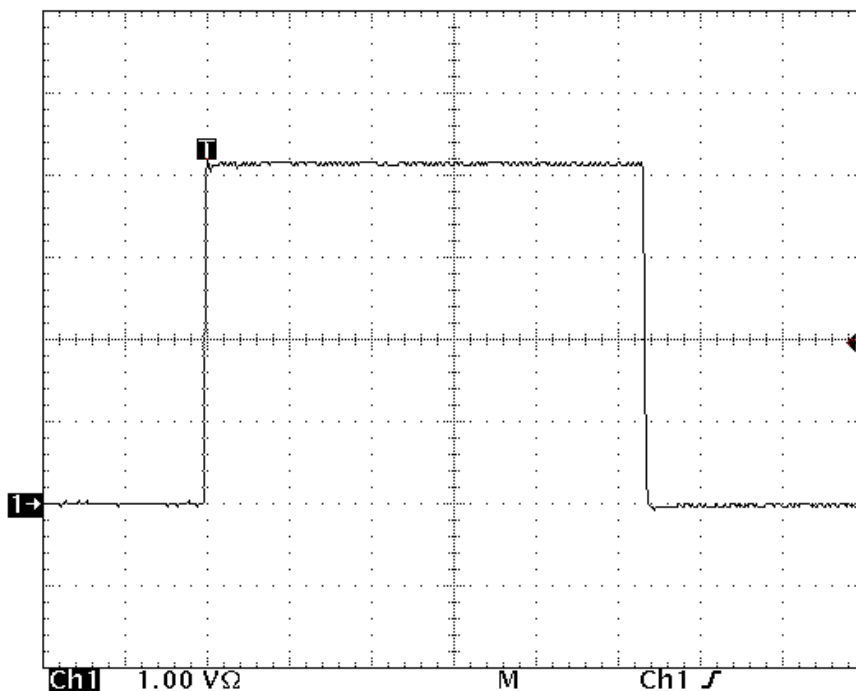
DMA/Analog Output is configured by the Aerosol Instrument Manager software to provide the ramped voltage signal needed when the CPC is used as part of the Scanning Mobility Particle Sizer™ (SMPS™) spectrometer. During normal operation of the CPC (standalone, not used as part of an SMPS), this port provides an analog 0–10 V signal proportional (linear or log) to particle concentration. This particle concentration is corrected for coincidence and equals the displayed concentration. See more details in [Chapter 4](#).

Pulse Output provides a 5-volt (50-ohm termination) digital pulse for each particle detected. This enables you to use your own counting electronics hardware and provides a particle trigger for special applications. The width of the pulse depends on both the shape of the photodetector pulse and the trigger-level of the pulse threshold. Typical (nominal) pulse widths are 2.5 microseconds (see Figure 3-3) for the 3775 CPC. To provide accurate pulse counts, *use a counter that is capable of counting pulses with a width of 50 nanoseconds or less.*

Particle concentrations calculated based on the particle counts from the counting electronics hardware are *not corrected* for particle coincidence. Thus, the concentration obtained this way might be lower than the displayed concentration when particle concentration is high. Appropriate coincidence correction needs to be applied when pulse output is used for high concentration measurements.



The Pulse Output is a way to get raw particle count information. This information is also available through serial command. Using the SSTART,2 command, described in [Appendix B](#), you can read raw, uncorrected, particle counts. TSI recommends using the SSTART,2 command for raw counts as then all the information is shipped which is used to calculate the corrected concentration, and there are no issues with the counters ability to accurately count the pulses.



**Figure 3-3**  
Sample Digital Pulse from Pulse Output Port at the Back Panel of the CPC

## Ethernet Communication Port

Instrument status including particle concentration of the Model 3775 CPC can be monitored remotely from a local area network or over the internet using the Ethernet communication port. Ethernet communications are described further in Chapter 7, "[Computer Interfaces and Commands](#)".

## Butanol Fill Port

Butanol is supplied from the butanol fill bottle to the instrument at the Butanol Fill port quick connect fitting.

## Pump Exhaust Port

The air flow containing butanol vapor exhausts from this fitting at the back panel of the CPC. Pump exhaust should be directed away from the work area using a piece of tubing connected to this port. A supplied charcoal filter can be used on a temporary basis to capture butanol vapor from the exhaust. Care must be taken that the exhaust port is not blocked. More charcoal filters can be ordered through TSI (P/N 1031492 and P/N 1031493). See Chapter 8 "[Maintenance and Service](#)."

## Makeup Air Port

The CPC samples at a rate of 1.5 L/min through the aerosol inlet during high-flow mode and 0.3 L/min during low-flow mode. To maintain a consistent pump operation flow during high flow and low flow operation modes, makeup air (1.2 L/min) is added through the Makeup Air port during low flow mode operation. The 1.2 L/min makeup air flow is combined with the 0.3 L/min aerosol flow prior to the internal vacuum pump.

## Drain Port

This port is used to drain the working fluid (butanol) from the 30 cm<sup>3</sup> liquid reservoir and is used when collecting water extracted using the Water Removal system. See [Chapters 3](#) and [4](#) for more on the water removal feature.

## Instrument Cooling Fan

This fan cools internal electronics and dissipates heat generated during cooling of the condenser. The fan is provided with a guard and a removable filter that should be cleaned of dust periodically.

---

## Cover

The cover refers to the removable section of the chassis covering the top and sides of the CPC. It is secured to the chassis with six screws on the bottom. The six screws can be loosened to remove the cover and access to the interior of the Model 3775 CPC.

---

## Left Side Panel

The left side panel refers to the side panel on the left when facing the front panel of the instrument. As shown in Figure 3-4, it includes a clear removable butanol reservoir cover plate that is used to view the liquid level in the saturator, and to access the saturator wick for easy removal before instrument shipment. Also shown in the figure are the cover screws that can be loosened to take off the instrument cover.

### Clear Reservoir Cover Plate

The clear reservoir cover plate provides a view of the butanol level in the liquid reservoir and access to the saturator wick for removal, prior to instrument transport or maintenance.

The 30 cm<sup>3</sup> butanol reservoir, white cylindrical wick, and blue sealing gasket are all visible through the clear cover.

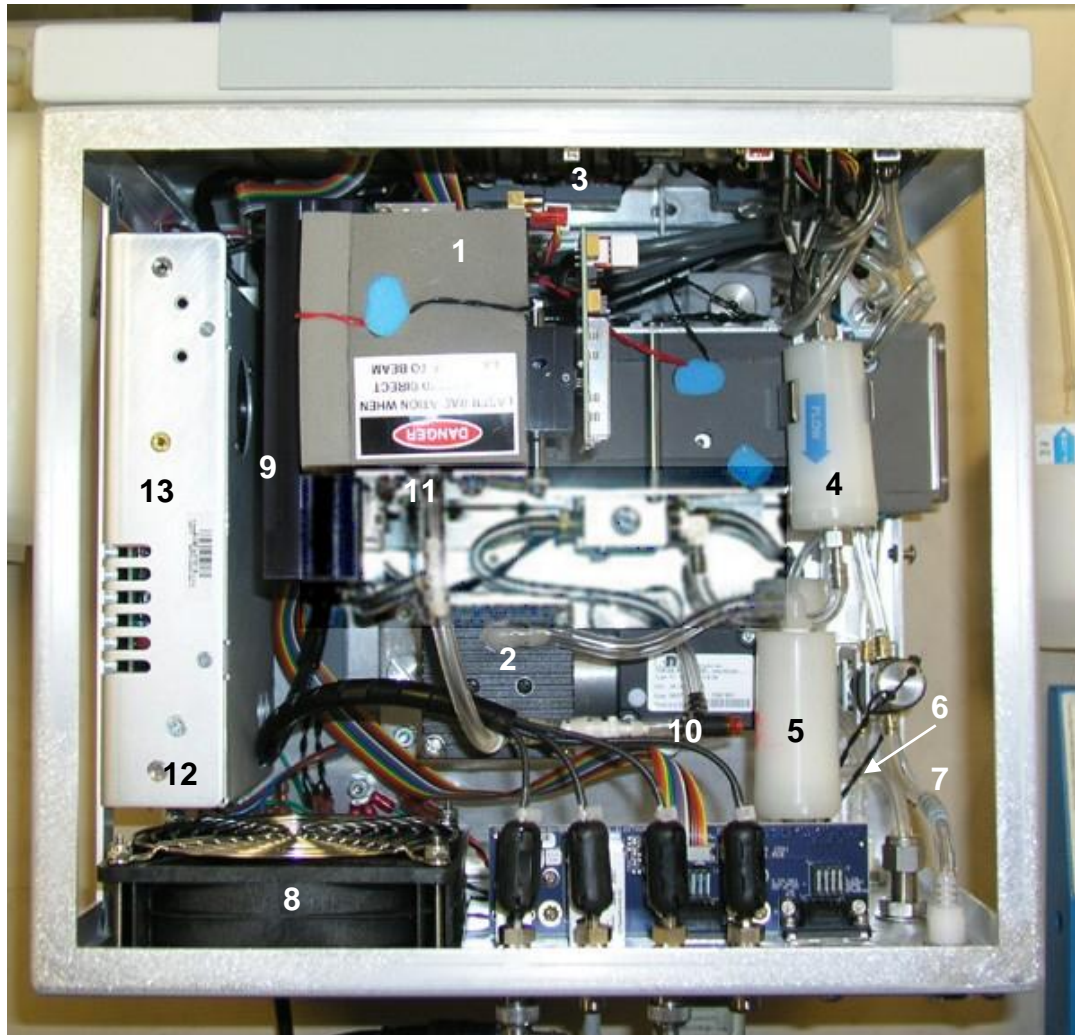
Four screws are used to mount the cover plate. Instructions for wick access and replacement are provided in [Chapter 8](#).



**Figure 3-4**  
Left Side Panel Showing Butanol Reservoir and Saturator Wick

# Internal Instrument Components

Internal components are described in this section and identified in Figure 3-5 and Figure 3-6.



- |                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| 1. Sensor assembly     | 8. Cooling fan                         |
| 2. High vacuum pump    | 9. Condenser heat exchanger            |
| 3. Water removal pump  | 10. Bypass/Makeup air variable orifice |
| 4. Bypass filter       | 11. Critical orifice                   |
| 5. Exhaust filter      | 12. Pressure transducers               |
| 6. Makeup air filter   | 13. Power supply                       |
| 7. Butanol fill filter |  |

**Figure 3-5**  
Internal Components of the Model 3775 CPC

## Sensor Assembly

The sensor assembly consists of the heated saturator, liquid wick, cooled condenser, and optics. In this assembly, sample particles serve as condensation nuclei and are grown in a supersaturated atmosphere of butanol. The large droplets are easily detected using a conventional focused laser and solid-state detector.

## Pumps

The Model 3775 CPC uses a High Vacuum Pump for inlet sample flow (aerosol and bypass) and makeup flow. A micro-flow Water Removal Pump removes condensate from the condenser.

The High Vacuum Pump draws the inlet sample flow through the CPC. This flow is a stable *volumetric* flow, maintained using a critical orifice and a bypass/makeup air variable orifice. Both orifices are operated at a critical pressure.

The Water Removal Pump draws condensed butanol and water from the condensate collection reservoir. Water removal prevents contamination of the butanol during operation in a high humidity environment. When activated, the pump runs continuously. A drain bottle must be connected for water removal to occur. For information on operating the water removal pump refer to Chapter 4, "[User Settings](#)."

## Filters

The Model 3775 CPC uses three particulate air filters. The Exhaust Filter removes particles in the exhaust air flow. The Makeup Air Filter removes particles from the makeup air when the instrument operates in low flow mode. The Bypass Air Filter removes particles from the bypass flow when the instrument operates in the high flow mode.

Two liquid filters are used to filter butanol supplied from the fill bottle, and condensed water and butanol before it passes through the water removal pump.

## Valves and Variable Orifice

The Model 3775 CPC uses valves and a variable orifice for air flow control and butanol filling and draining. A three-way solenoid valve controls the inlet flow rate, switching between high and low inlet sample flow modes.

A variable orifice operating under critical pressure controls the 1.2 L/min bypass or makeup air flow.

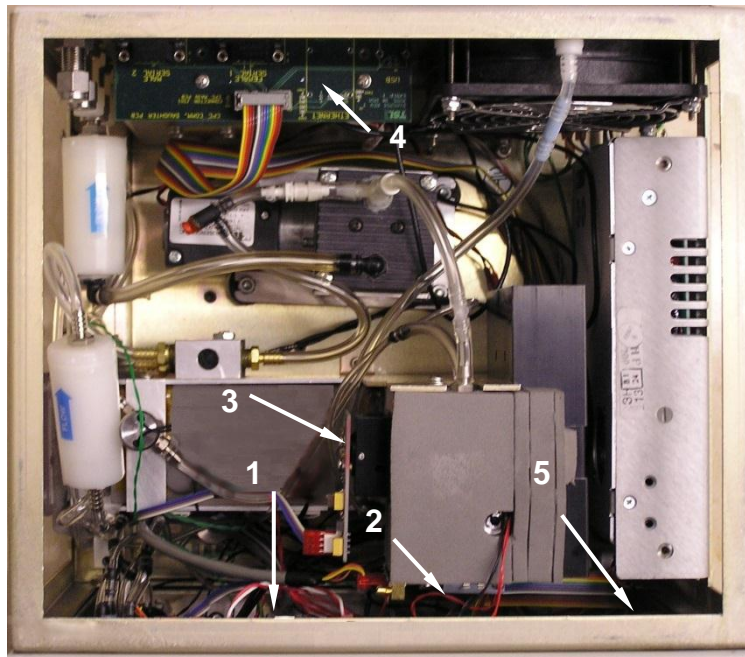
Solenoid fill and drain valves enable butanol to be added or removed from the liquid reservoir. The fill valve is actuated when the Auto-Fill is turned ON and the level sensor indicates a low butanol level in the liquid reservoir. When the butanol fill bottle is connected, butanol flows into the reservoir until the level sensor indicates a full state. The drain valve is activated through the front panel. Butanol is drained prior to shipment or removal of the saturator wick. See "[User Settings](#)" in Chapter 4 and "[Maintenance](#)" in Chapter 8.

## Pressure Transducers

The Model 3775 CPC uses three pressure transducers for monitoring instrument flows. The differential pressure across the Critical Orifice is measured to verify that a critical pressure is maintained across the orifice. Differential pressure across the nozzle is measured and verifies the nozzle in the optics block is free from obstruction. The ambient pressure is also measured. These pressure transducers are mounted to the main PC board. Pressure information is provided on the Status screen.

## Electronics Boards

Five electronics boards identified in Figure 3-6, are used in the Model 3775. The boards include Main PC board, laser board, detector board, communication connector board, and flash memory board.



**Figure 3-6**  
Electronics Boards Inside the Model 3775 CPC

- |                   |                                  |
|-------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Main PC board  | 4. Communication connector board |
| 2. Detector board | 5. Flash memory board            |
| 3. Laser board    |                                  |

---

## Basic Instrument Functions

This section describes basic instrument functions.

### Concentration Measurement

Particle concentration is presented as particles per cubic centimeter (p/cc) and displayed on the front panel LCD both in numeric form and in graphic form. Particle concentration is determined from the count rate (particles counted per tenth of a second) and the aerosol flow rate entered into the firmware by manufacturer. This flow rate is very close to its nominal value of 0.3 L/min (300 cubic centimeters per minute ( $\text{cm}^3/\text{min}$ )). Particle concentration is live-time corrected for coincidence. Refer to Chapter 6 [“Live-time Counting”](#) for more information.

## Totalizer Mode

Totalizer mode counts number of particles in a given time period. This mode is used to improve counting resolution at very low particle concentrations. Time, number of counts, and concentration are shown on the front panel display.

## High and Low Flow Modes

The Model 3775 CPC has user-selectable high and low inlet sample flow modes. The high inlet sample flow mode, 1.5 L/min, is preferred for smaller particles because particles are transported more quickly through sampling lines, reducing particle diffusion losses. The low flow mode, 0.3 L/min, is primarily used with the Scanning Mobility Particle Sizer™ Spectrometer (TSI Model 3936 SMPS™) to measure size distributions for wider particle size range.

## Water Removal

When the aerosol sample has a dew point above the condenser temperature of 14°C, water vapor may condense on the walls of the condenser and run back into the saturator, contaminating the butanol over time. Unlike its predecessor, the Model 3022A, the Model 3775 CPC is able to capture condensed water vapor and remove it, significantly reducing butanol contamination. The water removal process increases the butanol consumption. For additional information refer to [Chapter 4](#).

## Internal Data Logging

A removable Flash Memory Card can be inserted in the slot on the front panel to store particle concentration data and analog input data. Data can then be transferred to a computer for further data processing. Refer to [Chapter 4](#) for more details. It is not recommended you use a Flash Memory Card and Aerosol Instrument Manager software or terminal program to collect data simultaneously to avoid data transfer interference.

## Remote Access of Instrument

The Model 3775 CPC provides an Ethernet port to connect the instrument to a network for monitoring status information. Status information includes saturator, condenser, optics temperatures, laser power, and particle concentration, etc. The data is updated once every five seconds. Refer to [Chapter 7](#) for more details.



## Optional External Pump

It is possible to use an external pump to provide sample flow for the instrument. The pump must provide sufficient vacuum to maintain a critical pressure across the aerosol flow critical orifice and bypass/makeup air variable orifice, while providing a flow of 1.5 L/min (total instrument flow). At an atmospheric pressure of 100 kPa (1 atm), an external pump must provide at least 50 kPa (15 in. Hg) of vacuum and 1.5 L/min inlet volumetric flow for each CPC supported. This option requires changing of the internal tubing connections and routing. Procedures for use of an external pump are provided in the maintenance section in [Chapter 8](#).

## Flow Rate Control

The Model 3775 CPC uses a critical orifice and a variable orifice to accurately control the air flows in the instrument. The critical orifice operates at or below the critical pressure ratio to control the 0.3 L/min (nominal) volumetric aerosol flow. A variable orifice controls the bypass/makeup air flow. It is also operated at a critical pressure ratio for a flow of 1.2 L/min. More is found in Chapter 5 "[Technical Description](#)."

Problems with the aerosol flow can be detected by monitoring the pressure drop across the nozzle, and verifying that the critical orifice pressure is maintained.

## Temperature Control

The temperatures of the condenser, saturator, and optics are nominally maintained at 14°C, 39°C and 40°C, respectively, with specified ambient temperatures in the operating range of 10 to 35°C. Temperatures are controlled through feedback circuits on the main electronics board, and are displayed in the Status menu on the front panel. For ambient temperatures outside the instrument operating range, the instrument temperature performance may not be maintained. Moderate increases in saturator temperature and optics are tolerated in some instances, depending on measurement requirements.

## Inlet Pressure Measurement

With the built-in high vacuum pump, the instrument is capable of operating at inlet pressures in the range of 75 to 105 kPa. The inlet pressure is measured by an absolute pressure sensor, and is essentially the barometric pressure if no inlet restriction is present. The Inlet Pressure reading is found on Status screen of the front panel display. Refer to [Chapter 4](#) for more details.

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## CHAPTER 4

# Instrument Operation

This chapter describes the basic operation of the Model 3775 Condensation Particle Counter (CPC) and provides information on the use of controls, indicators, and connectors found on the front and back panels.

---

## Operating Precautions

Read the following before applying power to the 3775 CPC:

- Review the operating specifications for the CPC in [Appendix A](#).
- Do **not** operate the CPC outside the range of 10 to 35°C. If the CPC is operated outside this range, the displayed concentration may be inaccurate.
- If the CPC reservoir contains butanol, be very careful when moving the CPC. Refer to "[Moving and Shipping the CPC](#)" for more details.



### WARNING

Although the CPC is appropriate for monitoring inert process gases such as nitrogen or argon, it should **NOT** be used with hazardous gases such as hydrogen or oxygen. Using the CPC with hazardous gases may cause injury to personnel and damage to equipment.

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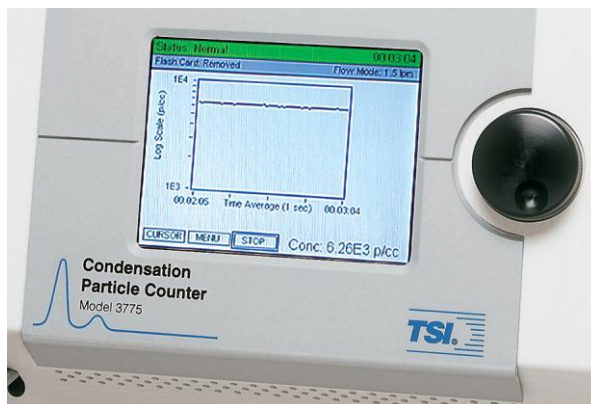
## Power Switch

The power switch is found on the back panel of the CPC. The switch is combined with the power cord receptacle.

---

## Control Knob and LCD Display

The 3775 CPC measurement data is presented on a 3.5" × 4.5" quarter VGA color LCD display. Instrument functions are accessed on the display using the rotate/select control knob. The display and control knob are shown in Figure 4-1 below.



**Figure 4-1**  
CPC Front Panel LCD Display and Control Knob

Turn the control knob clockwise or counterclockwise to highlight items on the LCD display. Highlighting is indicated as a box around the text. Depress the knob momentarily to select the option. To spin the knob quickly, place your finger in the indentation on the knob surface and turn.

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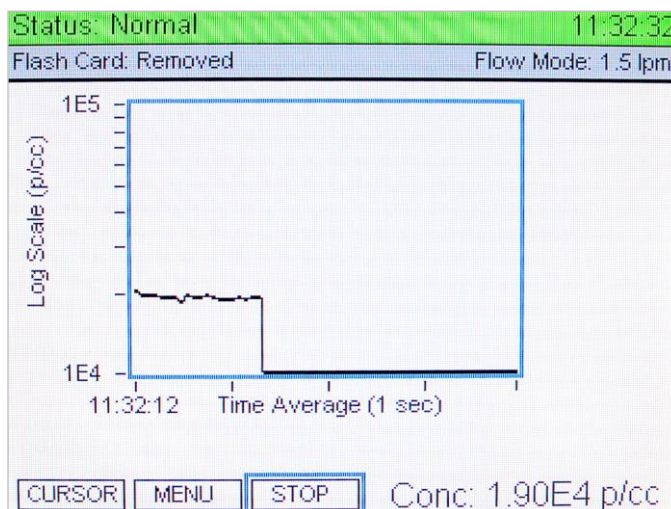
## Warm-up

When the instrument is turned on, the saturator, condenser and optics have to reach set operating temperatures. This “warm-up interval” takes about 10 minutes during which the start-up screen is displayed as shown in Figure 4-1. The status bar at the top of the LCD display is yellow when the instrument status is “Warming up”. When the warm-up is complete, the Main Data Presentation Screen is automatically displayed (see “[Main Data Presentation Screen](#)” section in this Chapter) and the vacuum pump is turned on automatically. The Main Data Presentation Screen may be displayed and the pump may be turned on before the warm-up is complete by depressing the knob at any time from the warm-up screen. In the Main Data Presentation Screen, a *Status: Multiple Errors* is indicated in red on the status bar during warm-up rather than yellow. When warm-up is complete, a green *Status: Normal* bar appears. Under extremes in ambient temperature, it may take considerably longer than ten minutes for the instrument to warm-up.

## Main Data Presentation Screen

The Main Data Presentation Screen is shown in Figure 4-2. This screen appears automatically once the warm-up is complete or can be displayed prior to the completion of the warm-up by depressing the control knob. The top bar on the Main Data Presentation Screen shows instrument status and current time. The second line shows the status of the Flash Memory Card (Ready, Removed, or Logging) and the inlet sample flow setting (high or low flow).

The Main Data Presentation Screen shows a graph of the number concentration, in particles per cubic centimeter (p/cc) versus time, and presents real-time number concentration at the lower right corner of the display. A menu of three primary instrument functions (CURSOR, MENU, and START/STOP) are presented at the bottom of the screen.



**Figure 4-2**  
CPC Main Data Presentation Screen During Operation

### Primary Functions in the Main Data Presentation Screen

Primary functions are accessed directly through the use of the control knob by highlighting a function and pressing the knob inward to select. A highlighted function will have a blue box surrounding the text. The display in Figure 4-2 has the STOP function highlighted for example.

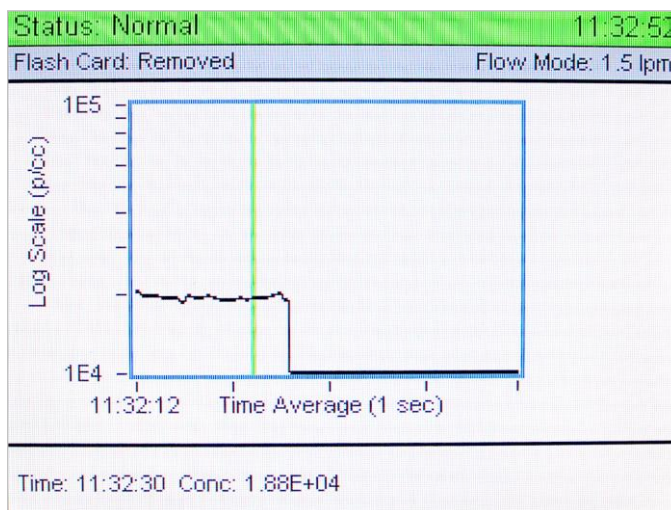
Number concentration data is presented graphically in real time once the START button is selected. When START is selected, the function label changes to STOP as shown in Figure 4-2. Depressing the knob again stops the graph from updating, and START reappears. The display is updated once per data average period. Figure 4-2 shows a concentration of approximately  $2 \times 10^4$  p/cc. The graph was updated each second over an interval of 24 seconds.

**Note:** For the 3775, the maximum concentration displayed is  $10^7$  particles/cm<sup>3</sup>. At concentrations above  $10^7$  particles/cm<sup>3</sup>, particle concentration data and the top status bar on the front panel are in red. If this occurs, aerosol needs to be diluted before entering the CPC.

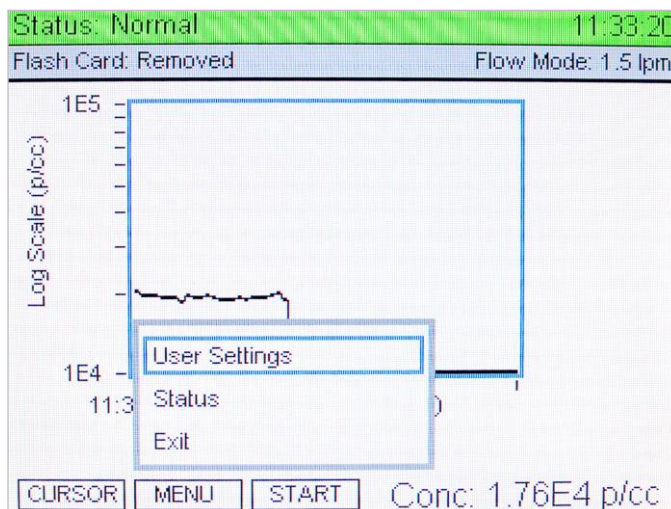
If a Flash Memory Card is inserted in the slot on the front panel of the instrument, data is saved to the card when START is selected. In this case, the Flash Card status on the front panel display shows Logging. Left unattended, a new data file is created each hour, with the number of data points determined by the data average period. Data Average Period is described later in this chapter. If the data collection is stopped using the STOP option, the current data file is saved with less than one hour of data. If the data collection is not properly stopped, such as instrument is turned off or the card is removed, data from the current hour's file will be lost.

The primary selectable functions are summarized below.

<b>CURSOR</b>	Displays a vertical cursor on the graph (Figure 4-3). Turning the knob moves the cursor within the graph boundary, and presents the time data was taken and number concentration at the bottom of the display.
<b>MENU</b>	Displays menus for User Settings and Instrument Status. See Figure 4-4.
<b>STOP</b>	Stops the real-time graphical update of the particle number concentration and properly closes the data file in the Flash Memory Card.
<b>START</b>	START is displayed once STOP is pressed. Press START to initiate update of the graphical display, and to save to the Flash Memory Card.



**Figure 4-3**  
Display Showing Cursor



**Figure 4-4**  
 Display After the MENU Function is Selected

## Display Header

Two bars are present at the top of the display screen to provide information on instrument operation.

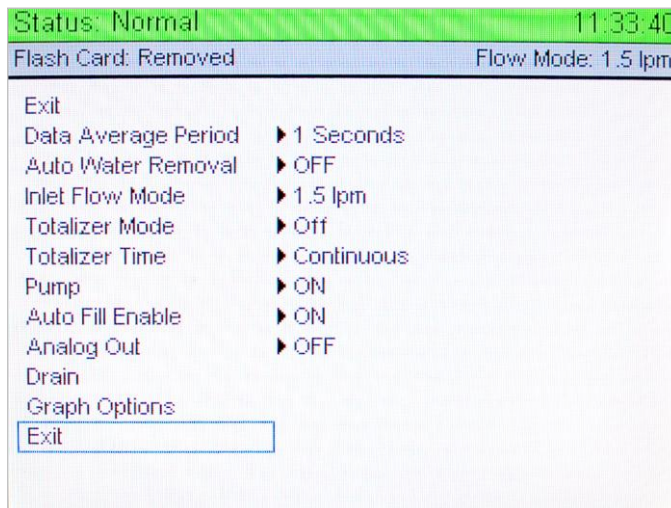
<b>Status Bar Color</b>	The status bar background changes from red to green as the instrument reaches normal operating conditions (Status: Normal). Deviations from normal operating parameters will cause the bar to appear red. During warm-up, the bar is yellow in the Start-up screen.
<b>Status</b>	Normal status indicates that the instrument is warmed up and temperatures are in the correct range, flow rates are correct, laser power is correct, etc.
<b>Flash Card</b>	Indicates if the Flash Memory Card is ready, logging, or removed.
<b>Time</b>	Current time appears in the upper right corner of the screen in the format of hh:mm:ss, 24 hour clock.
<b>Flow Mode</b>	Indicates which aerosol inlet flow mode is selected: high (1.5 L/min) or low (0.3 L/min).

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# User Settings

The screen display shown in Figure 4-4 appears when MENU is selected in the Main Data Presentation Screen. User Settings are accessible by highlighting the User Settings option and depressing the control knob.

Figure 4-5 shows the User Settings menu that appears once User Settings option is selected. Once in the User Settings menu, select options by rotating and depressing the knob. User settings in the menu are described under individual headings below, beginning with the EXIT option.



**Figure 4-5**  
User Settings Display

## Exit (top and bottom)

This option exits the User Settings menu and returns the display to the previous screen.

## Data Average Period

Data is collected at a frequency of 10 times per second and is averaged over selected Data Average Period for display on the graph and for saving to the flash memory card. To set the Data Average Period from the instrument, highlight the Data Average Period option using the control knob and depress the knob. Rotate the knob to select from the following periods: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 10, 12, 15, 20, 30, or 60 seconds. The particle concentration graph is updated once per Data Average Period. The graph x-axis scale is determined by the selected average period as described in the table below. This option is deactivated while data is logging into the flash memory card.



<b>Graph Display</b>	<p>The selection of Data Average Period determines the total time interval shown on the graph with 60 data bins providing 60 data samples. Each data sample is averaged over the selected period. When the average period is one second, one minute (60 seconds) of data is displayed, i.e., one second of data per bin. If the average period is 60 seconds, one hour (3600 seconds) of data is displayed, i.e., one minute of data per bin.</p> <p>After START is selected, data fills bins from left to right. When all 60 bins are full, bins scroll to the left as each new concentration value appears in the rightmost bin. This continues until STOP is selected. Reselection of START clears the current graph display and puts the first new concentration value in the leftmost bin.</p>
<b>Flash Logging</b>	<p>If a Flash Memory Card is inserted in the slot on the front panel, data is saved once per Data Average Period. Details on the use of the Flash Memory Card are presented later in this chapter and in <a href="#">Chapter 7</a>.</p>

Data is transferred to the computer running Aerosol Instrument Manager software at a rate of once per second. Each data transfer contains 10 data points. The software provides more flexibility in data averaging and improved time resolution. Check the software manual for details.

## Auto Water Removal

This option provides ON/OFF control for the automatic water removal feature of the Model 3775 CPC. This feature is used in hot/humid environments to eliminate contamination of the butanol working fluid by condensed water vapor. Water removal keeps the CPC operating at peak performance.

Water removal is achieved by collecting all condensate from the cooled condenser before it has a chance to return and remix with the butanol in the heated saturator. The collected condensate is pumped to the Drain port and flows to the supplied Drain Bottle.

<b>IMPORTANT NOTE:</b>	The Drain Bottle must be connected for the water removal system to work properly.
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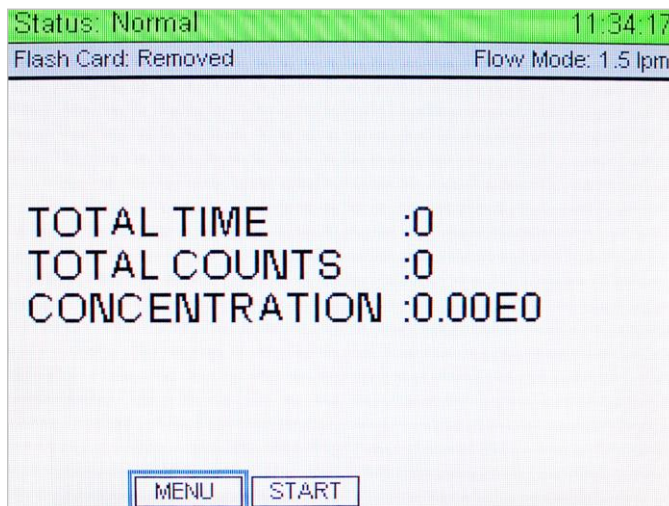
<b>Butanol Consumption</b>	<p>The water removal feature removes condensed butanol as well as water, increasing butanol consumption. The operator may elect not to use water removal in cool/dry environments, to preserve butanol. When water removal is not used, butanol is recycled.</p> <p>A full bottle of butanol (1 liter) lasts about three weeks (35 °C, 90% RH) with the water removal system ON, about six weeks (room condition) when water removal system is OFF.</p>
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## Inlet Flow Mode

Select this option and turn the knob to select between High and Low aerosol inlet flow modes. High inlet flow is used to reduce diffusion particle losses which occur in the sample tubing. Low inlet flow is preferred when the CPC is used as part of an SMPS system to measure particles in a wider size range. The nominal flow rate is 1.5 L/min for high flow mode and 0.3 L/min for low flow mode.

## Totalizer Mode

This operation mode allows particle counts to be accumulated and displayed as shown in Figure 4-6. Totalizer mode is generally useful for tests at very low particle concentrations, such as evaluation of high efficiency filters. Depress the control knob to turn on the Totalizer Mode. Totalizer Mode Screen is displayed as shown in Figure 4-6. The CPC will count time and particles once the START button is selected. Concentration is calculated from the time and count data.



**Figure 4-6**  
Totalizer Mode Data Screen

## Totalizer Time

Use this option with the Totalizer Mode to select the time period for accumulating counts. Three options are available; 60 seconds, 60 minutes and Continuous. Sampling stops once the time is complete. Sampling may be ended manually prior to the end of a sampling period by selecting STOP.

## Pump

The critical flow vacuum pump can be turned on or off by selecting the Pump option. When idle for long periods of time, the pump should be turned off to reduce maintenance requirements and reduce butanol consumption. If the instrument is to be left idle continuously, it is recommended that a filter be placed on the aerosol inlet. See below.



### **C a u t i o n**

In a dirty environment with high or unknown aerosol concentration, turn the pump off when possible or provide filter protection at the inlet. This reduces the likelihood of large fibers clogging the delicate aerosol capillary tube. If the instrument is used in a monitoring application over long periods of time, an impactor or cyclone should be used upstream of the CPC to keep large particles and debris from clogging the capillary tube.

## Auto Fill Enable

When the Auto-Fill Enable option is ON, the instrument fills with butanol automatically when the liquid level indicator in the butanol reservoir detects a low butanol level condition. A fill bottle with butanol needs to be connected to the Butanol Fill port to fill the instrument. Selecting Auto-Fill OFF prevents the fill valve from opening despite a low butanol level. The Auto-Fill option is turned on each time the instrument is turned on.



### **C a u t i o n**

Auto-Fill is automatically turned on each time the CPC is turned on. Make sure the CPC is not operated with the reservoir cover plate removed. This will prevent butanol from spilling out of the instrument as filling takes place.

## Analog Out

When the CPC is used as a standalone CPC, the voltage output from the DMA/Analog Output port at the back panel of the instrument is proportional (linear or log) to the particle concentration. There are nine options: OFF, 1E+1, 1E+2, 1E+3, 1E+4, 1E+5, 1E+6, 1E+7, and LOG. The relationship between voltage output and particle concentration with the options selected is listed below.

Option	Concentration Range for Analog Output 0–10 V	Relation
OFF	0 V independent of concentration	-
1E+1	0 to 10 particles/cm <sup>3</sup>	linear
1E+2	0 to 100 particles/cm <sup>3</sup>	linear
1E+3	0 to 1,000 particles/cm <sup>3</sup>	linear
1E+4	0 to 10,000 particles/cm <sup>3</sup>	linear
1E+5	0 to 100,000 particles/cm <sup>3</sup>	linear
1E+6	0 to 1,000,000 particles/cm <sup>3</sup>	linear
1E+7	0 to 10,000,000 particles/cm <sup>3</sup>	linear
LOG	10 V = 10,000,000 particles/cm <sup>3</sup> 9 V = 1,000,000 8 V = 100,000 7 V = 10,000 6 V = 1,000 5 V = 100 4 V = 10 3 V = 1 2 V = 0.1 1 V = 0.01 0 V = <0.01	log

## Drain

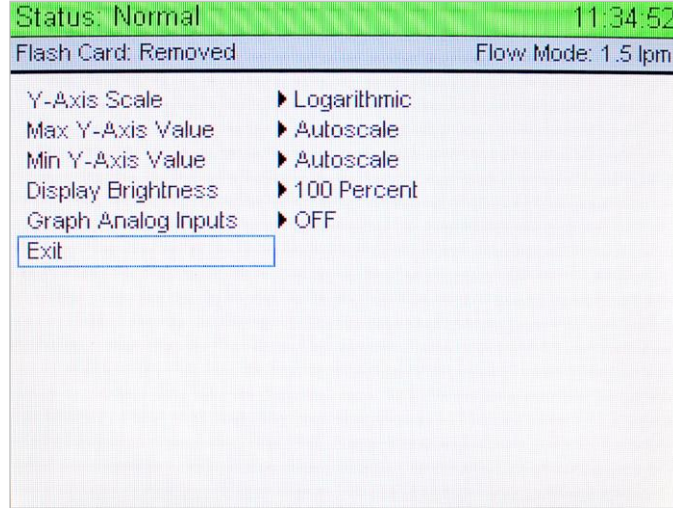
For specific instructions on draining butanol, refer to the section [“Draining Butanol from the Butanol Reservoir”](#) in Chapter 8.

During draining, the Auto-Fill mode and the high vacuum pump operation are automatically turned off. When draining is stopped, the pump restarts but the Auto-Fill must be turned on again by selecting this option from the User Settings menu. Whenever the instrument is turned on, the Auto-Fill is activated. Refer to the previous caution note.

## Graph Options

Refer to Figure 4-2 depicting the graph while reading this section.

Figure 4-7 shows the options possible when Graph Options is selected from the User Settings Menu. A description of these options is provided below:



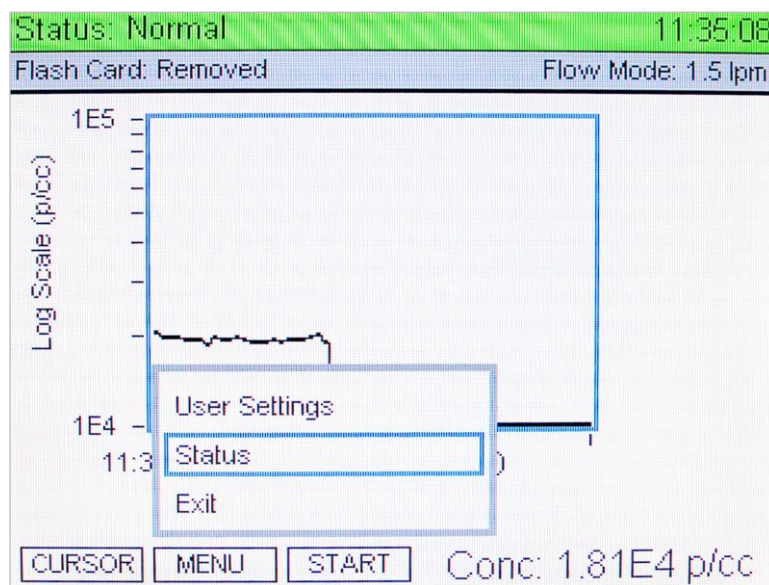
**Figure 4-7**  
Graph Options Menu

<b>Y-Axis Scale</b>	Select from Log or Linear concentration display.
<b>Max Y-Axis Value</b>	Use this option to pick the upper limit for concentration display on the graph. Concentration is presented in particles per cubic centimeters (p/cc). Autoscale automatically scales the graph based on the highest concentration. Fixed upper limits are provided by factors of 10. 1E-1 0.1 1E+0 1 1E+1 10 1E+2 100 1E+3 1,000 1E+4 10,000 1E+5 100,000 1E+6 1,000,000 1E+7 10,000,000

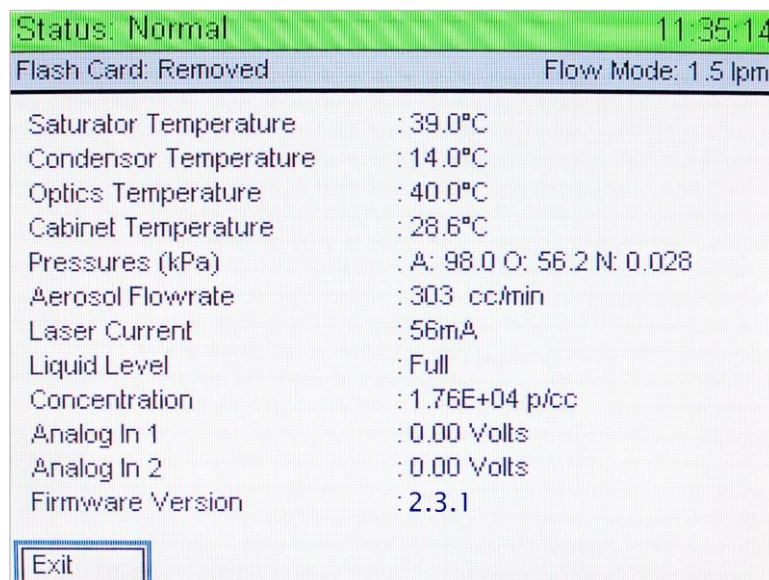
<b>Min Y-Axis Value</b>	<p>Use this option to pick the lower limit for concentration display on your graph. Autoscale automatically scales the graph based on the lowest concentration. Fixed lower limits are provided by factors of 10. The options include 1E-2, 1E-1, 1E+0, 1E+1, 1E+2, 1E+3, 1E+4, 1E+5, and 1E+6. The lower limit is at least one order of magnitude lower than the upper limit.</p> <p>Selecting fixed values for upper and lower concentration limits provides the best resolution in the concentration range of interest. The concentration line will not be displayed if it is outside the boundaries defined by the upper and lower limits.</p>
<b>Display Brightness</b>	<p>Adjust the brightness of the front panel display as a percentage of maximum brightness.</p> <p><b>Note:</b> <i>Due to component obsolescence, instruments shipped in fall 2013 and beyond will not support display backlighting brightness control. The brightness level will stay constant, even though the control menu is still present on the front panel display.</i></p>
<b>Graph Analog Inputs</b>	<p>Select to include analog input data on the graph display during display of particle concentration. Analog input scale is fixed between 0 and 10 volts. Transducer voltages having a different range may need to be amplified or reduced to achieve suitable resolution for display. Analog data is recorded to the Flash Memory Card and output through the communication ports. This is true even if the analog data is not displayed on the graph. While data is logging into the memory card, this option is deactivated.</p>

# Status

Statuses are accessed by selecting **MENU**, then the Status option shown in Figure 4-8. Information presented in the Status screen (Figure 4-9) provides data from instrument sensors useful to confirm basic performance and for troubleshooting. If the top bar is in red and the Status shows Multiple Errors, statuses that deviate from normal operating parameters are in red color. The Status menu can be used as a diagnostic tool.



**Figure 4-8**  
Status MENU Option Highlighted.



**Figure 4-9**  
Status Screen

Information provided in the Status screen is described below.

## Saturator Temperature

Saturator temperature is 39°C when the instrument warm up is complete and the instrument has stabilized. The saturator provides saturated butanol vapor that mixes with aerosol particles.

## Condenser Temperature

Particle growth occurs in the condenser as butanol vapor from the saturator is cooled and condenses on sampled aerosol particles. The condenser temperature is maintained at 14°C.

## Optics Temperature

The optics temperature is maintained at 40°C. This is higher than the saturation temperature and prevents butanol from condensing on the lenses and other internal components in the particle detection optics.

## Pressures (kPa)

Pressures from three transducers are labeled A, O, N and displayed on the Status Screen. **A:** is the barometric air pressure in kPa. Inlet air pressure is very close to the barometric pressure when sampling directly from the ambient environment. A restriction at the inlet will change the inlet air pressure. The instrument is designed to operate with an inlet pressure between 75 and 105 kPa. **O:** is the differential pressure across the aerosol flow critical orifice. **N:** is the differential pressure across the nozzle. Identification of the orifice and nozzle are found in the flow schematic Figure 5-1 in Chapter 5.

## Aerosol Flow Rate

Aerosol flow is maintained nominally at 0.3 L/min (300 cubic centimeters per minute) by the critical flow orifice mounted in the optics block. A discussion of critical flow is found in Chapter 5, "[Critical Flow](#)". Actual flow for each orifice is determined at the factory and entered into the instrument firmware for use in the calculation of particle concentration. The actual aerosol flow is very close to the nominal value of 0.3 L/min.

## Laser Current

Laser power is monitored by an internal detector in the laser diode package. If laser light energy drops below 35 mA, an Error is indicated.

## Liquid Level

Full is indicated if adequate butanol is present in the liquid reservoir. Liquid level is detected by a heated RTD (Resistance Temperature Detector) level detector. If the liquid level is low, Not Full is indicated.



## Concentration

Measured particle concentration is displayed in particles per cubic centimeter (p/cc).

## Analog Inputs

Analog Input 1 and 2 display voltages supplied to the BNC connectors at the back panel of the instrument. These analog data inputs have a range of 0 to 10 volts. Voltages can come from a variety of sources at the operator's discretion. Signals should be gained up or down so the outputs fall into the 0-to-10-volt window with maximum resolution. Analog input data can be displayed together with particle concentration on the front panel LCD display and saved to the Flash Memory Card during data logging. The analog input data can also be displayed along with particle concentration in the Aerosol Instrument Manager<sup>®</sup> software.

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# Using the Flash Memory Card

Particle concentration data and analog input data can be saved to a Flash Memory Card inserted in the slot at the lower right corner of the front panel. Insert the card label up.

Data saving is initiated from the Main Data Presentation Screen when the START option is selected. A file having a .DAT extension is created and will sample one hour of CPC data. Additional files will be created automatically each hour, i.e., having one hour of data. A shorter file is created if the test is stopped using the STOP option. Data is lost if an open file is improperly closed, by turning the instrument off or removing the flash memory card.

To read saved data to computer, connect the supplied card reader to your computer using the USB cable. Insert the flash card in the reader. Your computer will recognize the card reader and display a window showing several options. Select the option **Open folder to view files** to access the test files on the installed memory card. Files are named based on the date and time the test was initiated. Files can be moved from the flash memory card to the computer using file management methods.

The Aerosol Instrument Manager<sup>®</sup> software described below retrieves files from the flash memory card for data display. Refer to your Aerosol Instrument Manager software instruction manual for information on importing .DAT data files.

Additional technical information on the flash memory card is found in [Chapter 7](#).

**Notes:** *Data cannot be saved to the flash memory card and to the computer through Aerosol Instrument Manager software simultaneously.*

*Keep the amount of data stored in the flash memory card under 64 MB to avoid long overhead time before generating a new data file each hour in the card.*

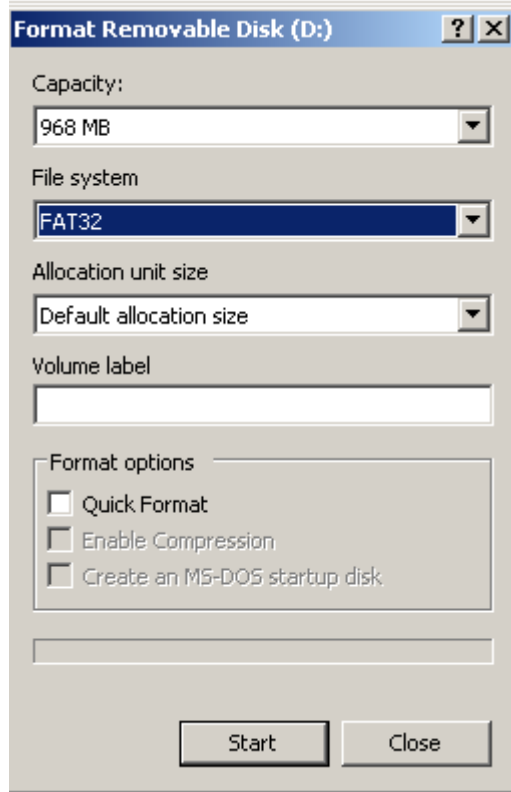
### **Flash Memory Card Format**

The data card supplied with Model 3775 CPC is formatted as per **FAT32** file system. This ensures data is logged and saved properly. Should you use another external data card, make sure that you reformat the card to the **FAT32** file system before logging data.

**Note:** *Recording data on memory cards not formatted to **FAT32** file system can result in malfunctioning of the data logging system. This may cause the CPC to freeze at the end of a run and loss of previously recorded data files.*

Follow the steps below to reformat your card:

1. Connect the supplied card reader to your computer using the USB cable.
2. Insert the flash card in the reader. The flash memory card will appear as a separate disk drive in Window's Internet Explorer® browser.
3. If you have any data on the flash memory card you want to save, you must copy it to a temporary directory on your computer, because the reformat will erase it from the flash card.
4. Put your cursor on the flash memory card's drive letter in Window's Explorer and right click. Select **Format**.
5. Under File System, make sure "FAT32" is selected. Click on **Start**.
6. When it is done reformatting, copy any files you saved back onto the flash memory card.
7. You can check the format type of the flash memory card at any time by right clicking on the drive letter in Window's Internet Explorer® browser. Select **Format** and look under File System.



**Figure 4-10**  
Reformatting the Flash Memory Card



**Caution**

Remove the flash memory card following the correct procedures:

1. Use *Safely Remove Hardware* option in Windows to disconnect the card reader from the computer—stop USB Mass Storage Device.
2. After the message *Safe To Remove Hardware: The “USB Mass Storage Device” device can now be safely removed from the system* appears, physically remove the flash memory card from the card reader.

Failure to follow these procedures may result in failure to log data with the flash memory card.

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## Aerosol Instrument Manager<sup>®</sup> Software

Aerosol Instrument Manager software is supplied with the Model 3775 CPC. This program provides many useful data acquisition, display, processing, and download functions used in particle measurements. Review the supplied Aerosol Instrument Manager<sup>®</sup> software manual for complete information on software functions.

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## Moving and Shipping the CPC

Make sure the Model 3775 CPC is turned off and remains upright while moving the instrument. There is no need to drain the CPC before moving it. Prior to shipping, however, it is necessary to drain butanol from the instrument. Refer to "[Draining Butanol from the Butanol Reservoir](#)" in Chapter 8 to drain the CPC.

TSI recommends that you keep the original packaging (carton and foam inserts) of the CPC for use whenever the CPC is shipped, including when it is returned to TSI for service. Always seal off the sampling inlet to prevent debris from entering the instrument and drain and dry the CPC before shipping.



### **C a u t i o n**

While the pump is on, do **not** tip the CPC more than 10° to any direction with the water removal system ON. Do **not** tip the CPC more than 10° to the front (to avoid overfilling the butanol reservoir) or 20° to other directions with the water removal system OFF. It is recommended to turn off the CPC and disconnect the butanol fill bottle before the CPC is being moved or tilted for longer than a few seconds to prevent flooding of the sensor.

## CHAPTER 5

# Technical Description

The Model 3775 CPC is a continuous-flow condensation particle counter that detects particles as small as 4 nanometers (50% detection efficiency) in diameter. This section describes the function of the CPC, its subsystems, and its components. A discussion of operation theory and history is given first.

---

## Theory

The CPC acts very much like an optical particle counter. However, the particles are first enlarged by a condensing vapor to form easily detectable droplets. The science behind the counter, is focused on how to condense the vapor onto the particles. Portions of the following discussion are taken from a paper by Keady et al. [1986].

When the vapor surrounding particles reaches a certain degree of supersaturation, the vapor begins to condense onto the particles. This is called *heterogeneous* condensation. If supersaturation is too high, condensation can take place even if no particles are present. This is referred to as *homogeneous nucleation* or *self-nucleation*, whereby molecules of the vapor form clusters due to the natural motion of the gas and attractive van der Waals forces to form nucleation sites. This condition is avoided by accurately controlling operating temperatures. The CPC operates below the supersaturation ratio to avoid homogenous nucleation.

The degree of supersaturation is measured as a saturation ratio ( $P/P_s$ ), which is defined as the actual vapor partial-pressure divided by the saturation vapor pressure for a given temperature:

$$\text{supersaturation} = \frac{P}{P_s}$$

For a given saturation ratio, the vapor can condense onto particles only if they are large enough. The minimum particle size capable of acting as a condensation nucleus is called the *Kelvin diameter* and is evaluated from the following relationship:

$$\text{saturation ratio} = \frac{P}{P_s} = \exp\left(\frac{4\gamma M}{\rho RTd}\right)$$

where  $\gamma$  = surface tension of the condensing fluid  
 $M$  = molecular weight of the condensing fluid  
 $\rho$  = density of the condensing fluid  
 $R$  = universal gas constant  
 $T$  = absolute temperature  
 $d$  = Kelvin diameter

The higher the saturation ratio, the smaller the Kelvin diameter.

The saturation vapor pressure  $P_s$  is defined for a flat liquid surface. For a round liquid surface, such as the surface of a droplet, the actual saturation vapor pressure is greater. In other words, the smaller the droplet, the easier it is for the vapor molecules to escape the liquid surface. The Kelvin diameter defines the critical equilibrium diameter at which a pure droplet is stable—there is neither condensation nor evaporation. Smaller liquid particles will evaporate and larger particles grow even larger by condensation. The larger particle will grow until the vapor is depleted, causing the saturation ratio to fall until it is in equilibrium with the particle droplet.

If the saturation ratio is controlled to a level below the critical saturation ratio—the point at which homogeneous nucleation takes place—condensation will not take place in a particle-free environment.

The lower size sensitivity of the counter is determined by the operating saturation ratio. For the counter this ratio is several hundred percent, whereas in the atmosphere, this ratio is only a few percent for water.

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## History

Historically, the counter has been called a condensation nucleus counter (CNC). CNC technology uses three techniques to cool and supersaturate the condensing vapor: adiabatic expansion, two-flow mixing, and diffusional thermal cooling. The CPC uses the latter.

### Adiabatic Expansion CNC

The first CNC was developed over a century ago by John Aitken [1888]. His simple and completely mechanical device cooled water-saturated air by adiabatic expansion using a pump. The droplets were counted as they fell onto a counting grid and a calculation was made to determine the concentration of dust particles in the sample volume. He made several improvements to his invention and his portable dust counter was used for many years (Aitken [1890–91]).

Other significant developments in adiabatic-expansion CNCs include the use of electrical photodetectors to measure the light attenuation from cloud formation (Bradbury and Meuron [1938], Nolan and Pollak [1946], Rich [1955], Pollak and Metneiks [1959]); the use of under- and overpressure systems; and automation using electrically controlled valves and flow systems. The amount of light attenuated from the droplet cloud is monotonically related to the concentration of particles and is calibrated either by manual counting techniques, calculated from theory of particle light-scattering, or by using an electrical classification and counting method (Liu and Pui [1974]). A historical review of the expansion CNCs is given by Nolan [1972], Hogan [1979], and Miller and Bodhaine [1982].

## **Two-Flow Mixing CNC**

Another cooling method turbulently mixes two vapor-saturated flows, one hot and one cold, to rapidly cool and supersaturate the vapor (Kousaka et al. [1982]). The condensation and droplet growth are fairly rapid and uniform. The flows can be passed continuously (that is, non-pulsating) through the mixing chamber onto a single-particle-counting optical detector.

## **Diffusional Thermal CNC**

A continuous-flow, diffusional, alcohol-based, thermal-cooling CNC (Bricard et al. [1976], Sinclair and Hoopes [1975], Agarwal and Sem [1980]) first saturates the air sample with alcohol vapor as the sample passes over a heated pool of liquid alcohol. The vapor-saturated air stream flows into a cold condenser tube where the air is cooled by thermal diffusion. The alcohol condenses onto the particles and the droplets grow to about 10 to 12 micrometers. The droplets are counted by a single-particle-counting optical detector.

Continuous-flow, diffusional, water-based CPCs (TSI Model 3781, 3785, and 3786 WCPCs) were developed between 2003 and 2006. Using a patented technique (Technology from Aerosol Dynamic Inc., U.S. Patent No. 6,712,881), an aerosol sample is drawn continuously through a cooled saturator and then into a heated condenser, where water vapor diffuses to the centerline of the condenser faster than heat is transferred from the warm walls, producing supersaturated conditions for water vapor condensing onto the particles.

The Model 3760, 3762, and 3010 were introduced in early 90s and was replaced by Model 3772/3771 in 2005. The 3772/3771 CPC works only in the single count mode at relatively high aerosol flow rates of 1.0 and 0.6 L/min, respectively. The 3772/3771 CPC uses n-butyl alcohol as the working fluid and an external vacuum pump or source to drive the 1 L/min aerosol flow rate. The 3772/3771 can detect 10 nm particles at 50% detection efficiency.

For high-concentration measurements, a classical photometric light-scattering technique is used. The first commercial version of this type of CNC (TSI Model 3020) used n-butyl alcohol as the condensing fluid and has a flow rate of 0.3 L/min. TSI's Model 3020 CNC was replaced in 1988 by the Model 3022A, which was replaced again in 2005 by the Model 3775 CPC. Both the Model 3775 CPC and the 3785 WCPC use the photometric mode of operation to monitor high particle concentrations up to  $10^7$  particles/cm<sup>3</sup>. These CPCs are general-purpose instruments suitable for a wide variety of applications.

The Model 3025 Ultrafine Condensation Particle Counter (UCPC) was developed in 1989 and was replaced by the Model 3776 UCPC in 2005. The 3776 has a lower size detection limit and a higher aerosol flow rate compared to the 3025A. Both the 3776 UCPC and 3786 UWPC utilize sheath-air-flow design to lower the size detection limit. When growing the particles in the condenser chamber, the highest saturation ratio occurs on the centerline of the flow stream at some distance down the condensing tube (Stolzenburg [1988]). Although the saturation ratio is not uniform across the flow profile due to thermal gradients, the lower size-sensitivity can still be predicted and measured. Using sheath air, the CPC confines the aerosol to the centerline of the condenser tube where level of supersaturation is the highest. The result is very high detection efficiency for small particles. The high sensitivity of the Model 3776 UCPC and the Model 3786 UWPC makes them the only instruments of their kind that can detect particulates down to 2.5 nm. This makes them useful for atmospheric studies, nucleation, cleanroom monitoring, and basic aerosol research, etc. The sheath-air-flow design of the two CPCs also significantly reduces the response time for particle detection and particle diffusion losses. This occurs because aerosol particles are routed directly from the inlet to the condenser and optics, not through the saturator.

The Model 3781 WCPC is a small size and light weight instrument that detects particles down to 6 nm and operates in single count mode for concentration up to  $5 \times 10^5$  particles/cm<sup>3</sup>.

The Model 3007 CPC was developed in 2001. It is a hand-held, battery powered instrument with a size detection limit of 10 nm. It uses isopropyl alcohol as the working fluid.

Currently, five CPCs (Models 3772, 3775, 3776, 3785, and 3786) are also commonly used with submicron size-distribution measurement systems such as the Scanning Mobility Particle Sizer<sup>™</sup> (SMPS<sup>™</sup>) Spectrometers (TSI Model 3936).



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# Design of the CPC

The basic instrument consists of three major subsystems: the sensor, the microprocessor-based signal-processing electronics, and the flow system. The sensor and the flow system are described below.

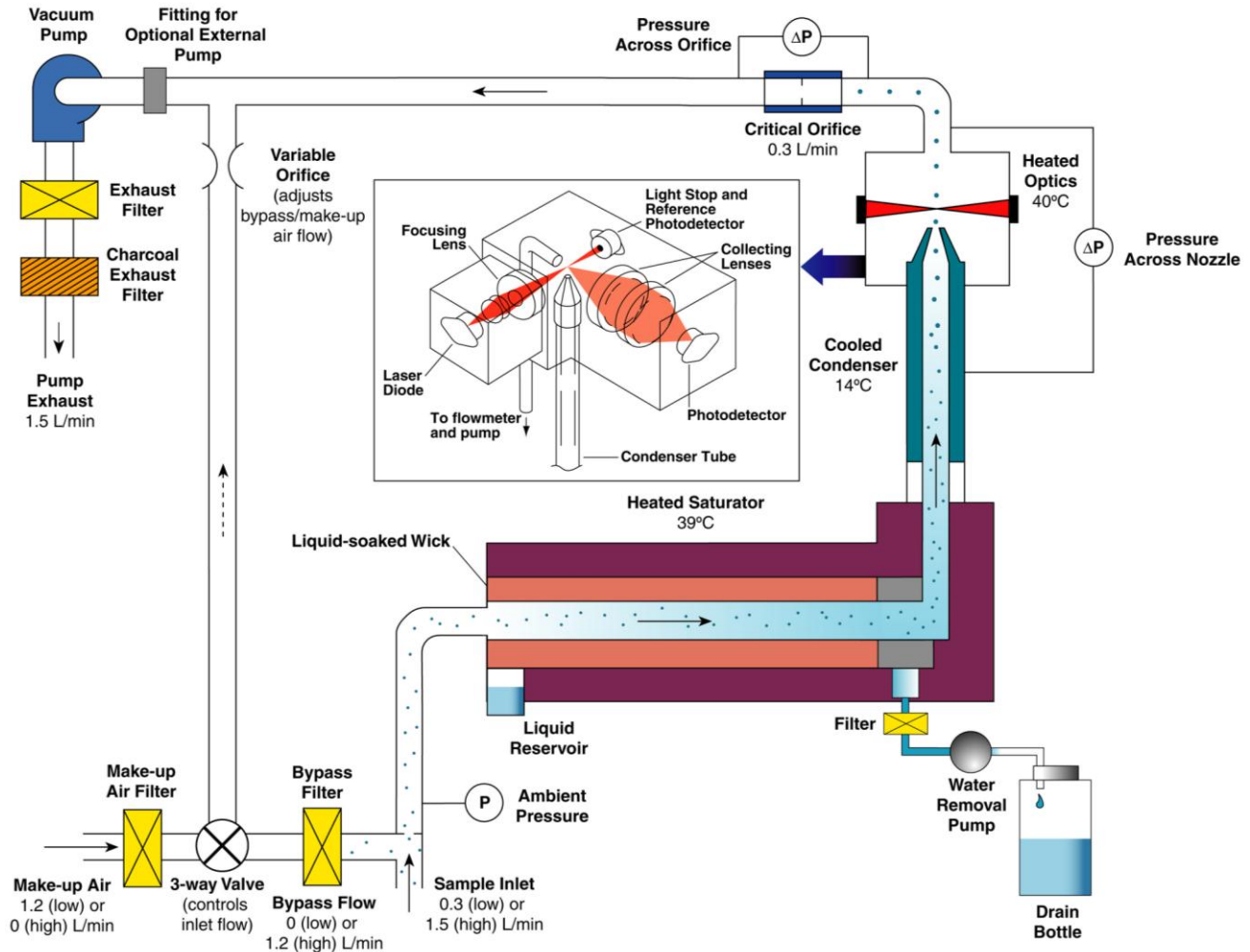
## Sensor

The sensor is made up of saturator, condenser, and optical detector, shown schematically in Figure 5-1. The sensor grows the sampled aerosol particles into larger droplets and detects them optically. The aerosol enters the saturator section and passes through a heated, liquid-soaked cylindrical wick. To remain wetted, the wick dips into the liquid reservoir and continually absorbs liquid. The liquid butanol evaporates and saturates the aerosol stream with butanol vapor. Butanol is replenished from a reservoir and a fill bottle.

The vapor-saturated aerosol then passes into a vertical condenser tube which is cooled by a thermoelectric device. The cooled vapor becomes supersaturated and begins to condense on to the particles (condensation nuclei) to form larger droplets. The droplets pass from the condenser tube through a nozzle into the optical detector. Liquid that condenses on the walls of the condenser tube runs back down and is removed by the water removal system into the drain bottle when the system is ON. Otherwise, the liquid goes back into the saturator and is absorbed into the wick for reuse.

The sensor's optical detector is comprised of a laser diode, collimating lens, cylindrical lens, collection lenses, and photodiode detector. The laser and collimating lens form a horizontal ribbon of laser light above the aerosol exit nozzle. The collection lenses and detector incorporate a pair of aspheric lenses that collect the light scattered by the droplets at 90° angle (side scatter) and focus the light onto a low-noise photodiode. The main beam is blocked by a light-stop in the rear of the sensing chamber. A reference photodiode is used to maintain constant laser power output. The surface temperature of the optics housing is maintained at a higher level than the saturator to avoid condensation on the lens surfaces.

The Model 3775 CPC uses two modes of particle counting: single-particle counting mode and photometric mode. At concentrations below 50,000 particles/cm<sup>3</sup>, individual electrical pulses generated by light scattered from individual droplets are counted, employing a continuous "live-time" coincidence correction algorithm to improve counting accuracy. Coincidence occurs when the presence of one particle obscures the presence of another particle creating an undercounting error. "[Live-Time Counting](#)" is discussed in Chapter 6. At concentrations above 50,000 particles/cm<sup>3</sup>, live time correction becomes less effective and the instrument transitions to a mode where the instrument measures the total light scattered from all droplets present in the laser beam. The DC voltage from the photodetector is calibrated against known concentrations to provide concentration measurements as high as 10<sup>7</sup> particles/cm<sup>3</sup>.



**Figure 5-1**  
Flow Schematic of the Model 3775 CPC

## Flow System

Refer to Figure 5-1 while reviewing information on instrument flow provided in this section.

The CPC relies on an on-board high-vacuum pump to maintain constant critical flows through a critical orifice and a variable orifice. The CPC has two inlet flow options: high flow mode, nominally 1.5 L/min (1500 cm<sup>3</sup>/min) and low flow mode, nominally 0.3 L/min (300 cm<sup>3</sup>/min). The flow rate through the sensor is always 0.3 L/min, independent of the inlet flow rate setting. More information on instrument flows is provided below.

## Critical Flow

To achieve the 0.3 L/min nominal aerosol flow through the sensor, an orifice is used, operated at the *critical pressure ratio* to provide a *critical flow*. Critical flow is very stable and is a constant volumetric flow, assuring accurate concentration measurements despite varied inlet pressure.

The critical pressure ratio is found by dividing the absolute pressure downstream of the orifice  $P_D$ , by the absolute pressure upstream of the orifice  $P_U$ . This ratio must be below 0.528 for air.

$$\text{Critical pressure} = \frac{P_D}{P_U} \leq 0.528$$

Values for pressures impacting CPC flow are found on the Status screen shown in Figure 4-9. These pressures are identified as A, O and N. Pressure **A** is the inlet pressure, typically the ambient barometric pressure. Pressure **O** is the differential pressure across the aerosol flow orifice. Pressure **N** is the differential pressure across the nozzle. Figure 5-1 identifies the location of the pressure transducer sample ports.

To verify that critical pressure (therefore critical flow) is achieved under extremes in inlet resistance, determine the orifice upstream pressure from **(A – N)**. The downstream pressure is the upstream pressure minus the orifice differential pressure **(A – N – O)**.

Flow is critical if the following is true:

$$\frac{A - N - O}{A - N} \leq 0.528 \quad (5-1)$$

Control of the aerosol inlet flow requires a variable orifice for *bypass* and *makeup air* flow. This orifice is also operated at a critical pressure ratio.

## High Flow

The high-flow option allows the aerosol sample to be brought to the CPC faster to minimize response time and reduce particle diffusion losses. In the high-flow mode, the three-way solenoid valve (see Figure 5-1) is opened to the bypass flow, closing the makeup air path. A total of 1.5 L/min is drawn into the CPC, 0.3 L/min flows through the sensor as the aerosol flow and 1.2 L/min flows as bypass flow. For information on how to select the high flow mode, see [“Inlet Flow Mode”](#) section in the [“User Settings”](#) section in Chapter 4.

## Low Flow

An inlet flow rate of 0.3 L/min is used when using the CPC in a Scanning Mobility Particle Sizer spectrometer to measure wider particle size range. In the low-flow mode, the three-way valve (see Figure 5-1) is open to the makeup air path, and the bypass flow is shut off. Only the aerosol flow of 0.3 L/min is drawn into the inlet and enters the sensor directly. 1.2 L/min makeup air enters the makeup air port at the back panel of the instrument and mixes with the aerosol flow before entering the vacuum pump to make up the 1.5 L/min total flow. For information on how to select the low flow mode, see “[Inlet Flow Mode](#)” section in the “[User Settings](#)” section in Chapter 4.

## Pump

A high-vacuum diaphragm pump is used to maintain a critical aerosol flow and bypass/makeup air flow. The pump uses a brushless DC motor with an anticipated life of more than 15,000 hours.

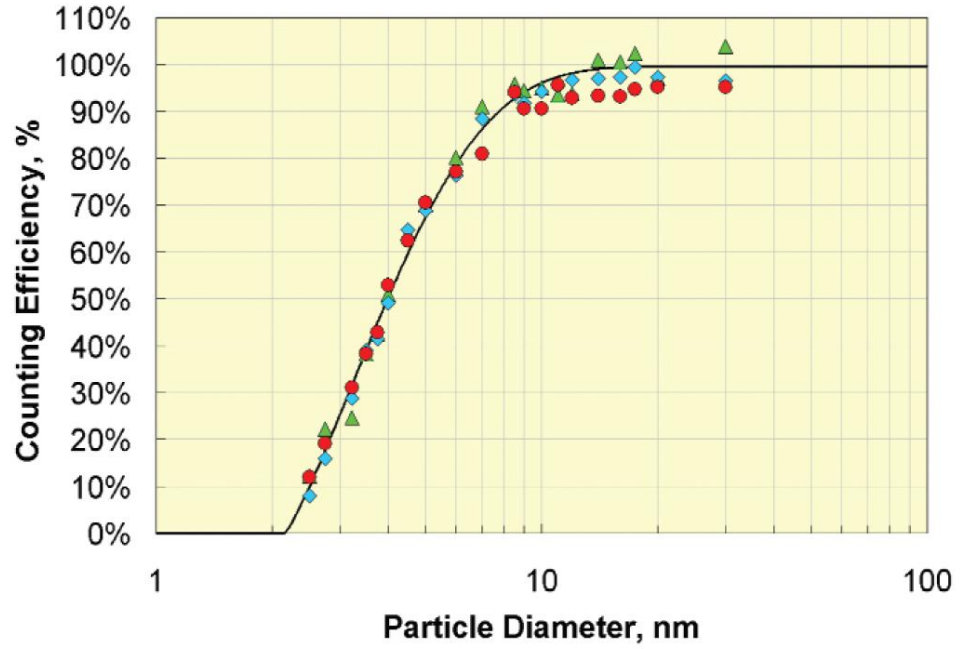
---

# Counting Efficiency and Response Time of the CPC

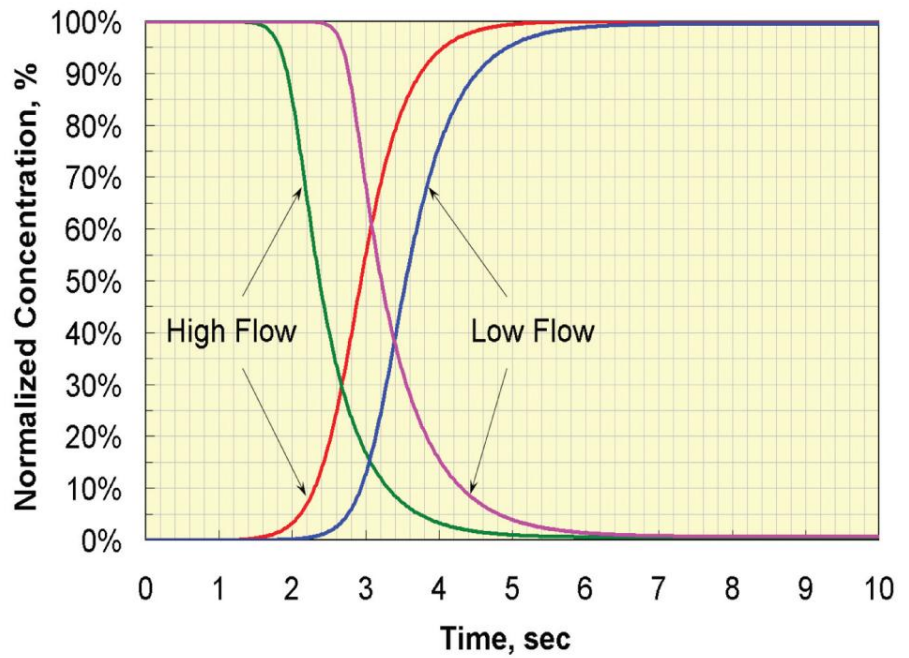
The 3775 CPC has a  $D_{50}$  of 4 nm.  $D_{50}$  is defined as the particle diameter at which 50% of particles are detected. The curve fit shown in Figure 5-2 is based on testing of three 3775 CPCs using sucrose particles generated by TSI Model 3480 Electro Spray Aerosol Generator and size classified with TSI Model 3080 Electrostatic Classifier and Model 3085 Nano Differential Mobility Analyzer (DMA). The counting efficiency is calculated by comparing the CPC readings to TSI Model 3068A Aerosol Electrometer readings.

Note the particle concentration measured by the CPC is the total number concentration of all particles that a CPC can detect. This measurement provides no size differentiation and it is not corrected using the CPC counting efficiency curve. When the CPC is used as part of a Scanning Mobility Particle Sizer (SMPS, TSI Model 3936), the counting efficiency curve is used to correct particle count data to provide particle size distribution.

The 3775 CPC has a fast response time.  $T_{95}$ , defined as the time it takes for the CPC reading to reach 95% of a concentration step change, is about 4 sec in high flow mode and about 5 sec in low flow mode for the 3775 CPC. Figure 5-3 shows the response time curves in both flow modes. The curves are based on averaging of three CPCs.



**Figure 5-2**  
Counting Efficiency Curve of 3775 CPC



**Figure 5-3**  
Response Time of 3775 CPC

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## CHAPTER 6

# Particle Counting

This chapter discusses specific aspects of particle counting and particle count measurements performed using the Model 3775 Condensation Particle Counter (CPC).

The Model 3775 CPC has two modes for particle counting:

- ❑ Concentration mode, where data is presented as particle concentration in p/cc, updated each second on the display (the maximum time resolution is tenth of a second).
- ❑ Totalizer mode, where total particle counts are accumulated and presented each second.

Concentration mode is commonly used for most applications. Totalizer mode is used at very low particle concentrations. Particles can be accumulated until a desired statistical accuracy is achieved. Refer to the section below discussing total count accuracy.

In the concentration mode, the CPC operates in the single count mode between 0 and  $5 \times 10^4$  particles per cubic centimeter and operates in photometric mode for concentrations in the range from  $5 \times 10^4$  to  $10^7$  particles per cubic centimeter. It employs continuous, live-time coincidence correction in the single counting mode.

---

## Optical Detection

Submicrometer particles are drawn into the counter and enlarged by condensation of a supersaturated vapor into droplets that measure several micrometers in diameter. The droplets pass through a lighted viewing volume where they scatter light. The scattered-light pulses are collected by a photodetector and converted into electrical pulses. In single counting mode, the electrical pulses are counted and their rate (live-time corrected) is a measure of particle concentration. In photometric mode, the total scattered light is converted into particle concentration based on a calibration curve in the instrument.

---

## Total Count Accuracy

At very low concentrations, the accuracy of the measurement in the single-particle-counting mode is limited by statistical error. If the total number of particles counted in each time interval is very small, the uncertainty in the count is large. The relative statistical error of the count  $\sigma_r$  is related to the total count  $n$  by

$$\sigma_r = \frac{\sqrt{n}}{n}.$$

In totalizer mode, the accuracy of the concentration is increased by sampling for a longer period and counting more particles. The concentration is displayed on the front panel in totalizer mode and is calculated by:

$$\text{concentration} = \frac{\text{total counts}}{\text{volume of aerosol flow in the sensor}} = \frac{n}{Q \times t}$$

where

$Q$  = Aerosol flow rate displayed on the Status Screen; this value was entered at the factory and is very close to its nominal value of 0.3 L/min (5 cm<sup>3</sup>/sec).

$t$  = total sample time in sec.

---

## Live-Time Counting

*Coincidence* occurs when more than one particle occupies the optical sensing region simultaneously. The optical detector cannot discriminate between the particles and multiple particles are counted as a single particle. At higher particle concentrations, particle coincidence begins to significantly impact the measured concentration.

The CPC corrects for coincidence continuously with the instrument electronics performing a “live-time” correction. Live-time refers to the time between electrical pulses. This is the total measurement time interval minus the time during which the counter is disabled with one or multiple particles in the optical sensing volume (the Dead Time). The dead time should not be included in the sample time since particles can’t be counted during this time interval except the ones that are already in the viewing volume. The actual particle concentration therefore equals the number of counted particles divided by the live time and the aerosol flow rate.

To measure live time, a high-speed clock and accumulator are used. The accumulator adds up the live time and the counter adds up pulse counts. The particle concentration is then calculated by

$$C_a = \frac{\text{number of counted particles}}{\text{accumulated live - time}} \times \frac{1}{\text{aerosol flow rate}}$$



---

# Photometric Calibration

For concentrations greater than 50,000 particles per cubic centimeter, the overall amount of light scattered from the droplets is measured as a DC voltage from the photodetector and then calibrated to a known concentration. For the calibration, a sodium chloride aerosol is used, dried with silica gel and neutralized using a radioactive source. The salt aerosol concentration is varied using a dilution bridge to develop a series of calibration data points at high concentrations, up to the instrument concentration limit of  $10^7$  particles/cm<sup>3</sup>. The Model 3775 CPC DC voltage is recorded at the different concentration calibration points. To determine the actual salt concentration used for the calibration points, a diluter and second CPC “standard” are used. Operating in the highly accurate single count mode, the standard CPC is first used to calibrate the *dilution ratio* of the diluter. Using the diluter, the standard CPC then measures the high test concentrations at each calibration test point while remaining in single particle counting mode. The corresponding relationship between the DC voltage and the known concentration is put into the 3775 CPC for photometric measurements.

**Note:** *For the 3775, the maximum concentration displayed is  $10^7$  particles/cm<sup>3</sup>. At concentrations above  $10^7$  particles/cm<sup>3</sup>, particle concentration data and the top status bar on the front panel are in red. If this occurs, aerosol needs to be diluted before entering the CPC.*

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## CHAPTER 7

# Computer Interface and Commands

This chapter provides computer interface and communications information for the Model 3775 Condensation Particle Counter (CPC). Information on the Flash Memory Card is also provided.

---

## Computer Interface

This section includes descriptions on USB, Ethernet connections, RS-232, and the Flash Memory Card.

### USB

USB communications are provided with the CPC, for use with the supplied Aerosol Instrument Manager<sup>®</sup> software. Simply connect the supplied USB cable to the instrument and computer having Windows<sup>®</sup>-based operating system and the Aerosol Instrument Manager software. Refer to the Aerosol Instrument Manager<sup>®</sup> manual for specific system requirements, including operating system version.

### Ethernet

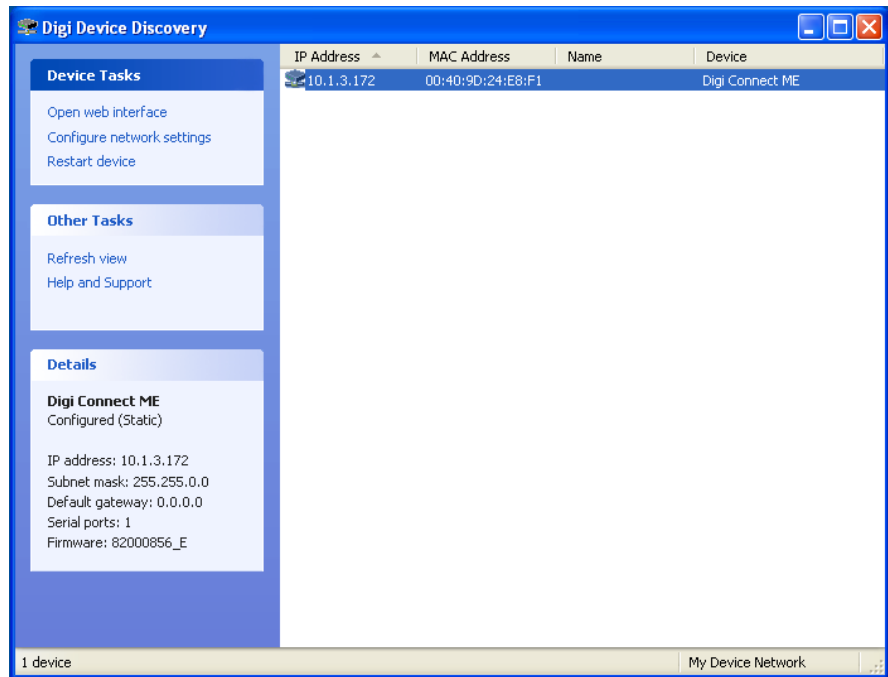
The Ethernet port on the CPC can provide system status information over the internet and is updated every five seconds. Your web browser must support java plug-ins.

### Network Setup

1. Connect the CPC to the network using an Ethernet cable and turn the instrument on.
2. On the computer that is connected to the same network using another Ethernet cable, run the device discovery program, **Discovery.exe** found on the supplied Aerosol Instrument Manager Software CD or in the folder where the Aerosol Instrument Manager software is installed. The **Discovery.exe** program will find CPC devices on the network.

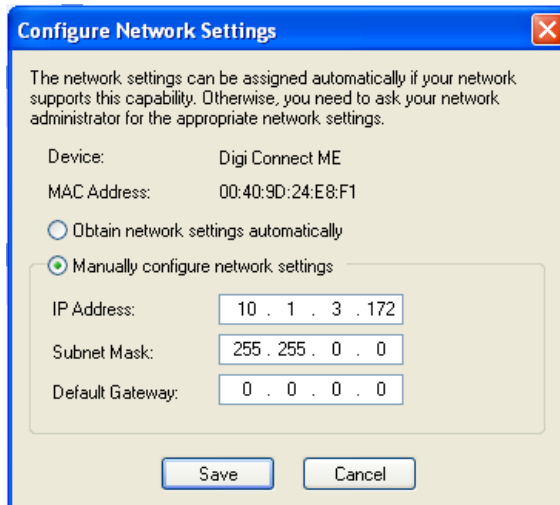
**Note:** This program will only find CPCs that are on the same subnet. Example: If the computer is at IP address 10.1.3.1, the device discovery program will find all CPCs on 10.1.3.x. Also, if the windows firewall is enabled (on by default in service pack 2) the device discovery will not find any CPCs. Once the IP address is known, you can access the Ethernet port on the CPC from another subnet.

3. Select the device and choose **Configure network settings**.



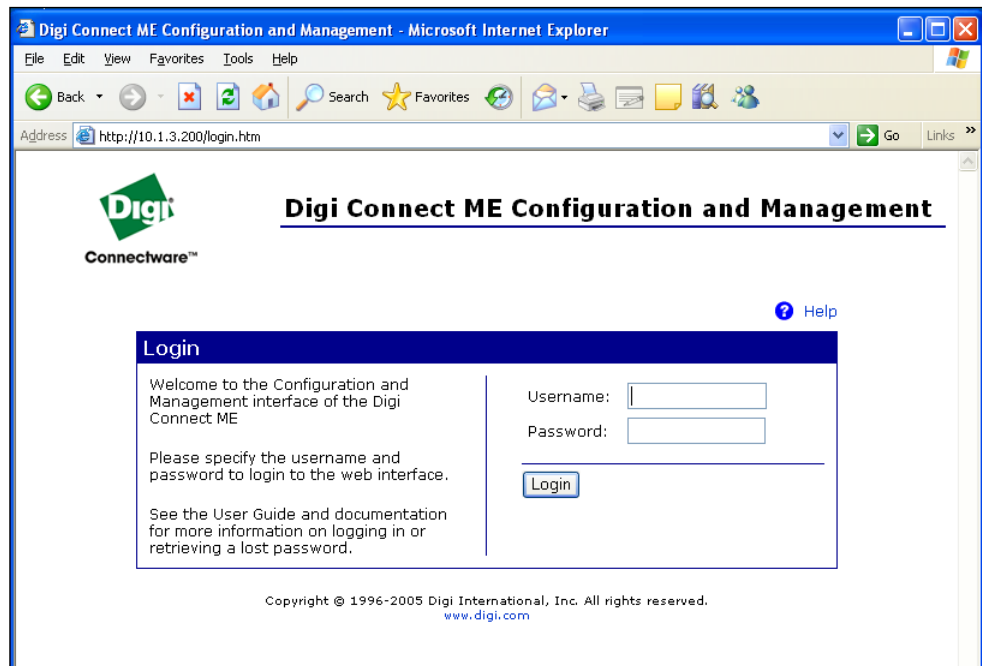
**Figure 7-1**  
Digi Device Discovery Screen

4. Talk with your network administrator to verify the correct network settings this device should operate at. If needed, the MAC address can be located on the back of the instrument or in this pop-up window. Fill in the appropriate information and click **Save**.



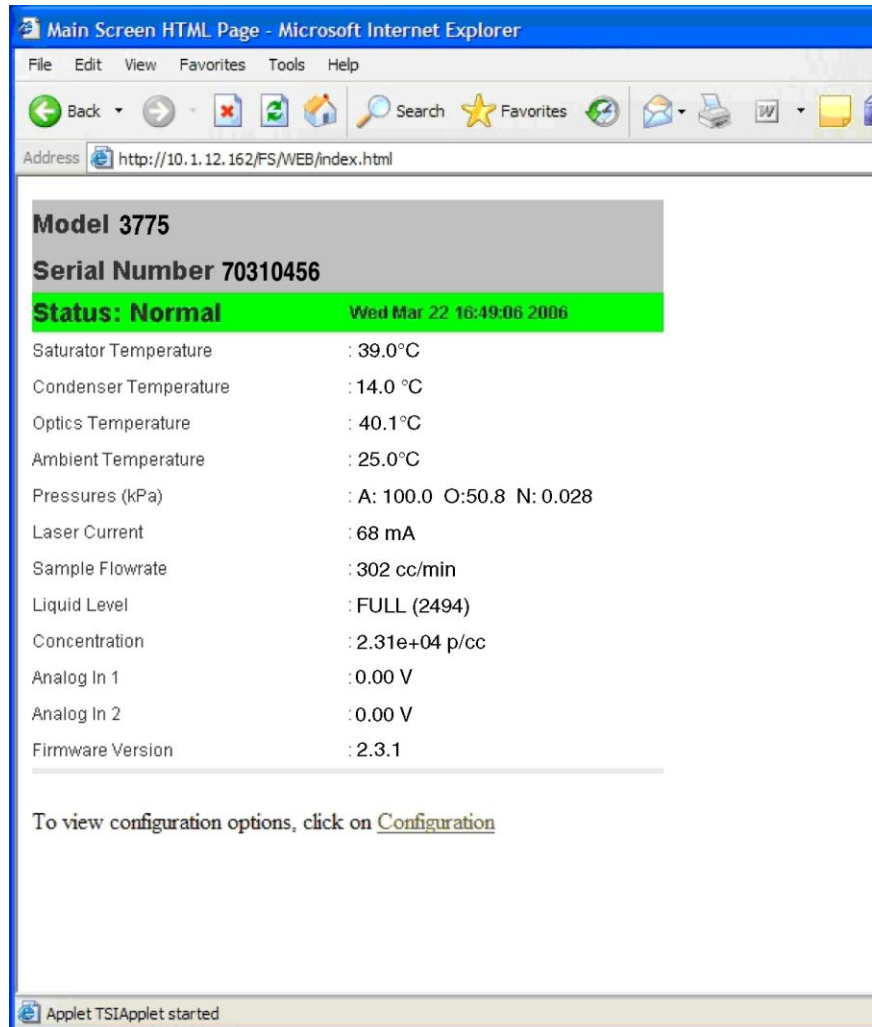
**Figure 7-2**  
Configure Network Settings Screen

5. Close the device discovery program and restart the CPC. It takes about a minute for the Ethernet to initialize.
6. If the CPC is in the same subnet as the computer, start the device discovery program **Discovery.exe** and click on **Open web interface**. The username and password are “**tsicpc**” as shown below in Figure 7-3. If the CPC is not in the same subnet as the computer, type in the IP address in your web browser. Work with your network administrator to make sure the IP address is accessible from the network your computer is in.



**Figure 7-3**  
Digi Connect ME Configuration and Management Screen

7. From the web interface of the device discovery program or the web browser, you can monitor the status of the CPC.



**Figure 7-4**  
Main Screen HTML Page

## Flash Memory Card Specification

A file is created on the Flash Memory Card when the START option is selected in the Main Data Presentation screen. Each file will contain one hour of data, unless the run is stopped early with the STOP option. See [Chapter 4](#).

Each file has this format:

LINE 1: "TSI CPC DATA VERSION 1"

LINE 2: start time of this file (the first number is the total number of seconds elapsed from midnight Jan. 1, 1970)

LINE 3: data average interval in seconds

LINE 4: Instrument model number, firmware version number, instrument serial number (result of the "RV" command)

LINE 5: first data set

LINE 6: second data set

LINE X: last data set

The data sets are defined as counts, concentration, analog input 1, analog input 2, status. These data sets are saved every average interval so if the average interval was one minute, the counts would be total counts (coincidence-corrected) over the last minute etc. Instrument operates in normal condition if the status bit shows zero. A nonzero status indicates that some operating parameters deviate from normal conditions. See RIE command in [Appendix B](#).

Every time you begin a new run, a unique file will be created with the date and time as the file name.

Www\_Mmm\_dd\_hh\_mm\_ss\_yyyy

Where Www is the weekday, Mmm the month in letters, dd the day of the month, hh\_mm\_ss the time, and yyyy the year.

<p><b>Disclaimer:</b> Due to the fact that the FAT file systems are by design not power fail-safe, if power is lost, part or all of the file system may be lost.</p>
--

**Note:** *Keep the amount of data stored in the flash memory card under 64 MB to avoid long overhead time before generating a new data file each hour in the card.*

## Flash Memory Card Formatting Issue

On Model 3775 CPCs shipped before January 2008, the unit's internal flash memory card had a formatting issue. This caused the card to appear full when the number of logged data files got much above 100, which resulted in the unit freezing up at the end of taking run data. To solve this issue, follow the steps below to reformat the card.

1. Power on the instrument and connect a USB cable to it from your computer. The flash memory card will appear as a separate disk drive in Window's Internet Explorer® browser.
2. If you have any data on the flash memory card you want to save, you must copy it to a temporary directory on your computer, because the reformat will erase it from the flash card.
3. Put your cursor on the flash memory card's drive letter in Window's Internet Explorer® browser and right click. Select **Format**.
4. Under File System, make sure "FAT32" is selected. Click on **Start**.

5. When it is done reformatting, copy any files you saved back onto the flash memory card.
6. You can check the format type of the flash memory card at any time by right clicking on the drive letter in Window's Internet Explorer® browser. Select **Properties** and look under File System.

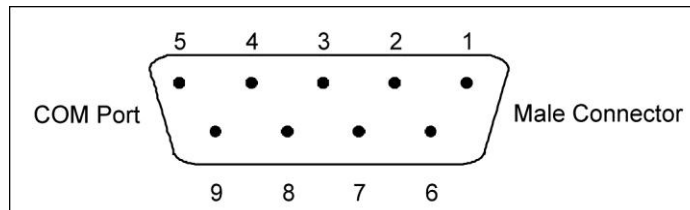


<b>Caution</b>	
Remove the flash memory card following the correct procedures:	
1.	Use <i>Safely Remove Hardware</i> option in Windows to disconnect the card reader from the computer—stop USB Mass Storage Device.
2.	After <i>the message Safe To Remove Hardware: The "USB Mass Storage Device" device can now be safely removed from the system</i> appears, physically remove the flash memory card from the card reader.
Failure to follow these procedures may result in failure to log data with the flash memory card.	

## RS-232 Serial Communications

The communications ports are configured at the factory to work with RS-232-type devices. RS-232 is a popular communications standard supported by many mainframe computers and most personal computers. The Model 3775 CPC has two 9-pin, D-type subminiature connectors on the back panel labeled Serial 1 and Serial 2. Figure 7-5 shows the connector pins on the serial ports; Table 7-1 lists the signal connections.

**Note:** *This pin configuration is compatible with the standard IBM PC serial cables.*



**Figure 7-5**  
RS-232 Connector Pin Designations

**Table 7-1**  
Signal Connections for RS-232 Configurations

Pin Number	RS-232 Signal
1	GND
2	Transmit Output
3	Receive Input
4	(Reserved)
5	GND
6	—
7	—
8	—
9	—



An external computer is connected to Serial 1 for basic instrument communications and when Aerosol Instrument Manager software is used. Serial 2 is used for attaching another instrument. Read and write commands are sent and received from Serial 2 by the computer connected to Serial 1. Serial 1 and Serial 2 can have different baud rates and communications protocols. Normally, only Serial 1 is used.

---

## Commands

All commands and responses, unless specified as binary-encoded, are sent or received as ASCII characters. All messages are terminated with a <CR> (0x0D) character. All linefeeds (0x0A) characters are ignored and none are transmitted. Commands are case insensitive. Backspace character (0x08) will delete previous characters in buffer.

In this specification, values enclosed by "<>" indicate ASCII characters/values sent/received. For example, <,> indicates the comma was sent or received via the communications channel.

Integers are 32-bit values. Floating point are IEEE() 32-bit values. Integer and floating point values are "C" string compatible ASCII-encoded. For example, an integer value of <11011100101110101001100001110110> binary, would be sent as <3703216246>.

When char, integer or hex-decimal data is sent with more than one digit, leading zeros should always be left off. If the value of the data is zero, then one zero must be sent. An exception is the value zero in real format, it should be sent as 0000E0.

The firmware commands are divided into the following categories:

- ❑ READ Commands
- ❑ SET Commands
- ❑ MISC (MISCELLANEOUS) Commands
- ❑ HELP Commands

READ commands are used to read parameter from the instrument (flow rates, pressures, temperatures, etc.). READ commands can be identified by a leading "R".

SET commands set an internal parameter to the value(s) supplied with the command. Supplied parameters are always delimited by a "<,>". SET commands can be identified by a leading "S". The instrument will reply to all set commands with the string "OK" <CR>.

MISC (MISCELLANEOUS) commands will be used for calibration and SMPS mostly.

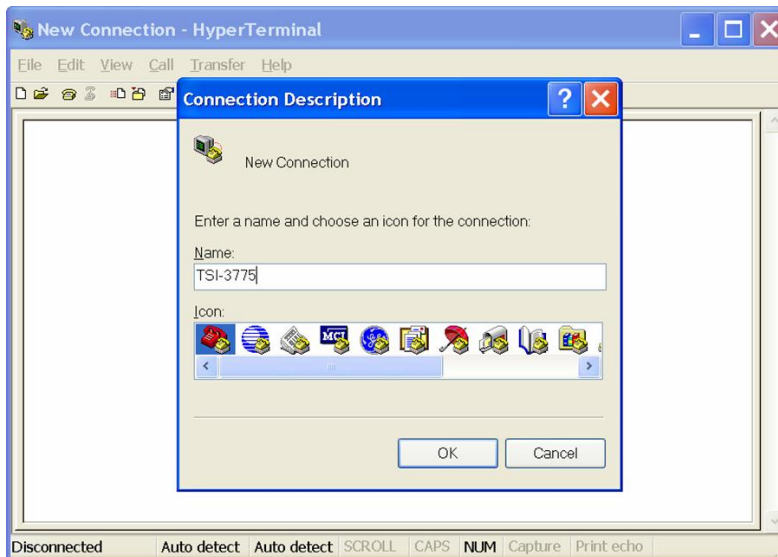
HELP commands. A list of firmware commands are accessible using the HELP command sent to Serial 1 of the CPC. The firmware commands are also listed in [Appendix B](#). The commands can be used to read CPC data, instrument statuses, set instrument operating parameters, and send and receive data from another instrument attached to the Serial 2 port.

The instrument will reply with a serial string of "ERROR", if a command was not understood.

To use the HELP command and the firmware commands, a program capable of sending and receiving ASCII text commands can be used. A terminal program such as "HyperTerminal" (supplied with Windows®) is appropriate.

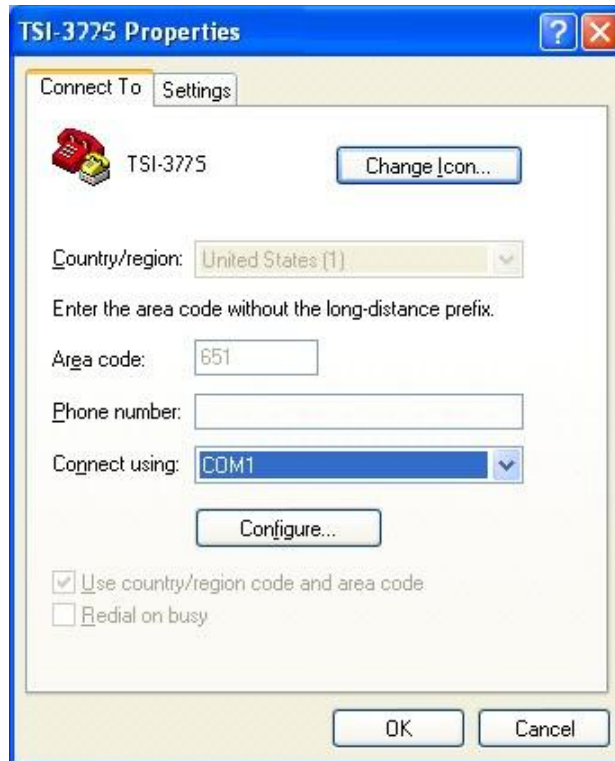
Connect to Serial 1 of the Model 3775 CPC and perform the following steps:

1. Open the HyperTerminal program by selecting:  
**Start|Programs|Accessories|Communications|HyperTerminal.**
2. Enter a name for the connection, for example, TSI-3775.



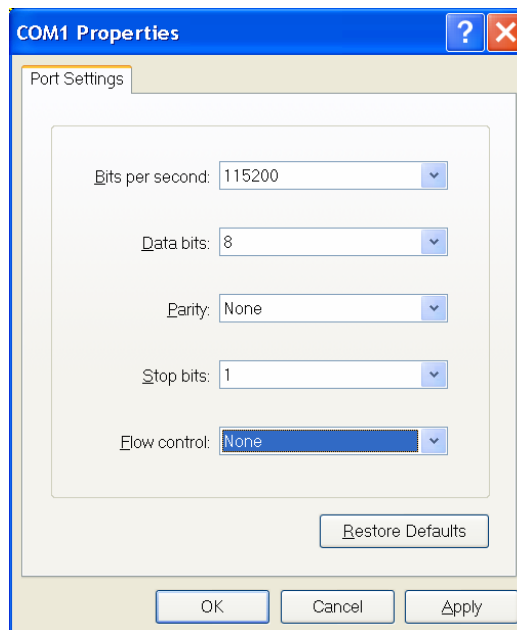
**Figure 7-6**  
Connection Description Screen

3. Enter the communications (COM) port.



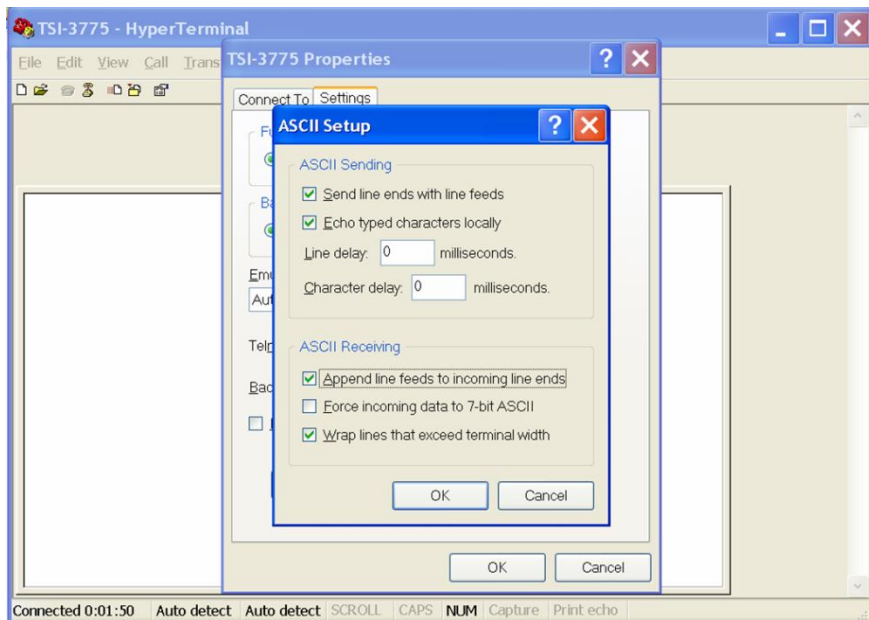
**Figure 7-7**  
Connect To Dialog Box

4. Enter the port settings described below and click **OK**.



**Figure 7-8**  
Port Settings Dialog Box

5. Under the settings tab, pick the **ASCII Setup** button and check the boxes shown below.



**Figure 7-9**  
ASCII Setup Dialog Box

6. Now select **File|Save As** and save the file to the desktop for easy access.
7. Close the program and start it again from the desktop. It should automatically open a connection to the instrument.
8. Type in firmware commands to communicate with the CPC. A list of firmware commands can be obtained using the HELP command or from [Appendix B](#). To obtain the list from HELP command, select **Transfer|Capture Text...** and then **HELP ALL** in the terminal window lets you capture all the help commands to a text file for easy reference.

## CHAPTER 8

# Maintenance and Service

This chapter is written for a service technician with skills in both electronics and mechanics. Static preventative measures should be observed when handling any printed circuit board connectors.

Regular maintenance of the Model 3775 Condensation Particle Counter (CPC) will help ensure years of useful operation. The frequency of service depends on the frequency of use and the cleanliness of the air measured. This section describes how to check and service some components of the CPC.

You are encouraged to call TSI for assistance in performing special maintenance. It may also be helpful to have the technician, tools, and the CPC close to the telephone when discussing the problem with a TSI technician. Refer to this chapter for directions on contacting a technical resource at TSI.



### W A R N I N G

Procedures described below may require removal of the instrument cover. The instrument must be unplugged prior to service to prevent possible electrical shock hazard.



### W A R N I N G

Unplug the instrument prior to removing the cover to avoid potential of exposure to laser radiation.



### C a u t i o n

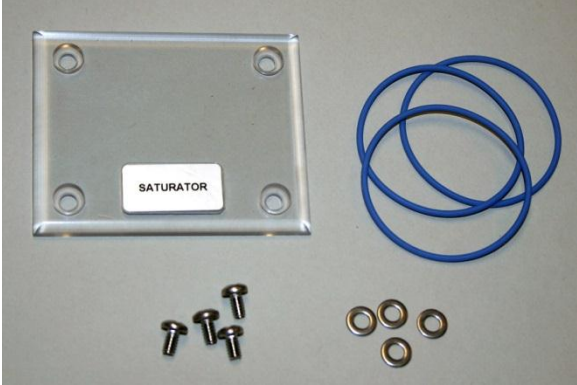



Whenever performing service on internal components avoid damage to the CPC circuitry by not stressing internal wiring, through bumping, snagging or pulling. Also use electrostatic discharge (ESD) precautions:




- Use only a table top with a grounded conducting surface.
- Wear a grounded, static-discharging wrist strap



# Replacement Parts Kits

In addition to replacement parts found in your supplied accessory kit, additional replacement items are available from TSI to keep your CPC operating for many years. Parts are available in kits listed below. Please contact your TSI representative for details and purchase of these items.

**Table 8-1**  
3775 CPC Maintenance and Replacement Kits

TSI Part No.		Name	Description
1031484		Reservoir Cover Replacement Kit	Replacement clear window for the butanol reservoir.
1031487		Insulation Plug supplies	Insulation plugs for insulating the RTD thermocouples used for temperature control.
1031488		Replacement Filter Kit 3775	Kit of all filters used within the Model 3775 CPC
1031490		Orifice Flow Control Kit 3775	Replacement critical orifices.

TSI Part No.		Name	Description
1031492		Kit, Charcoal Filter, large, CPC	Five (5) large charcoal filters used to remove butanol from exhaust (~ten-day effectiveness for each filter).
1031493		Kit, Charcoal Filter, small, CPC	Five (5) small charcoal filters used to remove butanol from exhaust (~two-day effectiveness for each filter).
1031494		Replacement Saturator Wick, CPC 3775	Two (2) replacement wicks

TSI Part No.		Name	Description
1031497		Maintenance Kit CPC 3775	Includes 1031484, 1031487, 1031488, 1031490, 1031493, and 1031494.
1031486		Fill and Drain Bottle Replacement Kit	Fill and drain bottles, bracket, tubing and fittings.

## Draining Butanol from the Butanol Reservoir

Butanol must be drained from the reservoir prior to removing the clear plastic butanol reservoir plate on the side panel of the instrument and wick. To drain the butanol reservoir:

1. Connect butanol drain bottle (from the accessories) to the drain fitting on the back of the CPC using the mating quick-connect fitting.
2. Place the drain bottle on the floor.
3. Select the Manual Drain option from the User Settings menu, and depress the control knob (see Chapter 4, "[User Settings](#)").
4. Select **Continue** from the options in the window that appear. The butanol drain valve will open. Often there is not a significant column of liquid in the butanol drain line to initial flow from the butanol reservoir. Tipping the instrument toward the drain port and squeezing the butanol drain bottle will sometimes help start flow.
5. Confirm that butanol has drained by checking the butanol level through the clear reservoir cover plate. During draining, Auto-Fill and the vacuum pump are automatically turned off.

**Note:** *When draining is stopped, the pump restarts but the Auto-Fill must be turned on again by selecting this option from the User Settings menu or by restarting the instrument.*





### Caution

Whenever the instrument is turned on, the Auto-Fill is activated. Do not run the instrument with the butanol reservoir cover plate removed to prevent spilling butanol from the butanol reservoir.

---

## Changing the Filters

The Model 3775 CPC use three particulate filters and two liquid filters. The particulate filters are for the exhaust flow, bypass air flow, and makeup air flow. The liquid filters are for butanol fill and water removal system. The filter in the water removal system is called Micro-pump filter. These filters may be replaced at regular intervals depending on use.

### Filter Replacement Schedule

Below are estimates to provide some guidance on how often filters should be changed. Filters may require replacement sooner, or may last significantly longer depending upon the sampled aerosol concentration level or aerosol type. Changes in the nozzle differential pressure and inlet sample flow rate may indicate that a filter requires replacement.

Replacement filters are supplied in the accessories kit and are available from TSI as maintenance kits. Refer to the earlier section [Replacement Parts Kits](#).

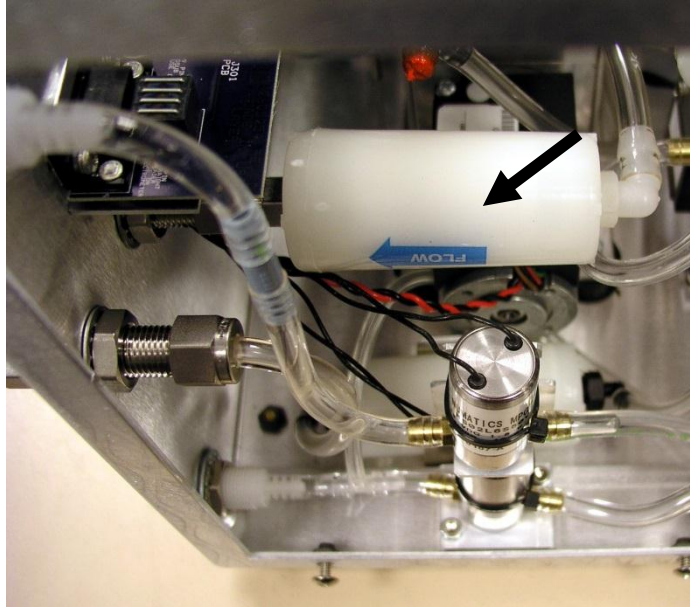
**Table 8-2**  
Filter Replacement Schedule

Filter Name (TSI Part Number)	Replacement Schedule (Operation Time)
Exhaust Filter (1602094)*	2000 hours
Bypass Filter (1602094)	>2000 hours
Makeup Air Filter (1602094)	>3000 hours
Butanol Fill (1602088)	2000 hours
Micro-pump Filter (1500192)	As necessary

\*Part numbers are listed for reference only. Replacement filters are ordered from TSI as Replacement Filter Kit P/N 1031488.

## Exhaust Filter

The Exhaust Filter is mounted at the back panel as shown in Figure 8-1. This filter removes particles in the air stream exhausting the instrument from the internal vacuum pump. This filter does not require replacement unless instrument sample flow is compromised as the filter loads. A drop in the nozzle differential pressure or reduction in inlet sample flow may indicate a plugged exhaust filter.

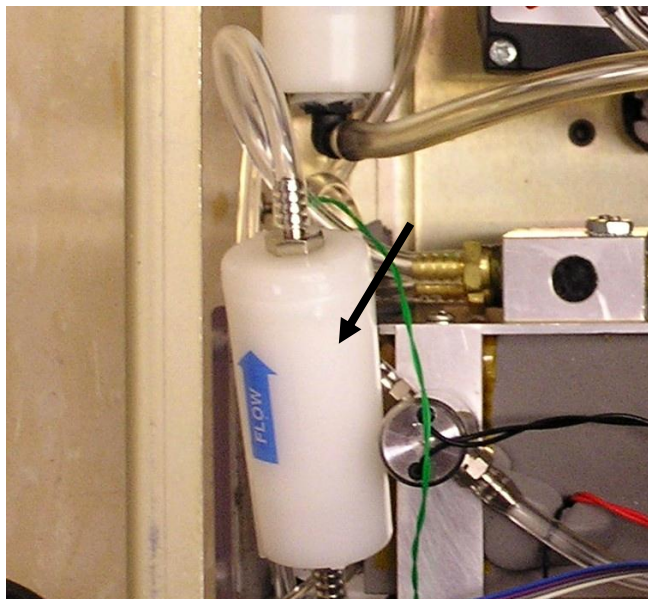


**Figure 8-1**  
Replacing the Exhaust Filter

1. Read warnings and cautions at the beginning of this chapter.
2. Unplug the instrument and remove the instrument cover by loosening the six side panel screws (they don't have to be fully removed). Lift the cover up. Do **NOT** remove the screws holding the clear butanol reservoir cover.
3. Before replacing the filter, note the direction arrow on the filter that points to the back of the instrument.
4. Remove the tubing from the barbed fitting at the back of the filter.
5. Unscrew the filter and separate it from the threaded bulkhead panel fitting. Discard the old filter after removing fittings at both ends.
6. Find in the accessory kit the new exhaust filter (P/N 1602094) with the stainless steel fitting and the elbow plastic fitting.
7. Reinstall the new exhaust filter, by screwing the filter housing onto the bulkhead fitting and connect the barbed fitting with the corresponding tubing.

## Bypass Filter

The Bypass air filter is identified in Figure 8-2 and is referenced in the schematic, Figure 5-1. This filter is used to protect a variable orifice controlling flow at a nominal 1.2 L/min. The Bypass filter is used during the high-flow operation mode. This filter is generally not replaced unless the instrument sample flow is compromised as the filter loads.



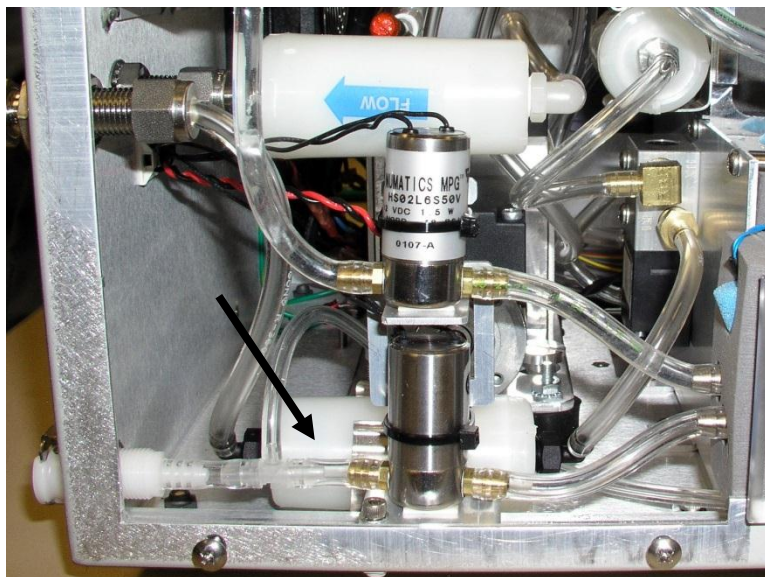
**Figure 8-2**  
Replacing the Bypass Air Filter

1. Read warnings and cautions at the beginning of this chapter.
2. Unplug the instrument and remove the instrument cover by loosening the six side panel screws (they don't have to be fully removed). Lift the cover up. Do **NOT** remove the screws holding the clear butanol reservoir cover.
3. Locate the filter in Figure 8-2. Before replacing the filter note the direction arrow on the filter. It points to the 3-way solenoid valve that controls the inlet flow operation mode.
4. Remove the tubing from both ends of the filter.
5. Replace the filter with the one in the accessory kit (P/N 1602094), orienting the directional arrow and tubing correctly. Flow arrow should point to the 3-way solenoid valve.

## Makeup Air Filter

The Makeup air filter is identified in Figure 8-3 and referenced in the flow schematic, Figure 5-1. The Makeup Air Filter is used during the low-flow operation mode to remove particles from the makeup air flow and protect the bypass/makeup variable orifice.

Makeup air flow is added to maintain a constant pump flow (load), whether the CPC is operated with high or low sample flow. The makeup air filter draws from room air, typically low in particle concentration, so replacement is infrequent. If high flow is used exclusively, no filter replacement is necessary.

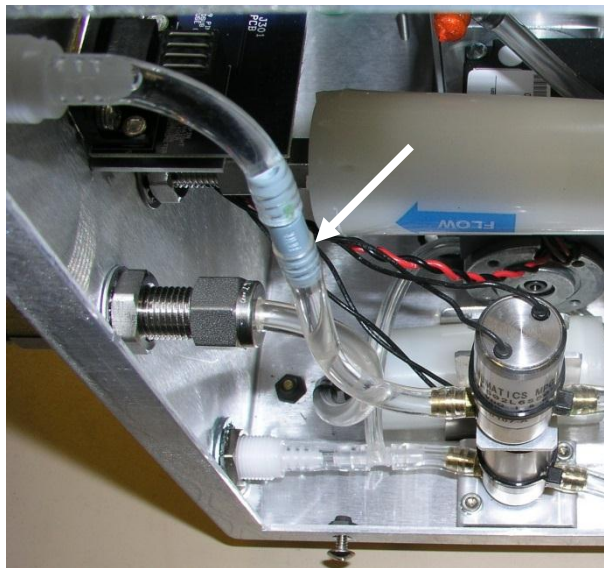


**Figure 8-3**  
Replacing the Makeup Air Filter

1. Read warnings and cautions at the beginning of this chapter before changing the makeup filter.
2. Unplug the instrument and remove the instrument cover by loosening the six side panel screws (they don't have to be fully removed). Lift the cover up. Do **not** remove the screws holding the clear butanol reservoir cover.
3. Locate the filter in Figure 8-3. at the back-left corner of the instrument, affixed to the instrument bottom.
4. Remove the tubing from the fittings on both ends of the filter. Twist or flex the tubing to facilitate removal.
5. Remove the filter from the cabinet. Remove the two elbow barb fittings from the old filter and install on the new filter.
6. Replace the filter with the one in the accessory kit (P/N 1602094). Install the new filter with the flow direction arrow towards the front of the CPC. Replace the tubing.

## Butanol Fill Filter

The butanol fill filter is found in the fill line leading from the butanol bottle (Figure 8-4).



**Figure 8-4**  
Replacing the Butanol Fill Filter

1. Read warnings and cautions at the beginning of this chapter.
2. Unplug the instrument and remove the instrument cover by loosening the six side panel screws (they don't have to be fully removed). Lift the cover up. Do **NOT** remove the screws holding the clear butanol reservoir cover.
3. Remove the tubing from the barbed fittings at the ends of the filter.
4. Replace the filter with the appropriate filter found in the accessory kit (P/N 1602088). This filter has no preferred direction.

## Micro-Pump Filter

The Micro-pump is used to remove condensed water vapor before it contaminates butanol in the saturator. The micro-pump filter protects the pump from contamination which could impede its performance. The micro-pump filter should generally be replaced only if it becomes blocked as it requires front panel removal. A blocked micro-pump filter prevents condensate from being extracted.

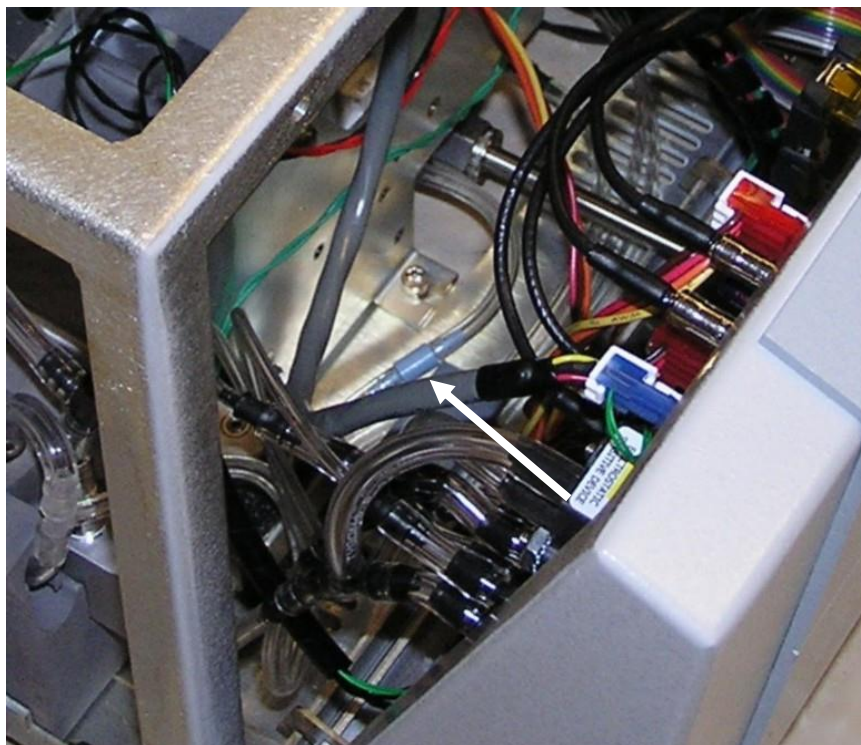
When using the water removal feature it is advisable to check the drain tubing to the drain bottle to verify liquid movement. The liquid column will pulse a small amount toward the drain bottle, approximately once per second as the micro-pump actuates. If no pulsing occurs, first verify that the water removal feature is on (see "[User Settings](#)" in Chapter 4).

1. Read warnings and cautions at the beginning of this chapter.

2. Unplug the instrument and remove the instrument cover by loosening the six side panel screws (they don't have to be fully removed). Lift the cover up. Do **NOT** remove the screws holding the clear butanol reservoir cover.
3. The micro-pump filter is accessed from the front of the instrument. Remove the three screws (see arrows) at the top of the front panel as shown in Figure 8-5. Carefully, tip the panel back, be careful not to bend the sampling inlet.
4. Find the filter shown in Figure 8-6.
5. Remove the micro-pump filter by carefully removing the tubing at the ends of the filter barbs. Be careful not to pull the tubing off the pump fitting or fitting in the saturator.
6. Install a new filter (P/N 1500192) from the accessory kit. This filter has no preferred direction.



**Figure 8-5**  
Front Panel Screw Removal



**Figure 8-6**  
Micro-Pump Filter, Shown Behind the Opened Front Panel

---

## Removing and Installing the Saturator Wick



### Caution

Removing the saturator wick will cause butanol (butyl-alcohol) vapors to diffuse into the work space. Wick replacement operations must be performed in a well ventilated area, ideally under a fume hood. If unfamiliar with butanol, refer to the [Chemical Safety](#) information at the front of this manual.



### Caution

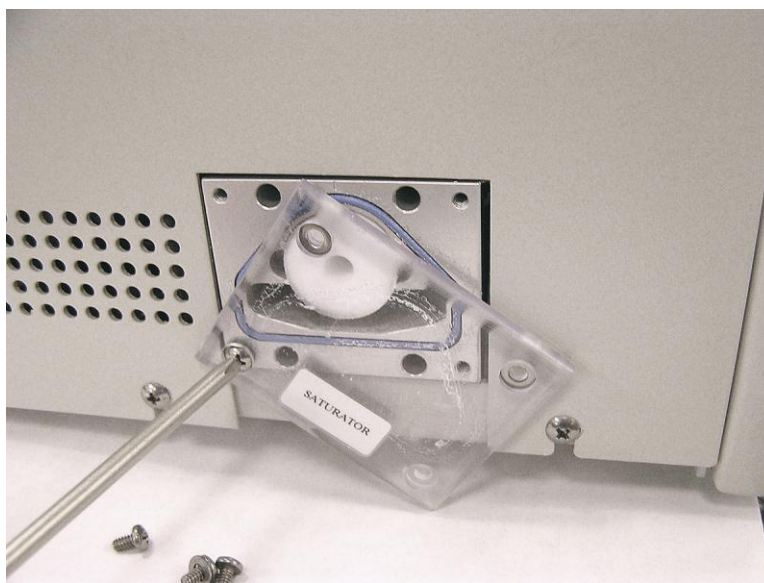
Whenever the instrument is turned on, the Auto-Fill is activated. Do *not* run the instrument with the clear butanol reservoir cover plate removed to prevent spilling butanol from the butanol reservoir.

### Tools needed to remove saturator wick

Plastic bag with seal, Philips-head screwdriver, small flat-blade screwdriver, needle nose pliers, paper towels. Refer to figures that follow.

To remove and reinstall the saturator wick, follow the instructions below.

1. Find a plastic bag with seal, suitable to hold the 8" × 1" saturator wick. The wick will likely be wet with butanol when removed and needs to be placed in the bag immediately to reduce release of butanol vapors.
2. Connect the Drain Bottle to the drain port at the back of the instrument.
3. Select the Manual Drain option from the [User Settings](#) menu as described in Chapter 4.
4. The drain bottle should be placed on the floor, well below the instrument. To facilitate draining, tilt the instrument to the side of the clear reservoir plate and/or to the side of the back panel. The bottle can also be squeezed to initiate movement of the liquid column in the drain tube.
5. Once drained, remove the clear plastic reservoir cover plate by removing the four retaining screws as shown in Figure 8-7. Make sure the blue O-ring gasket seal is retained if it becomes unseated. Put paper towels on the table under the reservoir to absorb any butanol that spills out.

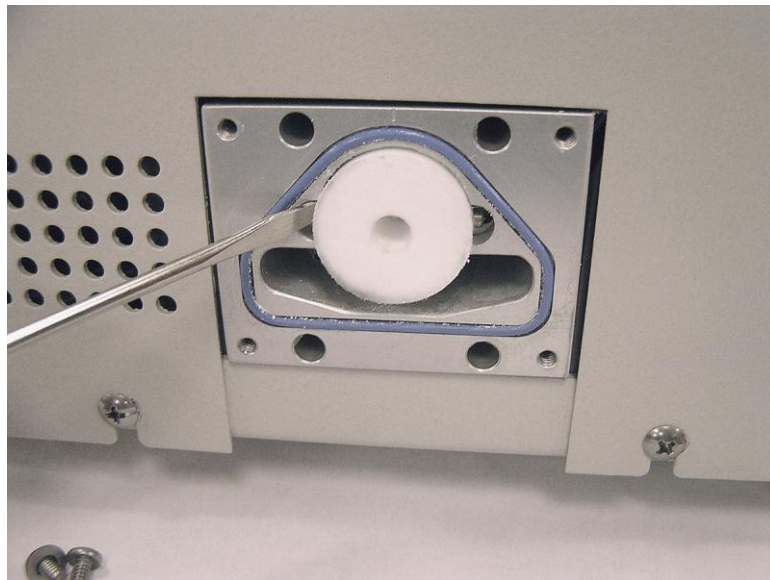


**Figure 8-7**  
Saturator Wick Removal

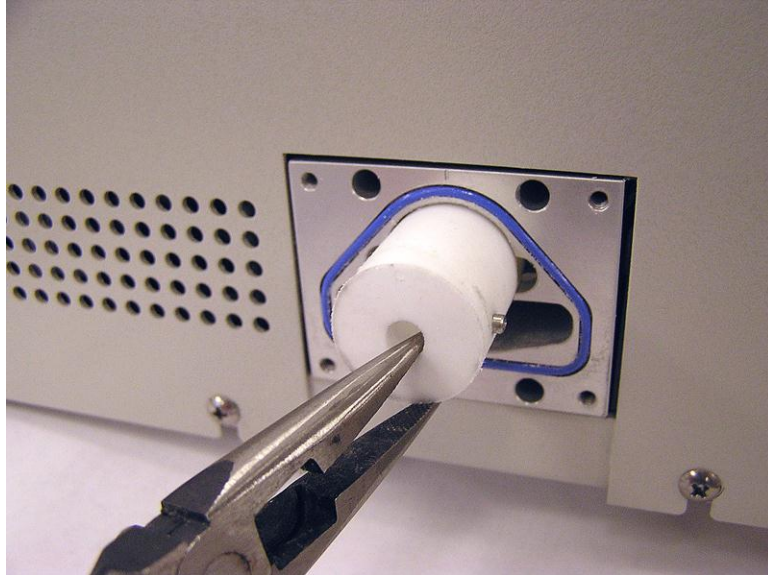
6. Insert a small flat-blade screwdriver in the notch at the side of the wick and pry the wick out as shown in Figure 8-8. You may need to use pliers if the wick is soaked with butanol (see Figure 8-9). Make sure to use as minimal force as possible. Place the wick in the plastic bag included with the accessories and seal the bag. This wick can be dried by putting it in a vacuum for three hours. However, it is not necessary to dry the wick before putting it back into the saturator block after the shipment.



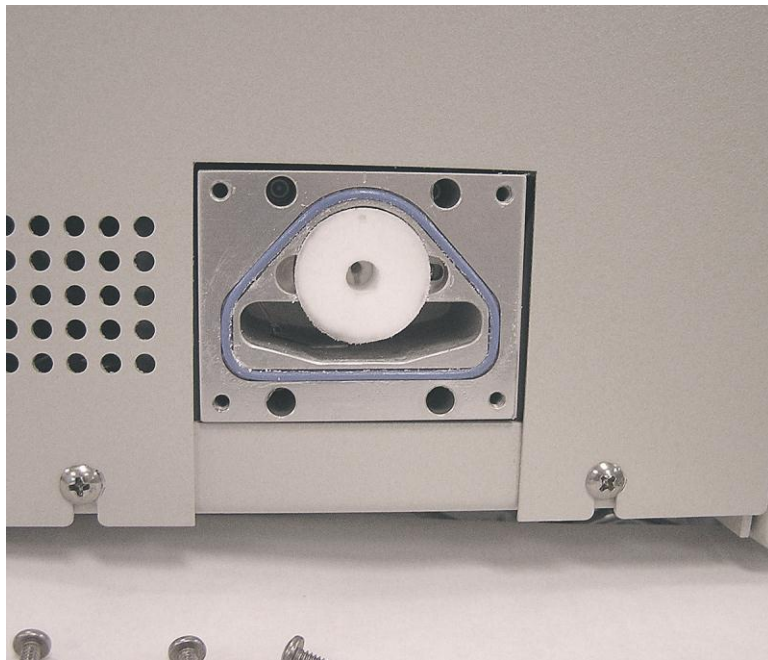
7. To install a wick back into the saturator, insert the wick into the saturator block, orienting it as shown in Figure 8-10 with the metal orientation pin at the side of the wick positioned in the notch to the right.
8. Replace the gasket seal, if necessary, by reinserting it into the groove and applying vacuum grease on the gasket.
9. Replace the clear plastic plate, making sure the O-ring is properly seated and not pinched.
10. Tighten the screws with modest torque.
11. Use the Auto-Fill option to refill the reservoir with Butanol. See "[User Settings](#)" in Chapter 4.



**Figure 8-8**  
Prying the Saturator Wick Out



**Figure 8-9**  
Pulling the Saturator Wick Out Using Pliers with Minimal Force



**Figure 8-10**  
Installing a Saturator Wick

# Bypass/Makeup Air Flow Adjustment

Refer to the flow schematic in Figure 5-1.

High inlet flow is adjustable using the bypass/makeup air variable orifice. The bypass/makeup air is nominally 1.2 L/min. Together with nominally 0.3 L/min aerosol flow, 1.5 L/min inlet sample flow is produced. Aerosol flow is not adjustable because it is controlled by the critical orifice.

To make adjustments to the bypass/makeup air flow, you must have a suitable flowmeter as a reference. Choose an external flowmeter that has a low pressure drop and measure the actual volumetric flow e.g., a *bubble meter* or a *TSI flowmeter*. If you use a mass flowmeter (one referenced to standard conditions), convert the standard flow to actual (volumetric) flow with the following equation:

$$\text{Actual flow}(cm^3 / s) = \text{std flow}(scm^3 / s) \times \left( \frac{T}{293} \times \frac{101.35}{P} \right)$$

where      T = °K  
              P = kPa

Inlet flow in the high flow mode may be reduced if the bypass filter is loaded. The bypass filter is shown in Figure 8-2. Prior to adjusting the bypass/makeup air variable orifice, replace the bypass filter. To adjust the bypass/makeup air flow, perform the following operations.



## Caution

Whenever performing service on internal components avoid damage to the UCPC circuitry by not stressing internal wiring, through bumping, snagging, or pulling. Also use electrostatic discharge (ESD) precautions:

- Use only a table top with a grounded conducting surface.
- Wear a grounded, static-discharging wrist strap.



## WARNING

Procedures described below require removal of the instrument cover with the instrument powered. Keep hands away from electronic components to avoid possible electrical shock hazard.

1. Read warnings and cautions at the beginning of this chapter.
2. Unplug the instrument and remove the instrument cover by loosening the six side panel screws (they don't have to be fully removed). Lift the cover up. Do **not** remove the screws holding the clear butanol reservoir cover.
3. With the cover removed, locate the small bypass/makeup variable orifice, item number 10 in Figure 3-5. This orifice has a screw adjustment for a flat blade screwdriver.

4. Remove the bulk of the red material used to prevent the screw on the variable orifice from turning due to vibration.
5. Because the instrument is powered, pay special attention to the caution and warning above.
6. Using a flat blade screwdriver, adjust the orifice screw while monitoring the flow using your flowmeter.
7. Adjust the flow to the desired value.

---

## Maintenance of the Critical Orifice

If the differential pressure across the Nozzle decreases significantly from its initial value, an aerosol flow error is indicated on the front panel display, meaning a possible contaminated or plugged critical orifice (see note next page). The initial value of nozzle pressure is found on the checkout data sheet supplied with the instrument. Current nozzle differential and critical orifice differential pressure are both displayed on the Status screen shown in Figure 4-9, Chapter 4. Note that the orifice differential pressure can indicate there is sufficient vacuum pressure even when the orifice itself is clogged because the vacuum pump may pull less air flow through the sensor.

A plugged orifice is best determined by measuring the inlet flow while the instrument is in the low flow operation mode. Inlet flow measurement is made using a volumetric flowmeter capable of accurately measuring 0.3 L/min flow. A “bubble meter” or a TSI flowmeter is an accurate meter for this purpose. Connect the flowmeter to the instrument inlet and operate the instrument in the low flow operation mode. Orifice replacement or cleaning is not necessary if your CPC flow rate is measured near the value indicated on the Status screen, at about 0.3 L/min. If a low inlet flow is observed using the flowmeter, maintenance of the orifice is recommended.

**Note:** *Low nozzle pressure can indicate other problems too, such as plugged nozzle pressure tubing. This can occur if butanol collects in the tubing. Butanol in the nozzle pressure tubing may indicate a more serious flooding problem. Contact TSI service personnel if this problem occurs. A leak in the pump sampling tubing or diminished pump performance will also cause reduced flow through the critical flow orifice and lowered nozzle pressure. This will be accompanied by a reduced orifice pressure as well as nozzle pressure reduction. Reference the discussion in Chapter 5, “[Technical Description](#),” on critical flow for a better understanding of CPC flow.*

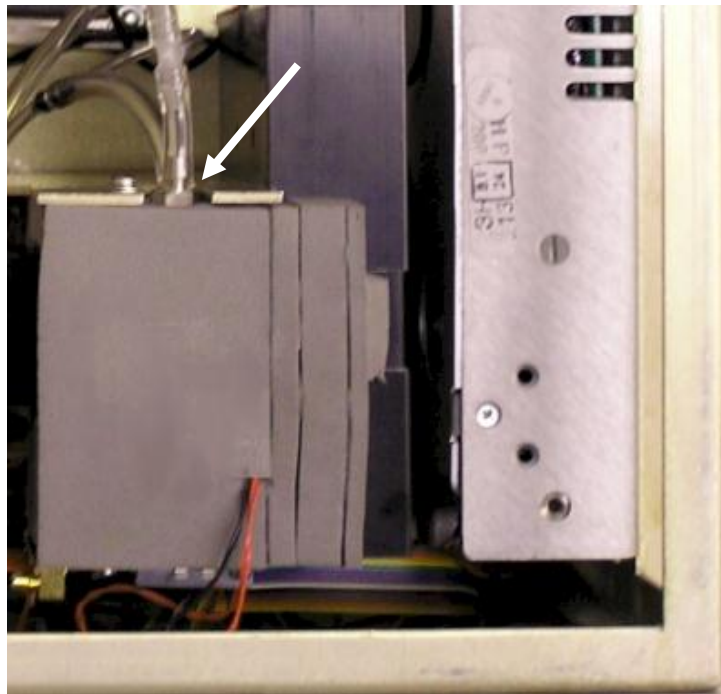
To remove the critical orifice for cleaning or replacement, use the following instructions:

1. Read warnings and cautions at the beginning of this chapter.
2. Unplug the instrument and remove the instrument cover by loosening the six side panel screws (they don’t have to be fully removed). Lift the cover up. Do **NOT** remove the screws holding the clear butanol reservoir cover.

3. Identify the stainless steel barbed orifice fitting from Figure 8-11 indicated by the arrow.
4. When performing any operations within the cabinet, take great care to avoid stressing any electrical wiring. Damage to the wiring may necessitate the return of the instrument to the factory for repair.
5. Carefully separate the clear tubing from the orifice barb, prying carefully between the end of the tube and fitting with a flat blade screwdriver to facilitate tubing removal.
6. Use a  $\frac{7}{16}$ " socket wrench or nut driver to remove the fitting.
7. Clean or replace the orifice fitting. Cleaning may require the use of an ultrasonic bath or use of appropriate solvent depending upon source of contamination. The orifice fitting is constructed of 316 SS with an imbedded Sapphire orifice. Orifice replacement (one orifice supplied) may be required if the blockage cannot be removed.

**Note:** *TSI replacement orifices have excellent repeatability, and calibration is generally unnecessary to maintain the basic instrument flow specification when an orifice is replaced. If you have a trusted flow reference, you may wish to calibrate the orifice to improve accuracy. A new calibration data point is entered through the instrument's serial communication port. Refer to the section "[Calibrating and Entering New Orifice Flow Data](#)".*

8. Apply thread sealing tape or compound and re-install the orifice.
9. Reconnect the plastic tubing.
10. Verify flow as described earlier.



**Figure 8-11**  
Top View of Instrument Showing Critical Orifice in Optics Block

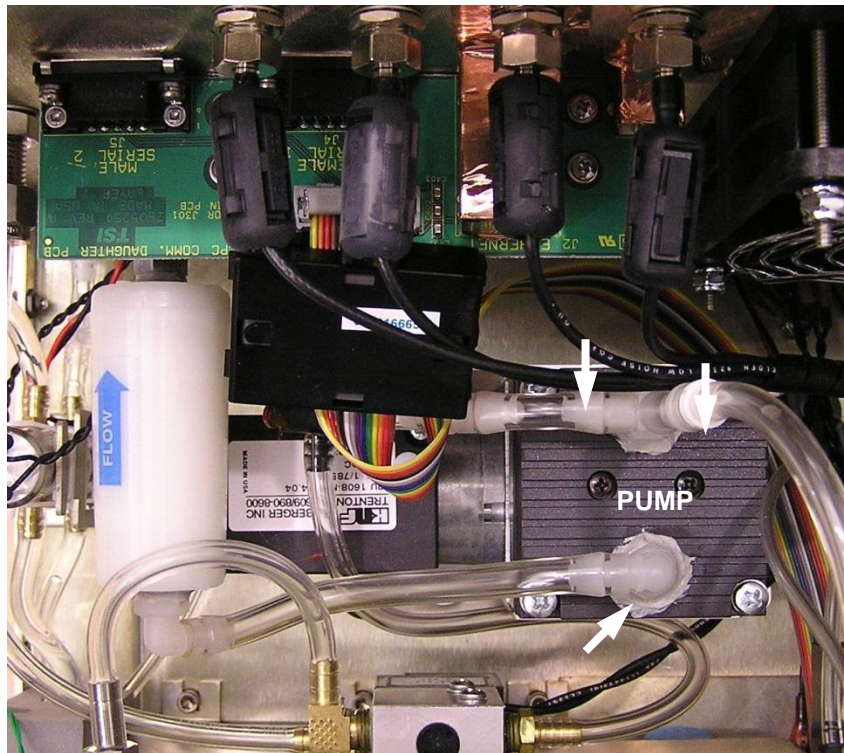
# Installation of an External Vacuum Pump

It is possible to use an external pump with your CPC. The pump must provide sufficient vacuum to maintain a critical pressure across the aerosol flow orifice and bypass/makeup air variable orifice, while providing adequate inlet flow for instrument operation.

The external vacuum pump must maintain at least 50 kPa (15 in.Hg) of vacuum pressure at 100 kPa (1 standard atmosphere) to achieve critical flow of 1.5 L/min volumetric flow at the inlet. If multiple CPCs are connected to the same pump, the inlet flow specification must be increased accordingly.

Install an external vacuum pump by following the instructions below:

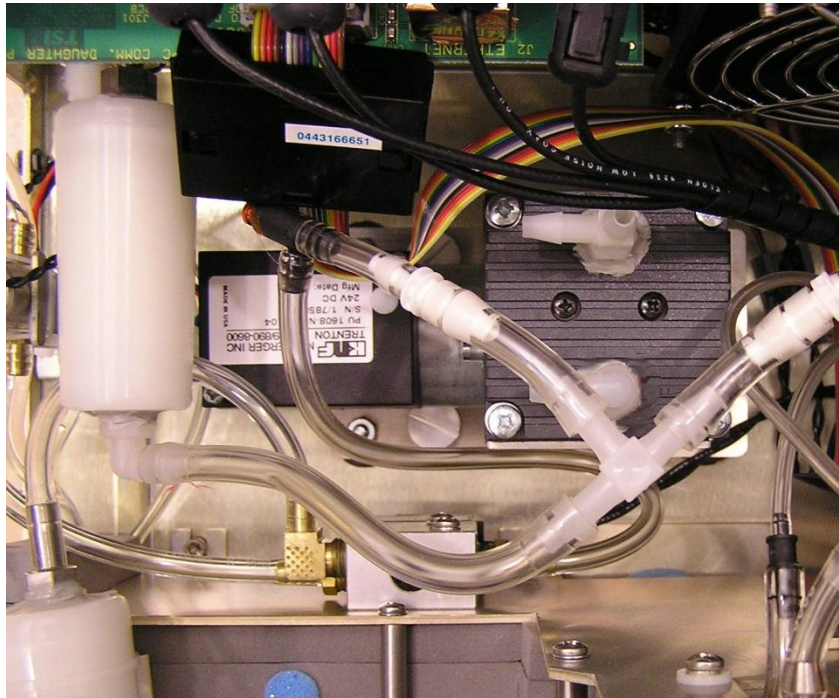
1. Read warnings and cautions at the beginning of this chapter.
2. Unplug the instrument and remove the instrument cover by loosening the six side panel screws (they don't have to be fully removed). Lift the cover up. Do **not** remove the screws holding the clear butanol reservoir cover.
3. Locate the top of the internal vacuum pump shown in Figure 8-12.



**Figure 8-12**  
Top View of Instrument Showing Pump Top and Pump Inlet and Exhaust Fittings and Tubing

4. Disconnect tubing from the barbed fittings shown in Figure 8-12.
5. Using a polyethylene tee having  $\frac{3}{16}$ " tube barbs to connect the tubes as shown in Figure 8-13.

6. Connect your external vacuum pump to the **Pump Exhaust** port at the back of the CPC using plastic tubing capable of providing high vacuum without collapsing under the vacuum load.
7. Replace the cover and tighten the cover screws.
8. When operating the instrument, turn the internal vacuum pump off.



**Figure 8-13**  
View of Instrument Interior Showing Tee Connection for External Pump

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## Calibration Reminder

TSI recommends yearly calibrations for your CPC. Ten months after the instrument's last calibration, a series of periodic reminders are generated to notify the user that a yearly recalibration is due soon. These reminders come in two forms: a message appears on the screen and an error bit is set which is seen with the RIE firmware command. The message and bit will remain until cleared by either of these two methods: pressing the front panel knob, or sending the SCCR firmware command. After this, the reminder remains cleared until either another one is generated in several days, or the last reminder is given, or the unit is recalibrated. Be aware this is only a reminder and will not affect the operation of your instrument in any way, even if it is not recalibrated. Although not necessary, if you wish to check the instrument's last calibration date or reminder status, use the SCD firmware command, which is explained in the appendix.

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## False Count Check

If you find that the CPC is continually counting a lot of particles even with a high efficiency (HEPA or ULPA) filter on the inlet, the CPC may have developed a leak or the aerosol flow path may have become contaminated with butanol.

To eliminate the possibility of butanol contamination, follow the directions in the following section for "[Flooded Instrument](#)." If the false count problem continues, it is most likely due to a leak. Contact TSI for assistance.

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## Error Messages and Troubleshooting

The table below provides basic information on the errors generated by the Model 3775 CPC, and suggestions for corrective action.

When an error occurs, the status bar at the top of the screen turns red and the error is displayed e.g., "Saturator temp out of range." When multiple errors are present "Multiple Errors" is indicated. To help determine the type of errors, refer to the Status Screen (see Figure 4-9). The number presented in the right column appears red if out of range. Refer to Table 8-3 to help identify the problem.

When the pump is turned off in User Settings (Figure 4-5), the error bar turns yellow and "Pump off" is indicated.

When called upon to remove the cover for service in the troubleshooting table, follow instructions below:

1. Read warnings and cautions at the beginning of this chapter.
2. Unplug the instrument and remove the instrument cover by loosening the six side panel screws (they don't have to be fully removed). Lift the cover up. Do **NOT** remove the screws holding the clear butanol reservoir cover.

**Table 8-3**  
Troubleshooting

Problem	Description	Problems/Suggestions
Status: Concentration out of range	Concentration exceeds the specification of $10^7$ particles/cm <sup>3</sup> .	Concentration entering the CPC is too high. Dilute the aerosol before it enters the CPC
Status: Saturator temp out of range	Saturator temperature out of range $\sim\pm 0.5$ degree C.	Warm up is not complete, instrument is operating in an environment outside its specified operating range (10 to 35°C), or instrument was removed recently from a temperature extreme. Place instrument in an appropriate environment, allow temperature to stabilize.



Problem	Description	Problems/Suggestions
Status: Condenser temp out of range	Condenser temperature out of range $\sim\pm 0.5$ degree C.	Warm up is not complete, instrument is operating in an environment outside its specified operating range (10 to 35°C), instrument was removed recently from a temperature extreme, or fan flow is impaired. Place instrument in an appropriate environment, allow temperature to stabilize. Clean or replace fan filter, remove object blocking fan flow.
Status: Optics temp out of range	Optics temperature out of range $\pm 2$ degrees C.	Warm up is not complete, instrument is operating in an environment outside its specified operating range (10 to 35°C), or instrument was removed recently from a temperature extreme. Place instrument in an appropriate environment, allow temperature to stabilize.
Status: Inlet flow out of range	The pump is turned off.	Turn the pump on.
Status: Check Flow - Status bar turns yellow	The aerosol capillary flow is getting close to being out of range. This uses tighter criteria than the "Aerosol flow out of range" condition described in the next row, which is why it is a warning and not an error.	Immediately remove any blockages at the instrument inlet. From the Status Screen (Figure 4-9) check the Pressures (kPa). If the 'N' or 'O' pressure is out of range the value will be displayed as yel low in the Status Screen. Refer to the earlier section, " <a href="#">Maintenance of the Critical Orifice</a> " and confirm that you have appropriate inlet flow using a flowmeter. If the aerosol flow (with inlet flow in low flow mode – 0.3 L/min) is incorrect, check to make sure the pump is operating, listen for pump noise. Remove the instrument cover, following warnings and cautions presented at the beginning of this chapter. Check for loose or disconnected tubing from the pump. Check for disconnected pressure tubes to the pressure transducers. Check for signs of liquid in the pressure lines. This will defeat the pressure readings and may indicate a flooded instrument (see below).
Status: Aerosol flow out of range	Orifice pressure or Nozzle pressure is outside specified limits.	Immediately remove any blockages at the instrument inlet. From the Status Screen (Figure 4-9) check the Pressures (kPa). If <b>N</b> : is $>0.25$ , the nozzle pressure is out of range and is displayed as red in the Status Screen. If the orifice pressure <b>O</b> : is $<10$ or $>90$ , the orifice pressure is out of range and is displayed as red in the Status Screen. Refer to the earlier section, " <a href="#">Maintenance of the Critical Orifice</a> " and confirm that you have appropriate inlet flow using a flowmeter. If the aerosol flow (inlet flow in low flow mode – 0.3 L/min) is incorrect, check to make sure the pump is operating, listen for pump noise. Remove the instrument cover following warnings and cautions presented at the beginning of this chapter. Check for loose or disconnected tubing from the pump. Check for disconnected pressure tubes to the pressure transducers. Check for signs of liquid in the pressure lines. This will defeat the pressure readings and may indicate a flooded instrument (see below).

Problem	Description	Problems/Suggestions
Flooded instrument	Butanol liquid is present in the instrument optics causing a variety of problems including erratic or very low concentration readings, changes in aerosol flow rate, and/or changes in transducer pressure measurements.	<p>Although the 3775 CPC has been designed to resist flooding, it can occur if the instrument is shipped without properly drying or removing a wet wick. Flooding can also occur if the inlet is blocked or the instrument is tipped during operation.</p> <p>Once the instrument cover is removed, evidence of flooding is seen by examining air tubing for the presence of liquid. Start by looking at tubing downstream of an optics. Carefully remove and dry out wet tubing then replace. Note, don't dry the tubing in place to avoid damaging other parts in the CPC.</p> <p>If flooding has occurred, it will be necessary to dry the optics block.* Begin by draining the butanol and removing the wick as described earlier. Replace the reservoir cover without replacing the wick. Turn the instrument on and make sure the pump is on. Allow the instrument to operate for at least 24 hours.</p>
Status: Laser power low	Detector in the laser indicates low laser power.	Contact a TSI service technician.
Status: Liquid level low	Liquid level sensor in the reservoir does not detect the presence of butanol.	<p>Verify that no liquid is present in the reservoir by looking through the clear reservoir cover. If no liquid level line is seen, check carefully to confirm that it is not overfilled, indicating a problem in the butanol level detection circuitry.</p> <p>Add butanol to the fill bottle and connect the bottle at the quick connect fitting.</p> <p>Make sure the Auto Fill Enable is selected ON in the User Settings menu (Figure 4-5).</p> <p>Watch the reservoir to confirm that it fills then stops. If filling does not occur, the fill filter may need to be replaced. Refer to "<a href="#">Changing the Filters</a>" presented earlier.</p>

\*Flooding can contaminate the lens surfaces in the optics block reducing signal strength and instrument sensitivity. Lens cleaning is performed at the factory if flooding occurs. A noticeable change in instrument performance characteristics (e.g., lowered detected concentration) can indicate the need to return the instrument to TSI for maintenance.

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## Calibrating and Entering New Orifice Flow Data

A stable "volumetric" flow through the sensor is maintained using a sapphire orifice operating at a critical pressure drop. The orifice fitting is threaded into the optics block as shown in Figure 8-11. Stable critical flow through the orifice is achieved using a high vacuum diaphragm pump. For more information on critical pressure and flow refer to [Chapter 5](#).

The nominal aerosol flow is 0.3 L/min. The critical orifice for aerosol flow is calibrated at the factory and the actual flow is entered into the instrument memory through the serial port. The calibrated flow value is displayed on the instrument Status screen (Figure 4-9) and is used for calculation of particle concentration. When the orifice becomes contaminated or is replaced, a new orifice calibration can be performed, and a new flow calibration data can be entered by the user. Note however, as discussed in

the section "[Maintenance of the Critical Orifice](#)", orifices supplied by TSI have good repeatability. Unless you have a high accuracy flowmeter (<±2%) for calibration, it may be preferable not to recalibrate.

## Orifice Calibration

1. Turn the instrument on and allow to warm up.
2. Select the Inlet Flow Mode of 0.3 L/min from the User Settings menu (see Figure 4-5).
3. Connect your "bubble meter", TSI flowmeter, or similar high-accuracy, low resistance flowmeter to the CPC inlet.
4. Determine the volumetric flow rate at the inlet.
5. Refer to the information on RS-232 serial communications provided in [Chapter 7](#). To send specific calibration data to the instrument serial port, you will need to use a program capable of sending and receiving ASCII commands such as "HyperTerminal" supplied with Windows® and described in the "Command" section.
6. Connect your computer to the serial port (Serial 1) at the back of the CPC instrument.
7. Type in the serial command for changing the 3775 aerosol flow rate "**SAF,x**", if necessary, where **x** is the flow rate in **cm<sup>3</sup>/min**. The value entered should be very close to 300 cm<sup>3</sup>/min.

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## Technical Contacts

- ❑ If you have any difficulty installing the CPC, or if you have technical or application questions about this system, contact an applications engineer at one of the locations listed below.
- ❑ If the CPC fails, or if you are returning it for service, visit our website at <http://rma.tsi.com> or contact TSI at:

### **TSI Incorporated**

500 Cardigan Road  
Shoreview, MN 55126 USA

Phone: +1-800-874-2811 (USA) or +1 (651) 490-2811

E-mail: [particle@tsi.com](mailto:particle@tsi.com)

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### **TSI GmbH**

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### **TSI Instruments Ltd.**

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Fax: +44 (0) 149 4 459700

E-mail: [tsiuk@tsi.com](mailto:tsiuk@tsi.com)

Web: [www.tsiinc.co.uk](http://www.tsiinc.co.uk)

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## Returning the CPC for Service

Before returning the CPC to TSI for service, visit our website at <http://rma.tsi.com> or call TSI at 1-800-874-2811 (USA) or 001 (651) 490-2811 for specific return instructions. Customer Service will need the following information when you call:

- The instrument model number
- The instrument serial number
- A purchase order number (unless under warranty)
- A billing address
- A shipping address

Use the original packing material to return the instrument to TSI. If you no longer have the original packing material, seal off the sampling inlet to prevent debris from entering the instrument and ensure that the indicator lights and the connectors on the instrument front and back panels are protected. Drain and dry the CPC before shipping. See "[Moving and Shipping the CPC](#)" in Chapter 4 for instructions.

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# APPENDIX A

## Specifications

Table A-1 contains the operating specifications for the Model 3775 Condensation Particle Counter (CPC). These specifications are subject to change without notice.

**Table A-1**  
Model 3775 CPC Specifications

---

**Particle size range**

Min. detectable particle ( $D_{50}$ ) ..... 4.0 nm, verified with DMA-classified sucrose particles  
 Max. detectable particle ..... >3  $\mu\text{m}$

**Particle concentration range**

Single particle counting ..... 0 to  $5 \times 10^4$  particles/cm<sup>3</sup> with continuous live-time coincidence correction  
 Photometric .....  $5 \times 10^4$  to  $10^7$  particles/cm<sup>3</sup>

**Particle concentration accuracy**

.....  $\pm 10\%$  at  $<5 \times 10^4$  particles/cm<sup>3</sup>  
 .....  $\pm 20\%$  at  $<10^7$  particles/cm<sup>3</sup>

**Response time**

High-flow mode .....  $\cong 4$  sec to 95% in response to concentration step change  
 Low-flow mode .....  $\cong 5$  sec to 95% in response to concentration step change

**Flow rate**

Aerosol flow .....  $300 \pm 15$  cm<sup>3</sup>/min ( $0.3 \pm 0.015$  L/min)  
 Inlet, high-flow .....  $1500 \pm 50$  cm<sup>3</sup>/min ( $1.5 \pm 0.05$  L/min)  
 Inlet, low-flow .....  $300 \pm 15$  cm<sup>3</sup>/min ( $0.3 \pm 0.015$  L/min)

Flow source ..... Internal high-vacuum diaphragm pump with brushless DC motor (15,000 hours rated lifetime); option to use external vacuum source (requires change to internal plumbing)

Flow control ..... Volumetric flow control of aerosol flow by critical orifice, differential pressure across orifice is monitored

**Operating temperatures**

Saturator .....  $39^\circ\text{C} \pm 0.2^\circ\text{C}$   
 Condenser .....  $14^\circ\text{C} \pm 0.2^\circ\text{C}$   
 Optics .....  $40^\circ\text{C} \pm 0.2^\circ\text{C}$

**False background counts** .....  $<0.01$  particle/cm<sup>3</sup>, based on 12-hr average; No false counts incurred during butanol fill

**Aerosol medium** ..... Recommended for use with air; safe for use with inert gases such as nitrogen, argon, and helium (performance specifications are for air)

**Table A-1**  
**Model 3775 CPC Specifications**

---

<b>Environmental operating conditions</b> .....	Indoor use Altitude up to 2000 m (6500 ft) Inlet pressure 75 to 105 kPa (0.75 to 1.05 atm) Operating temperature range 10 to 35°C Safe temperature range 5 to 40°C Storage temperature range -20 to 50°C Ambient humidity 0–90% RH noncondensing Pollution degree II Overvoltage degree II
<b>Condensing liquid</b>	
Working fluid.....	Reagent-grade n-butyl alcohol (butanol, not included)
Filling system.....	Electronic liquid-level sensor initiates automatic filling as needed, requires connection to fill bottle
Water removal .....	All condensate is collected and removed automatically by a constant-flow-rate micropump, may be switched on for use in humid environments
<b>Communications</b>	
Protocol .....	Command set based on ASCII characters
Interface .....	RS-232, 9-pin, “D” subminiature connector, pinouts compatible with standard IBM-style serial cables and interfaces USB, type B connector, USB 2.0 compatible at 12 MB Ethernet, 8-wire RJ-45 jack, 10/100 BASE-T, TCP/IP
<b>Data logging and storage</b> .....	SD/MMC flash memory card
Averaging interval.....	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 10, 12, 15, 20, 30, or 60 seconds (set from front panel), software provides more averaging options
<b>Analog inputs</b> .....	Two BNC connectors, 0 to 10 volts (data recording for external sensors)
<b>Outputs</b>	
Digital display .....	Graph of concentration vs. time, concentration, time and total counts, status (temperatures, pressures, laser power, aerosol flow, etc.), and user settings
Analog .....	BNC connector, 0 to 10 volts, user-selectable function output (linear/log concentration or DMA voltage control)
Pulse .....	BNC connector, TTL level pulse, 50-ohm termination, nominally 2.5 microseconds wide
<b>Software</b> .....	Aerosol Instrument Manager <sup>®</sup> software (RS-232 and USB compatible)
<b>Calibration</b> .....	Recommended annually
<b>Power requirements</b> .....	100 to 240 VAC, 50/60 Hz., 335 W maximum
<b>Physical features</b>	
Front panel .....	LCD TFT QVGA (320 ×240 pixel) 5.7-inch color display, aerosol inlet, LED particle indicator light, rotate/select control knob, flash memory card slot
Back panel.....	Power connector, USB, Ethernet, two 9-pin D-sub serial connectors, two BNC inputs, two BNC outputs, fan, butanol-fill connector, butanol-drain connector, makeup-air port, pump-exhaust port, fill bottle and bracket
Side panel.....	Butanol-level viewing window



**Table A-1**  
Model 3775 CPC Specifications

---

<b>Dimensions (HWD) (nominal)</b> .....	25 cm × 32 cm × 37 cm (10 in. × 13 in. × 15 in.), not including fill bottle and bracket
<b>Weight</b> .....	9.9 kg (22 lb)
<b>Fuse</b> .....	2~ F 6.3A FB/250V (internal –not replaceable by operator)

---

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## APPENDIX B

# Firmware Commands

The firmware commands are divided into the following categories:

- ❑ [READ Commands](#)
- ❑ [SET Commands](#)
- ❑ [MISC \(MISCELLANEOUS\) Commands](#)
- ❑ [HELP Commands](#)

READ commands are used to read parameter from the instrument (flow rates, temperatures, etc.). READ commands can be identified by a leading "R".

SET commands set an internal parameter to the value(s) supplied with the command. Supplied parameters are always delimited by a comma. SET commands can be identified by a leading "S". The instrument will reply to all set commands with the string "OK" <CR>. Also, if no parameter is supplied, the command will return the current set value.

MISC (MISCELLANEOUS) command will be used for calibration and SMPS mostly.

HELP commands. Type "HELP " in a HyperTerminal window or a similar program and it will explain how to use it. All the command descriptions that follow can be obtained using the help command.

The instrument will reply with a serial string of "ERROR", if a command was not understood.

---

## READ Commands

<b>RFV</b>	Read the firmware version number Returns: A string in the format of X.X.X where X are numbers from 0–9 Example: 2.3.1
<b>RSF</b>	Read the aerosol flow rate in cc/min Returns: A floating point number from 0.0 to 9999.9 Example: 300.0

**RIF** Read the inlet flow rate setting in liters per minute  
Returns: A floating point number from 0.0 to 9999.9  
Example: 0.3

**RTS** Read the saturator temperature in degrees Celsius  
Returns: A floating point number from 0.0 to 50.0  
Example: 39.0

**RTC** Read the condenser temperature in degrees Celsius  
Returns: A floating point number from 0.0 to 50.0  
Example: 14.0

**RTO** Read the optics temperature in degrees Celsius  
Returns: A floating point number from 0.0 to 50.0  
Example: 40.0

**RTA** Read the cabinet temperature in degrees Celsius  
Returns: A floating point number from 0.0 to 50.0  
Example: 23.8

**RCT** Read the current time  
Returns: Www Mmm dd hh:mm:ss yyyy  
where  
Www is the weekday  
Mmm is the month in letters  
dd is the day of the month  
hh:mm:ss is the time  
yyyy is the year  
Example: Mon Jun 11 11:05:08 2006

<b>RIE</b>	<p>Read the instrument errors</p> <p>Returns: 16-bit integer in hexadecimal format.  The parameter is in error if the bit is set.  Bit 0x0001 =&gt; Saturator Temp  Bit 0x0002 =&gt; Condenser Temp  Bit 0x0004 =&gt; Optics Temp  Bit 0x0008 =&gt; Inlet Flow Rate  Bit 0x0010 =&gt; Aerosol Flow Rate  Bit 0x0020 =&gt; Laser Power  Bit 0x0040 =&gt; Liquid Level  Bit 0x0080 =&gt; Concentration  Bit 0x0100 =&gt; Calibration Reminder  Bit 0x0200 =&gt; Unused  Bit 0x0400 =&gt; Unused  Bit 0x0800 =&gt; Unused  Bit 0x1000 =&gt; Unused  Bit 0x2000 =&gt; Unused  Bit 0x4000 =&gt; Unused  Bit 0x8000 =&gt; Unused</p>
<b>RPA</b>	<p>Read the absolute pressure transducer in kPa</p> <p>Returns: A floating point number from 15.0 to 115.0</p> <p>Example: 100.1</p>
<b>RPO</b>	<p>Read the orifice pressure transducer. Units are in kPa</p> <p>Returns: A floating point number from 0.0 to 99.9</p> <p>Example: 50.8</p>
<b>RPN</b>	<p>Read the nozzle pressure transducer. Units are in kPa</p> <p>Returns: A floating point number from 0.000 to 10.000</p> <p>Example: 0.028</p>
<b>RPS</b>	<p>Read the aerosol pressure transducer (3776 only)</p> <p>Units are in inches of water</p> <p>Returns: A floating point number from 0.000 to 1.000</p> <p>Example: 0.746</p>
<b>RSN</b>	<p>Read the serial number</p> <p>Returns: A string of up to 20 characters</p> <p>Example: 70514396</p>
<b>RAI</b>	<p>Read the analog input voltages</p> <p>Returns: X,Y where X is analog input 1 and Y is analog input 2.  X and Y are floating point numbers from 0.00 to 10.00</p> <p>Example: 5.22,3.65</p>

<b>RALL</b>	Read a set of current values Returns: Concentration, instrument errors, saturation temp, cond temp, optics temp, cabinet temp, ambient pressure, orifice press, nozzle press, laser current, liquid level
<b>RLP</b>	Reads the laser current in milliamps Returns: An integer from 0 to 150 Example: 70
<b>RLL</b>	Reads the liquid level Returns: FULL or NOTFULL and the corresponding ADC reading. The ADC reading is an integer from 0 to 4095 Example: FULL (2471)
<b>RMN</b>	Read the model number Returns: 3771, 3772, 3775, 3776, 3790 or 100 Example: 3775
<b>R0</b>	Legacy command to read the liquid level Returns: FULL or NOTFULL
<b>R1</b>	Legacy command to read the condenser temperature in degrees Celsius
<b>R2</b>	Legacy command to read the saturator temperature in degrees Celsius
<b>R3</b>	Legacy command to read the optics temperature in degrees Celsius
<b>R5</b>	Legacy command to read the instrument status. Returns: READY or NOTREADY
<b>R7</b>	Legacy command to read the photometric voltage (3775 only) Returns: 0.000–2.500 volts Example: 2.013
<b>RD</b>	Legacy command to read the concentration in p/cc, 1 sec. avg.
<b>RV</b>	Read the version string. Returns: Model 377x Ver B.B.B S/N AAAAAAAA

**RCOUNT1** Reads the 1 second corrected counts buffer

Example: 258

**RCOUNT2** Reads the 1 second uncorrected counts buffer

Example: 317

---

## SET Commands

**SAV** Set analog output full scale voltage

Params 1 => 0 - 1 Volt  
2 => 0 - 2 Volt  
3 => 0 - 5 Volt  
4 => 0 - 10 Volt

Example SAV,4 (A full scale concentration will equal 10V)

**SSTART** Start a new sample

Params 0 – Stop  
1 - Start, data type 1  
2 - Start, data type 2

Example SSTART,1 (Starts new sample)

Unit returns once/sec

Data Type 1:

UX,D,D,D,D,D,D,D,D,D,C,C,C,C,C,C,C,C,C,C,AN1,AN2,RIE

UX => elapsed time(sec), integer

D => tenth sec corrected counts, integer

C => tenth sec concentration, float

AN1 => analog input 1, float

AN2 => analog input 2, float

RIE => See help cmd for RIE

Data Type 2, 3776:

UX,C,C,C,C,C,C,C,C,C,R,R,R,R,R,R,R,R,R,F,F,F,F,F,F,F,F,F,T,T,T,T,T,T,T,T,T

UX => elapsed time(sec), integer

C => tenth sec concentration, float

R => tenth sec raw counts, integer

F => flowrate(cc/0.1sec), float

T => tenth sec deadtime(sec), float

Data Type 2, 3771/72/75:

UX,C,C,C,C,C,C,C,C,C,R,R,R,R,R,R,R,R,R,F,DTC,T,T,T,T,T,T,T,T,T

UX => elapsed time(sec), integer

C => tenth sec concentration, float

R => tenth sec raw counts, integer

F => flowrate(cc/sec), float

DTC => deadtime correction, float

T => tenth sec deadtime(sec), float

**SCM** Set the operating mode. Model 3771 will not go into SMPS mode.

Params: 0 => Concentration

1 => Totalizer

2 => SMPS

Example: SCM,0 (sets operating mode to concentration)

**STS** Set saturator temperature

Params: c => 0.0–50.0

Example: STS,39.0 (changes the saturator set point to 39.0 degrees C)

**STC** Set condenser temperature

Params: c => 0.0–50.0

Example: STC,14.0 (changes the condenser set point to 14.0 degrees C)

**STO** Set optics temperature

Params: c => 0.0–50.0

Example: STO,40.0 (changes the optics set point to 40.0 degrees C)

**SAWR** Set the auto water removal function on/off

Params: 0–Off

1–On

Example: SAWR,1 (turns on water removal)

**SVO** Set analog output voltage

Params: v => 0.000–10.000

Example: SVO,4.482 (sets the output voltage at 4.482 volts)



**SAO** Set analog output voltage proportional to concentration.  
The analog output is 0 to 10V.  
Params: 0 => Off  
1 => 1E1  
2 => 1E2  
3 => 1E3  
4 => 1E4  
5 => 1E5 (CPC100 only)  
Example: SAO,4 (A concentration reading of 1E4 will equal 10V)

**SCOM** Setup auxiliary comport  
Params: Port => 1,2,3  
Baud =>  
2400,4800,9600,14400,19200,28800,38400,57600,115200  
Bits => 5,6,7,8  
Parity => E, O, N  
Stop => 1, 1.5, 2  
Example: SCOM,2,9600,7,E,1 (Set 2nd serial port to 9600, 7 bits, Even Parity, 1 Stop bit)

**SHOUR** Set the Real Time Clock Hours (24 hour mode)  
Params: hour => 0–23  
Example: SHOUR,13 (sets the hour to 13)

**SMINUTE** Set the Real Time Clock Minutes  
Params: min => 0–59  
Example: SMINUTE,45 (sets minutes to 45)

**SSECOND** Set the Real Time Clock Seconds  
Params: sec => 0–59  
Example: SSECOND,0 (sets seconds to zero)

**SYEAR** Set the Real Time Clock Year  
Params: year => 0–99  
Example: SYEAR,6 (sets the year to 2006)

**SDAY** Set the Real Time Clock Day of the Month  
Params: day => 1–31  
Example: SDAY,23 (sets the day to the 23rd of the month)

**SMONTH** Set the Real Time Clock current Month  
Params: month => 1–12  
Example: SMONTH,2 (sets the month to February)

### **S3776FLOW**

Set the 3776 flow calibration parameters (3776 only)

Params: A => Floating point number  
B => Floating point number  
where flow rate = A \* (sample pressure) + B

Example: S3776FLOW,2.58e-2,8.37e1

### **SFILL**

Turn on/off auto fill

Params: 0 => Off  
1 => On

Example: SFILL,1 (turns on auto fill)

### **SDRAIN**

Turn drain on/off for Models 3771, 3772, 3790, CPC100

Params: 0 => Off  
1 => On

Example: SDRAIN,1 (turns drain on)

### **SCC**

Turn coincidence correction on/off (3772 and 3771 only)

Params: 0 => Off  
1 => On

Example: SCC,1 (turns coincidence correction on)

### **SAF**

Set the 3775 aerosol flow rate in cc/min (3775 only)

Params: Q => 200–400 cc/min

Example: SAF,300 (changes the aerosol flow rate to 300 cc/min)

### **SCCM**

Set the concentration correction multiplier

Only concern is multiplied, counts are **not** multiplied

Displayed concern in totalizer mode is **not** multiplied (3775, 3776 only)

Params: Multiplier => 0.5 – 2.0

Example: SCCM,0.953 (multiply concentrations by 0.953)

### **SCD**

Set calibration date, reset reminder count and last reminder date

Params: MMDDYY, MM=01–12, DD=01–31,  
YY=00–99

Example: SCD,110208 (set cal and last reminder date to Nov. 2, 2008, reset count)

Example: SCD (returns cal date, date of last reminder, # of reminders left)

**SCCR** Clear calibration reminder bit and displayed message  
Returns: OK or ERROR if the flag didn't need clearing  
Params: none  
Example: SCCR (clears 9<sup>th</sup> bit in RIE command and the display message)

---

## MISC (MISCELLANEOUS) Commands

**ZB** Begin SMPS scan based on the ZT, ZV and ZU parameters (except 3771)

**ZE** End SMPS scan (except 3771)

**ZT** Set the scan time in tenth second increments (except 3771)  
Params: delay => 0–255 (0–25.5 seconds)  
up => 10–6000 (1–600 seconds)  
down => 10–6000 (1–600 seconds)  
Example: ZT0,600,100  
**Note:** *This command does not need a comma separating the first parameter from the command*

**ZU** Scan using up direction instead of down (except 3771)

**ZV** Set the scan voltages (except 3771)  
Params: start => 10–10000 Volts  
end => 10–10000 Volts  
Example: ZV10,10000  
**Note:** *This command does not need a comma separating the first parameter from the command*

**COM2** Data after the ":" will be transmitted to serial port 2  
Example: COM2:RFV ("RFV" will be transmitted to com port 2)

**X2** Legacy command to turn the pump off

**X3** Legacy command to turn the pump on

**X7** Legacy command to set the inlet flow to 0.3 L/min (3775 and 3776 only)

**X8** Legacy command to set the inlet flow to 1.5 L/min (3775 and 3776 only)

<b>D</b>	Legacy command to read accumulative time (sec) and accumulative counts since the last time this command was sent.
<b>DEL</b>	Delete Flash File, path\filename (except 3771)
<b>FORMAT</b>	Format the flash drive. This will also erase all the data stored on the drive (except 3771). If formatting the flash drive becomes necessary, see the instructions in Chapter 7 " <a href="#">Flash Memory Card Specification</a> ".
<b>DIR</b>	Read the flash card directory (except 3771)
<b>CD</b>	Change the active flash card directory (except 3771)
<b>CAL3775</b>	Set the 3775 Photometric calibration table (3775 only) Format: CAL3775,x,y Where: x => photometric voltage 100 in volts y => concentration in p/cc Example: CAL3775,101,2.03e5 (a photometric voltage of 1.01 V will result in a concentration of 2.03e5 p/cc)

---

## HELP Commands

**Help,Read**  
**Help,Set**  
**Help,Misc**  
**Help,x**      where x=Command Name

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