Positive and Negative Duct Accreditation (PANDA) System

Model PAN231 Series (PANDA Light)

Operation and Maintenance Manual

P/N 6006886, Revision F
May 2026

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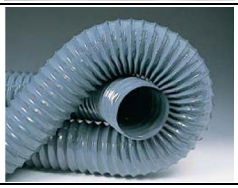
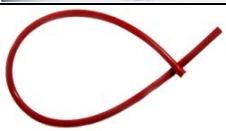
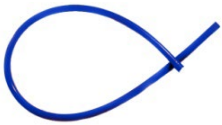
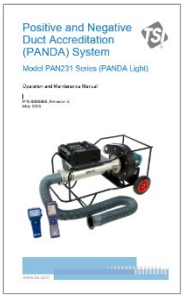
Chapter 1

Unpacking and Parts Identification

Carefully unpack the PANDA system and instrument cases from the shipping container. Check the individual parts against the list of components below. If anything is missing or damaged, notify TSI® immediately.

The PANDA system consists of the following:

Qty	Description	Part Number	Reference Picture
1	Low flow nozzle	6002598	
1	Primary duct adapter spigot plus rubber bung (to fit to test duct)	6002638	
1	Cam lock primary spigot (to connect flexi-duct to PANDA)	6002607	
2	Ø4 in. (100 mm) adjustable over lock straps	6002683	
1	13 ft (4 m) long Ø4 in. (100 mm) plastic flexible duct	6002667	
2	20 in. (500 mm) silicone tubes (red)	AFL9020004	

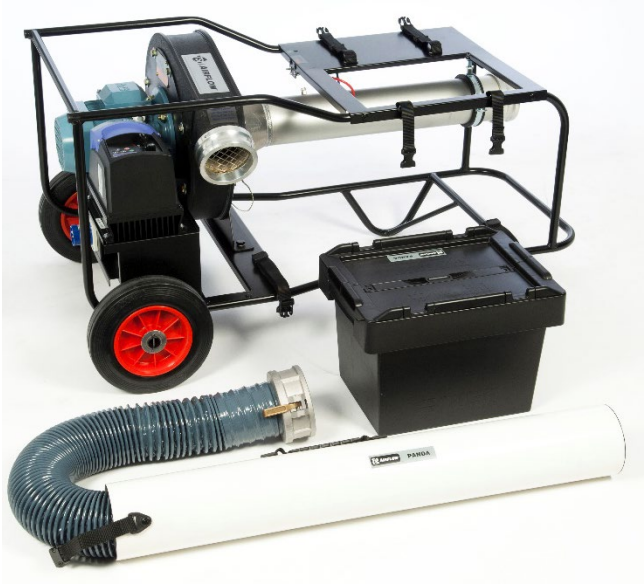
Qty	Description	Part Number	Reference Picture
2	20 in. (500 mm) silicone tubes (blue)	AFL9020005	
1	16 ft (5 m) silicone tube (blue)	AFL9020005	
1	K-type thermocouple probe	AFL82859201	
3	Instrument adapter	AFL82859401	
1	Instrument box	6006490	
1	Flex Duct Carry Tube	6006491	
1	Operation and Service manual	6006886	 Positive and Negative Duct Accreditation (PANDA) System Model PAN231 Series (PANDA Light) Operation and Maintenance Manual

The following two instruments should be used in conjunction with the PANDA unit:

VelociCalc 9650 Multi-function Instrument		Refer to 9650 Operation and Service Manual supplied with the instrument for additional parts supplied as standard.
5815 Micromanometer		Refer to 5815 Operation and Service Manual supplied with the instrument for additional parts supplied as standard.

IMPORTANT— Read Before Using the PANDA for the First Time
It is **IMPORTANT** that the PANDA be connected to the power supply using a 30 mA residual-current device (RCD) or Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter (GFCI). It is **IMPORTANT** that the 110V PANDA (yellow power socket) be connected only to 110V to 120V supplies. Connecting it to a higher voltage supply will permanently damage the inverter. The 220V/240V PANDA (blue power socket) should only be connected to 200V to 240V power supplies. When storing the PANDA in a vertical position, please ensure that the straps holding the instrument box are in place and tightened first. The PANDA is designed so that the Instrument box and duct carry tube are removable to lighten the load when lifting.

	DANGER
	Turn the isolation switch to the OFF position and wait 10 minutes prior to disconnecting power.



PANDA Models	
Model	**Description**
PAN315	220/240V, instruments not included
PAN315-110	110/120V, instruments not included
PAN231	PAN231 with instruments
PAN231-110	PAN231-110 with instruments

Chapter 2

Preparing PAN231 System for Air Duct Leak Testing

Carefully follow the procedures below to achieve safe and accurate leakage testing:

> Successfully completing a duct leakage test requires compiling certain information prior to starting the test. Refer to Appendix B for a discussion of standards relating to duct leakage testing. The list below indicates the information required:
>
> - Type of leakage test to be performed (positive or negative).
> - Leakage standard to be followed.
> - Air tightness/leakage class to be achieved.
> - Amount of ductwork to be tested, such as the complete system or a statistical sample.

1. Select the section of the ductwork to be tested.
2. Calculate the surface area of the ductwork of the section to be tested.
3. Temporarily seal all the openings of the ductwork except one, which will be connected to the PAN231 duct leakage tester.
4. Position the PAN231 unit as close to the remaining opening in the ductwork as possible to minimize the flexible tubing needed. Minimize bends in the flexible tubing to reduce the pressure loss, giving the best performance.
5. Make sure the Fan Run/Stop Switch on the Fan Speed Controller is in the **Stop** position and the multi-turn Fan Speed Control potentiometer is fully turned counter-clockwise using the picture of the VFD in Figure 1 as a reference. Plug the cord into the PANDA unit as shown in Figure 2 and Figure 3. Then connect the other end of the cord to a suitable electrical supply.

CAUTION
Remove the power cord from the PANDA duct leakage tester before tilting it to the vertical position to avoid damaging the cord.

Figure 1. Fan Speed Controller

NOTE
The settings for the inverter have been locked and cannot be changed using the key pad.

Figure 2. Receptacle for Power Cord

Figure 3. Connected Power Cord

NOTE
The 110V unit has a yellow receptacle and the 230V unit has a blue receptacle.

	DANGER
	Turn the isolation switch to the OFF position and wait 10 minutes prior to disconnecting power.

6. Fit the primary duct adapter spigot (black sheet metal with rubber bung) to one end of the 4 in. (100 mm) diameter flexi-tube. Make an air-tight seal using one of the over lock straps and lever-locking cam provided as shown in Figure 4. Adjust the fit of the over lock strap with a screwdriver.

Figure 4. Flex Ductwork Connected to Primary Adapter Spigot. Bung not shown.

7. Securely attach the black primary duct adapter spigot/flexi-tube assembly to the opening on the ductwork to be pressure tested.

8. If the static pressure tap on the black Primary Duct Adapter is open to the duct, connect the 16 ft (5 m) long blue silicone tube to it as shown in Figure 5.

   If the static pressure tap on the black Primary Duct Adapter is not open to the duct, drill a 4 mm hole in the duct and insert about 6 inches (10 mm) of the silicone tube into the duct. Seal around the hole with putty.

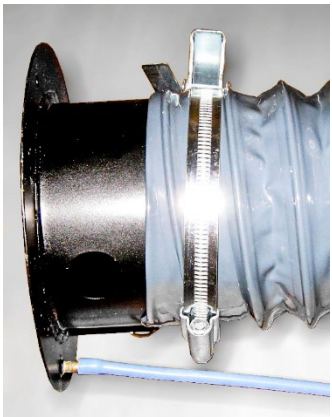


Figure 5. Connecting Pressure Tubing to Tap on Primary Duct Adapter. Bung not shown.

9. Connect the other end of the 4 in. (100 mm) flexi-tube to the cam lock connector (gray cast aluminum without nozzle). Make an airtight seal using the other over lock strap (not shown) and lever-locking cam provided. Adjust the fit of the over lock strap with a screwdriver.

10. Determine if you are going to perform a high- or low-flow testing and positive or negative testing. Set-up the duct leakage tester by:

    a. For positive pressure, high-flow testing, remove the low flow nozzle if it is installed. Then, connect the gray cast-aluminum cam lock connector to the outlet side of the blower per Figure 6. Close both cam lock arms at the same time to ensure proper fit.

    Connect the free end of the static pressure 16 ft (5 m) silicone tube to the positive pressure connector on the 5815.

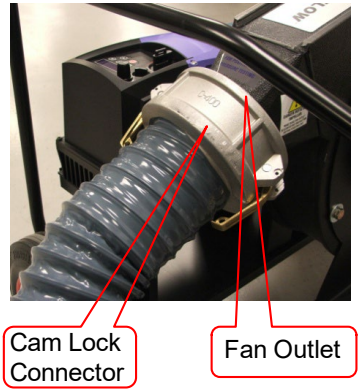


Figure 6. Positive Pressure, High-Flow Setup

    Finally, connect the **FLOW GRID** pressure taps marked **P1(+)** and **P2(-)** to the appropriate connectors on the 9650 using the red and blue tubing.

    b. For positive pressure, low-flow testing, add the low-flow nozzle to the blower inlet if it is not installed per Figure 7. Then, connect the gray cast-aluminum cam lock connector to the outlet side of the blower per Figure 6. Close both cam lock arms at the same time to ensure proper fit.

    Connect the free end of the static pressure 16 ft (5 m) silicone tube to the positive pressure connector on the 5815.

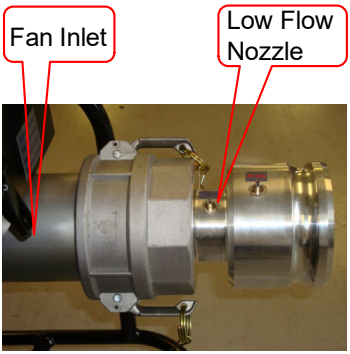


Figure 7. Positive Pressure, Low-Flow Setup

    Finally, connect the pressure taps marked **P1(+)** and **P2(-)** on the nozzle to the appropriate connectors on the 9650 using the red and blue tubing.

c. For negative pressure, high-flow testing, remove the low flow nozzle if it is installed. Then, connect the gray cast aluminum cam lock connector to the inlet side of the blower per Figure 8. Close both cam lock arms at the same time to ensure proper fit.

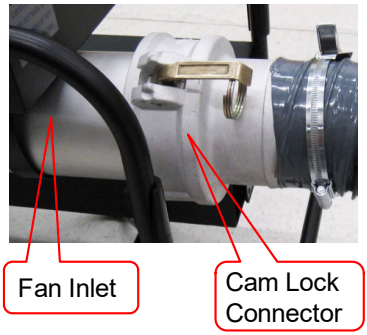


Figure 8. Negative Pressure, High-Flow Setup

Connect the free end of the static pressure 16 ft (5 m) silicone tube to pressure connector on the 5815.

Finally, connect the pressure taps marked **P1(+)** and **P2(-)** to the appropriate connector on the 9650 using the red and blue tubing.

d. For negative pressure, low-flow testing, add the low-flow nozzle to the blower inlet if it is not installed. Then, connect the gray cast aluminum cam lock connector to the low-flow nozzle per Figure 9. Close both cam lock arms at the same time to ensure proper fit.

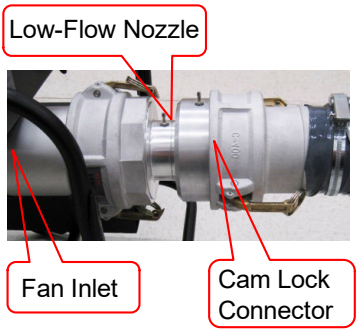


Figure 9. Negative Pressure, Low-Flow Set-Up

Connect the free end of the static pressure 16 ft (5 m) silicone tube to the positive pressure connector to the 5815.

Finally, connect the pressure taps marked **P1(+)** and **P2(-)** on the nozzle to the appropriate connectors on the 9650 using the red and blue tubing.

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Chapter 3

Performing a Duct Leakage Test

The PAN231 duct leakage test system includes a Model 5815 Micromanometer and a Model 9650 Ventilation Meter. During duct leakage testing, the Model 5815 Micromanometer measures the duct static pressure while the Model 9650 Ventilation Meter measures the airflow rate.

Refer to the Operation and Service Manuals for the Model 5815 Micromanometer and the Model 9650 Ventilation Meter to use these instruments in other applications. If you do not have the manuals, download them from TSI® Incorporated's website www.tsi.com.

Measuring Duct Static Pressure

1. Turn ON the Model 5815.
2. Zero the Model 5815 pressure sensor with both ports open to the atmosphere.
3. Connect the (+) port on the Model 5815 to measure the duct static pressure (see Figure 5).
4. Leave the (-) port on the Model 5815 open to the atmosphere.

NOTE
Refer to the Model 5815 Operation and Service Manual for instruction on use.

Measuring Duct Leakage Flow

1. Turn ON Model 9650.
2. Zero the Model 9650 pressure sensor with both ports open to the atmosphere.
3. Connect the Model 9650 to the PAN231 by connecting the (+) and (-) ports on the Model 9650to the **P1 (+)** and **P2 (+)** ports located on the inside edge of the box shelf facing the fan. See Figure 10.
4. Connect the thermocouple to the Model 9650.
5. Insert the thermocouple probe into the blower inlet through the hole marked **TC1**.

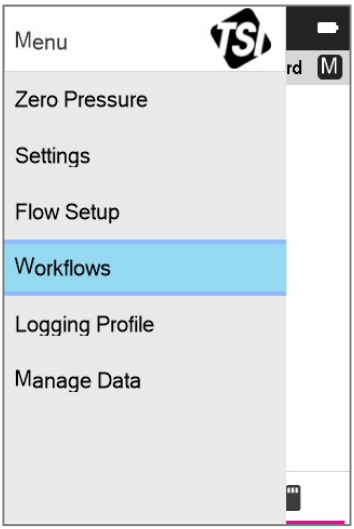
Turning on the PAN231 Duct Leakage Tester

1. Power the PANDA unit on by plugging in the power cord.
2. Position the Fan Control switch to the **RUN** position to energize the fan.
3. Increase the fan to the desired speed by turning the Fan Speed Controller clockwise. To decrease the fan speed, turn the Fan Speed controller counter-clockwise.

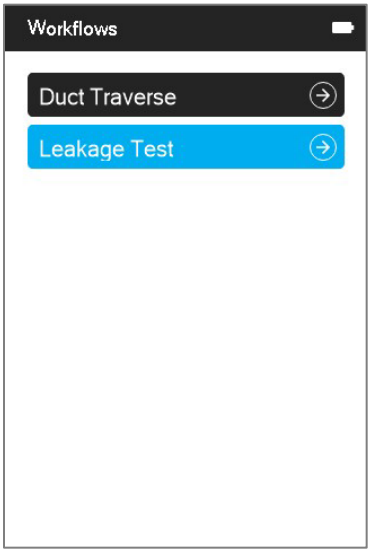
Using Leakage Test Application in the Model 9650

CAUTION
The Model 5815 and Model 9650 meters must be zeroed before entering the Leakage Test Application.

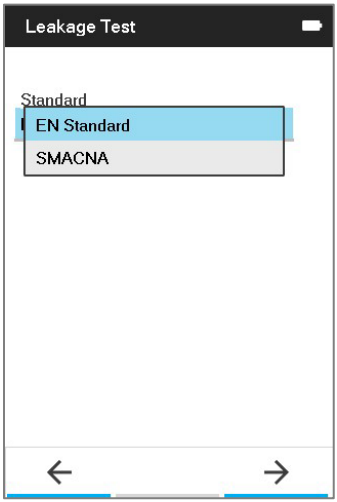
1. Press the key to access the menu system on the Model 9650.
2. Use the keys to highlight the workflows menu.
3. Press the **(ENTER)** key to access the workflows menu.



4. Select Leakage Test and press ↵ key.



5. Select either the **EN Standard** or **SMACNA** leakage test.



Instrument Operation if EN Standard Test Protocol is Selected

1. Enter key parameters:

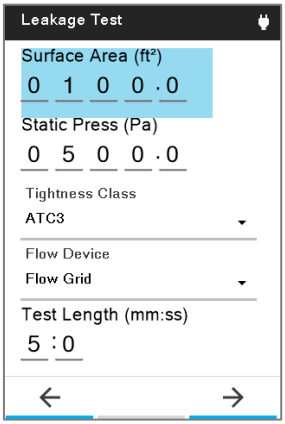
   a. Surface Area of ductwork section to be tested.

   b. Static Pressure of test, as measured by Model 5815 micromanometer.

   c. Flow Device as Nozzle or Flow Grid.

   d. Leakage class as A, B, C, or D. Note that tests with negative pressures must be selected as negative tests, as indicated by -.

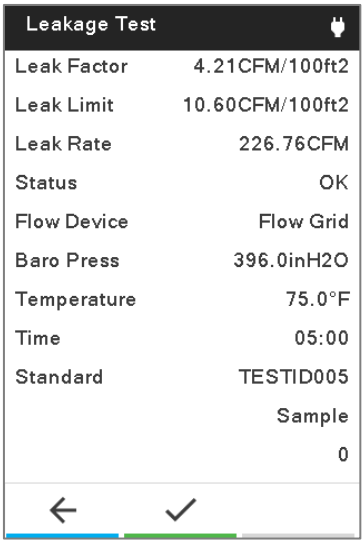
   e. Test Length, or duration of leakage test, usually 5 minutes.



2. Increase the blower speed until the desired static pressure is achieved.

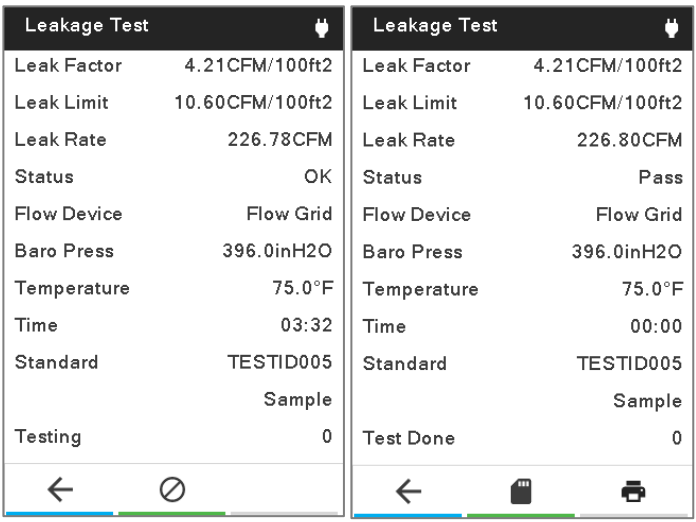
3. When the static pressure has stabilized, **Run Test** by pressing ✓. (Note: running test with a status of 'High' or 'Underrange' will result in a failed condition)

4. The display will show the readings on the right. Leakage Factor and Leak Rate will update in real time, while other parameters will remain constant.



   Pressing the ← key will stop the test and exit back to the previous screen.

5. After the leak test is complete, the Model 9650 will allow you to press the **SAVE** or **PRINT** soft key (Print is greyed out if no printer is connected). ‘Test Done’ will flash in the lower right after test is complete. You can also press the ← key here to back out to the previous screen without saving the data.



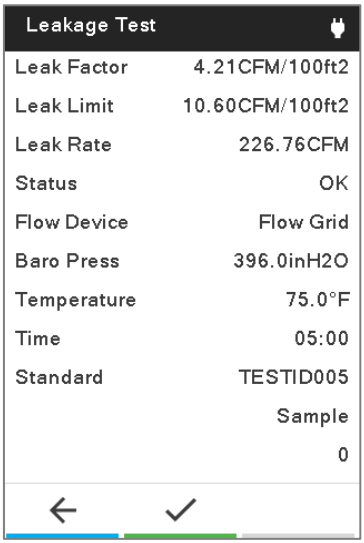
After completing leakage testing for a section of duct, you can move onto the next section.

	DANGER Turn the isolation switch to the OFF position and wait 10 minutes prior to disconnecting power.

Instrument Operation if SMACNA Test Protocol is Selected

1. Enter key parameters:
   a. Surface Area of ductwork section to be tested.
   b. Static Pressure of test, as measured by Model 5815 micromanometer.
   c. Flow Device as Nozzle or Flow Grid.
   d. Leakage class as a number from 1 to 48. Typical values are 2, 4, 8, or 16.
   e. Test Length, or duration of leakage test.

2. Increase the blower speed until the desired static pressure is achieved.
3. When the static pressure has stabilized, select **Run Test** by pressing ✓. (Note running test with a status of 'High' or 'Underrange' will result in a failed condition)
4. The display will show the readings on the right. Leakage Factor and Leak Rate will update in real time, while other parameters will remain constant. Pressing the ← key will stop the test and exit back to the previous screen.



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5. After the leak test is complete, the Model 9650 will prompt you to press the **SAVE** or **PRINT** soft key (Print is greyed out if no printer is connected). 'Test Done' will flash in the lower right after test is complete.You can also press the key here to back out to the previous screen without saving the data.

Leakage Test	
Leak Factor	4.21CFM/100ft2
Leak Limit	10.60CFM/100ft2
Leak Rate	226.78CFM
Status	OK
Flow Device	Flow Grid
Baro Press	396.0inH2O
Temperature	75.0°F
Time	03:32
Standard	TESTID005
	Sample
Testing	0

Leakage Test	
Leak Factor	4.21CFM/100ft2
Leak Limit	10.60CFM/100ft2
Leak Rate	226.80CFM
Status	Pass
Flow Device	Flow Grid
Baro Press	396.0inH2O
Temperature	75.0°F
Time	00:00
Standard	TESTID005
	Sample
Test Done	0

After completing leakage testing for a section of duct, you can move onto the next section.

	DANGER
	Turn the isolation switch to the OFF position and wait 10 minutes prior to disconnecting power.

Troubleshooting Guide

Symptom	Recommended Action
Fan motor will not run.	▪ Check the power connection. ▪ Circuit Breaker may have tripped.
Static pressure reading (on 5815) is zero.	▪ Check the connections.
Static pressure reading (on 5815) is too low. Required static pressure cannot be achieved with motor speed control settings at the maximum.	▪ Leakage rate is too high. Check for leaks using soap bubbles or smoke pallets. Alternatively, test a smaller section of the ductwork.
Leak Flow (on 9650) shows flashing XXX.XX.	▪ Check the pressure tube connections to the 9650 meter. ▪ Leak flow is too low. Use low flow nozzle adapter.

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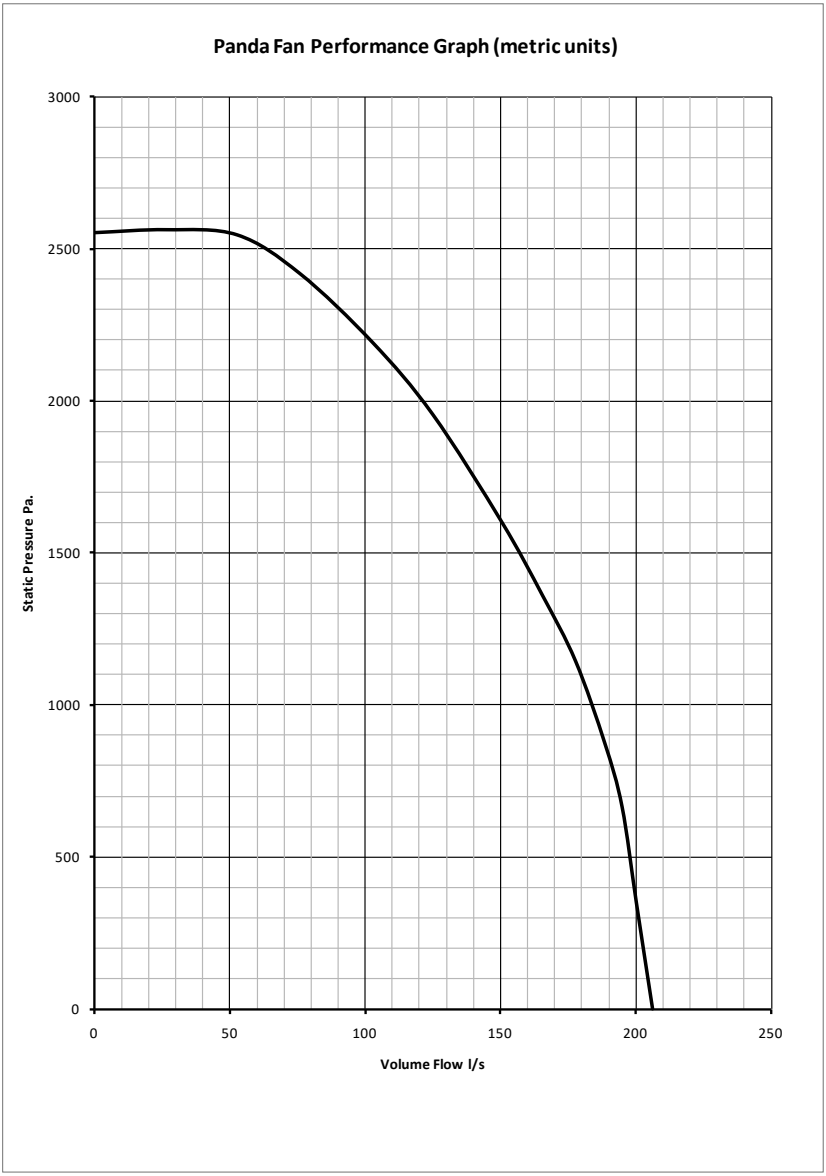
Appendix A

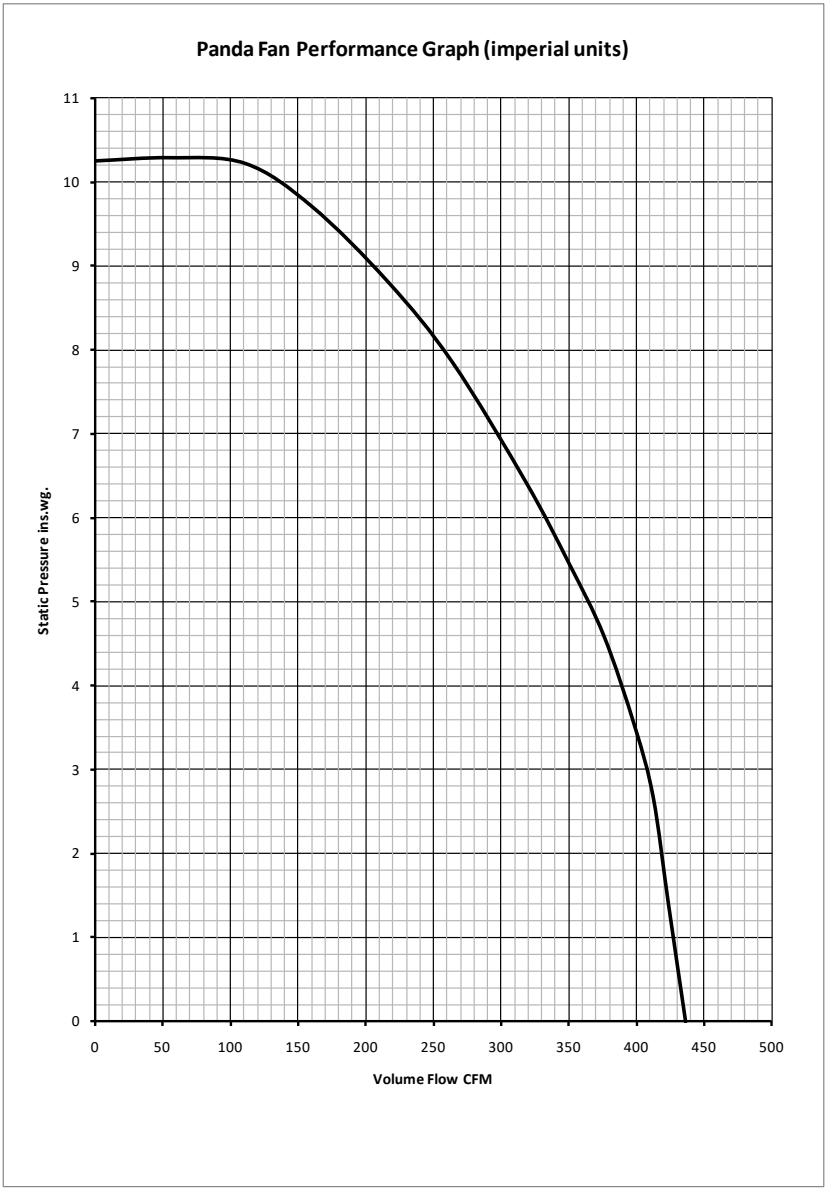
Specifications

Pressure Measurement (5815)		
Range	± 3,735 Pa	±15 inwg
Resolution	0.1 Pa	0.001 inwg
Accuracy	±1% of reading ±1 Pa	±1% of reading ±0.005 inwg
Actual duct static range	2500 Pa at 0 Flow	10 inwg at 0 Flow
Volume Flow Measurement (9650)		
High Leakage Range (Flow Grid):	10 to 200 l/s 36 to 720 m^3 /hr	21 to 424 cfm
Low Leakage Range (15 mm Low Flow Nozzle Adapter)	1 to 13 l/s 3.6 to 46.9 m^3 /hr	2 to 27.5 cfm
Accuracy	±2.5% of reading or ±0.01 l/s, whichever is greater ±2.5% of reading or ±0.04 m^3/hr, whichever is greater	±2.5% of reading or ±0.02 cfm, whichever is greater
Resolution	0.01 l/s 0.01 m^3 /hr	0.01 cfm
Temperature Measurement (9650)		
K Type Thermo Couple Probe To EN60584 (IEC 584)		
Barometric Pressure Measurement (9650)		
Range	690 to 1,241 hPa 517.5 to 930.87 mm Hg	20.36 to 36.648 in Hg
Accuracy	±2% of reading	±2% of reading
Weight		
Carry Weight Total Weight	45 Kg 55 Kg	99 lbs 121 lbs

Dimensions (LxWxH)		
	1,130 mm x 660 mm x 600 mm	44.5 in. x 26 in. x 23.5 in.
Power Requirements		
230V Version	220 to 240 V, 1 Phase, 50/60 Hz 10A	
110V Version	110 to 120 V, 1 Phase, 50/60 Hz 16A	
9650 and 5815		
	See specification sheets for details on individual instruments	

(Specifications are subject to change without notice.)


Panda Fan Performance Graph (metric units)
Static Pressure Pa.
3000
2500
2000
1500
1000
500
0
0
50
100
150
200
250
Volume Flow l/s


Panda Fan Performance Graph (imperial units)
Static Pressure ins.wg.
11
10
9
8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1
0
0
50
100
150
200
250
300
350
400
450
500
Volume Flow CFM

Appendix B

Leakage Testing Standards Highlights

Different standards are used throughout the world to specify duct air tightness and leakage requirements. The PAN231 duct leakage test system has a duct leakage application to automatically compare the actual leakage flow with the maximum allowed leakage flow for EN and SMACNA standards. Field technicians can also use the duct leakage application to determine actual leakage flow and manually compare it to maximum leakage from another standard. The PAN231 duct leakage test system cannot determine the appropriate leakage classification for a given duct.

Standards Supported

Standard	US- or EU-Based	Description
BS EN 12237:2003	EU	Ventilation for buildings—Ductwork—Strength and leakage of circular sheet metal ducts.
BS EN 1507:2006	EU	Ventilation for buildings—Sheet metal air ducts with rectangular section—Requirements for strength and leakage.
DW/143	EU	HVAC—A practical guide to Ductwork leakage testing.
Eurovent 2/2	EU	Air leakage rate in sheet metal air distribution systems.
SMACNA HVAC Air Duct Leakage Test manual, Second edition, 2012	US	Duct construction leakage classification, expected leakage rates for sealed and unsealed ductwork, duct leakage test procedures, recommendations on use of leakage testing, types of test apparatus and test setup and sample leakage analysis.

TSI® has made every effort to accurately reflect the standards referenced. Please refer to the actual standards for more detailed information and to make the best interpretation of each statement.

The scope of the standards listed above includes many items other than duct leakage. This summary; however, is limited to duct leakage testing.

EU Standards

Ductwork classification and maximum air leakage. Note that EN1507, EN12237 Eurovent 2/2 and DW/143 all have the same formula to determine f_{max}, the Air Leakage Limit, although DW/143 uses units of $l/s/m^2$ whereas others use $m^3/s/m^2$.

- EN 1507 (rectangular ductwork)

Air Tightness Class	Air Leakage Limit (f_{max}) $m^3/s/m^2$	Static Pressure Limit (p_s) Pa			
		Negative	Positive at pressure class		
			1	2	3
A	$\frac{0.027 * p_t^{0.65}}{1000}$	200	400		
B	$\frac{0.009 * p_t^{0.65}}{1000}$	500	400	1000	2000
C	$\frac{0.003 * p_t^{0.65}}{1000}$	750	400	1000	2000
D*	$\frac{0.001 * p_t^{0.65}}{1000}$	750	400	1000	2000

* Class D ductwork is only for special apparatus

- EN12237 (circular ductwork)

Air Tightness Class	Air leakage limit (f_{max}) $m^{3*}/s/m^2$	Static Pressure Limit (p_s) Pa	
		Negative	Positive
A	$\frac{0.027 * p_t^{0.65}}{1000}$	500	500
B	$\frac{0.009 * p_t^{0.65}}{1000}$	750	1000
C	$\frac{0.003 * p_t^{0.65}}{1000}$	750	2000
D*	$\frac{0.001 * p_t^{0.65}}{1000}$	750	2000

* Class D ductwork is only for special apparatus

- Eurovent 2/2 Air Tightness for Installed Duct Testing

Air Tightness Class	Air leakage limit (f_{max}) $m^3/s/m^2$
A	$\frac{0.027 * p_t^{0.65}}{1000}$
B	$\frac{0.009 * p_t^{0.65}}{1000}$
C	$\frac{0.003 * p_t^{0.65}}{1000}$

- DW/143: A Practical Guide to Ductwork Leakage Testing

Duct Pressure Class	Static Pressure Limit		Maximum Air Velocity m/s	Air leakage limits l/s/m²
	Positive Pa	Negative Pa		
Low-pressure – Class A	500	500	10	$0.027*p_t^{0.65}$
Medium-pressure – Class B	1000	750	20	$0.009*p_t^{0.65}$
High pressure – Class C	2000	750	40	$0.003*p_t^{0.65}$

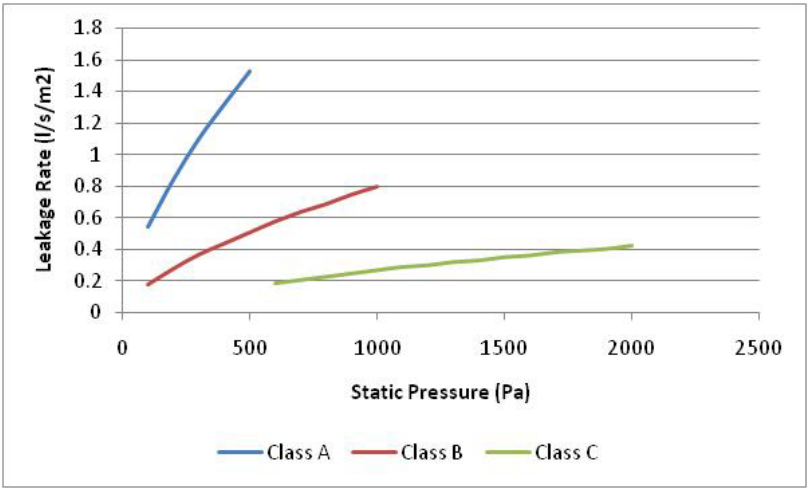


Figure 10. Allowable Air Leakage Rates from DW/143

- The measured leakage flow rates shall be corrected if the temperature and/or barometric pressure are different from standard conditions (+20ºC and 101 325 Pa) as follows:

$$q_v = q_{measured} \cdot \frac{293}{273 + t} \cdot \frac{p}{101325}$$

  where:

  q_v=corrected flow leakage rate
  $q_{measured}$ = measured flow leakage rate
  t = measured temperature (ºC)
  p = measured barometric pressure (Pa)

- The test report shall give the following general information of the test performed:
  - Date and place
  - Test personnel and witness
  - Test equipment, including pressuring means and measuring instruments
  - Air temperature and barometric pressure during the test
  - Building and project reference
  - Design of installed ductwork including dimensions, thickness of materials, types of stiffening, length, type of duct/tubes and fittings, assembly method and distance of hangers/supports
  - Required air tightness class and design operating pressure of the installed ductwork
  - Installer of ductwork
  - Manufacturer of the ductwork
  - Measured values of:
    1. Ductwork surface area (A)
    2. Total joint length (L)
    3. Test pressure (p_{test})
    4. Leakage flow rate (q_v) corrected for temperature and barometric pressure
    5. Pressurizing time
  - Calculated values of
    1. Leakage factor (f)
    2. Air leakage limit (f_{max}) according to the formulas given in table above at the measured test pressure (p_{test})
  - Air tightness class achieved
- For tests including several test pressures it is recommended to plot the leakage factors as a function of test pressure in a diagram together with the air leakage limit curve.

US Standards

Ductwork classification and maximum air leakage

Duct Class	1/2-, 1-, 2-inwg	3-inwg	4-, 6-, 10-inwg
Seal Class	C	B	A
Sealing Applicable	Transverse Joints Only	Transverse Joints and Seams	Joints, Seams and All Applicable Wall Penetrations
Leakage Class			
Rectangular Metal	16	8	4
Round Metal	8	4	2

Maximum air leakage is then defined as $F=C_L P^{0.65}$

where: F = Maximum air leakage (cfm/100 ft^2)
C_L = Leakage class
P = Pressure (inwg)

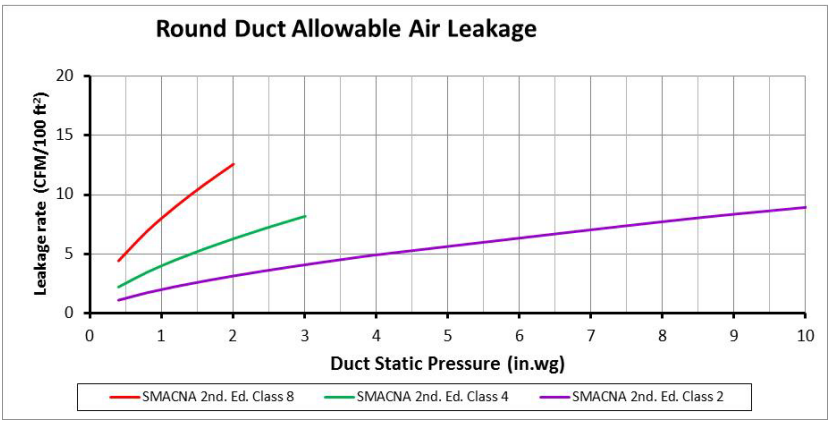


Figure 11. Allowable Air Duct Leakage from Round Ducts, per SMACNA Standard

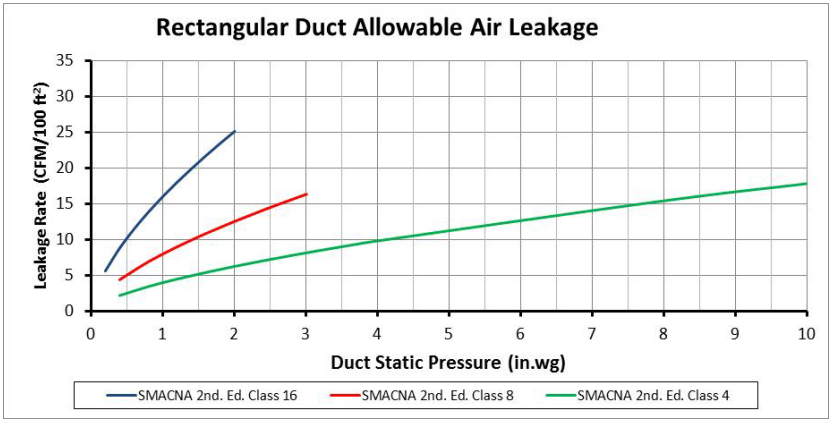


Figure 12. Allowable Air Duct Leakage from Rectangular Ducts, per SMACNA Standard

- The SMACNA standard does not generally require correcting leakage flow rates to standard conditions, unless:

  1. Air temperature <40ºF or >100ºF
  2. Elevation <1500 ft above sea level
  3. Duct static pressure <-20 inwg or >+20 inwg

  Should one of these conditions not be satisfied then correcting the leakage to standard conditions may be done using one of these formulas:

  1. ACFM=SCFM * (460+T)/530
     where T = actual dry bulb air temperature (ºF)
     moisture is negligible
     pressure between -20 and +20 inwg
  2. ACFM = SCFM * 0.075/d
     where d = air density from psychrometric chart
  3. ACFM=lb dry air/minute * humid volume (ft^3/lb dry air)

- The SMACNA standard does not specify the information to be reported, but instead defers to project documents. However, the SMACNA standard does include a sample test report that includes:
  - Test date and place
  - Test personnel and witness
  - Building and project reference
  - Duct section tested
  - Specified leakage class, test pressure and duct construction pressure class
  - Measurements of:
    - Ductwork surface area
    - Leakage flow and calculations required to determine leakage flow

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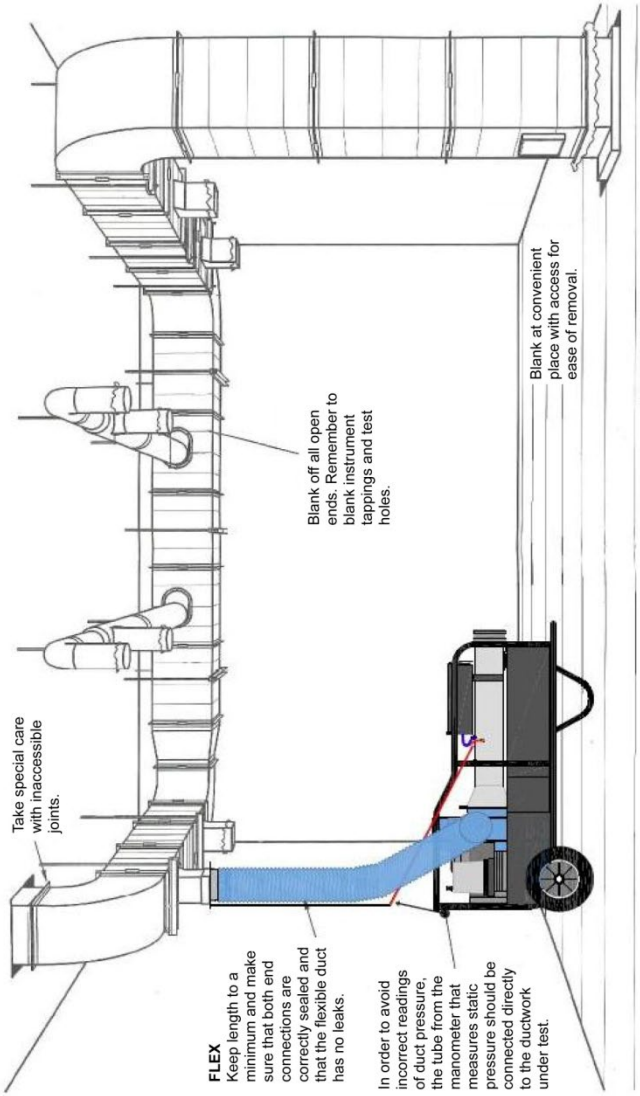
Appendix C

Typical Setup



SEQUENCE OF TEST

1. Prepare test sheet.
2. Connect and adjust test rig to correct pressure.
3. Read off leakage rate.
4. Reseal if necessary (allow time to cure).
5. Maintain test for 15 minutes.
6. Switch off and allow to zero.
7. Reapply test pressure and check reading.
8. Record details on test sheet and obtain signature.

WARNING
Take care not to over pressurize system under test.

HOW TO FIND LEAKS

1. **Look** – at blanks, access openings and difficult joints.
2. **Listen** - with test rig running, leaks should be audible.
3. **Feel** – running your hand (particularly if wet) over joints can help locate leaks.
4. **Soap and Water** - paint over joints and look for bubbles.
5. **Smoke Pellet** – placed inside ductwork (obtain permission for use).

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