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IS OUR  
BUSINESS**



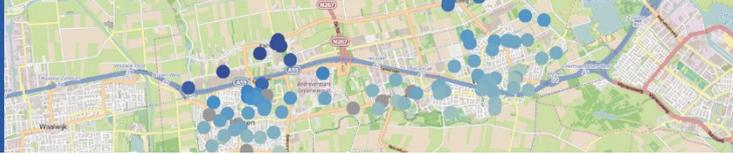
# **PRODUCT MANUAL**

Diver®



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# 1 Introduction

## 1.1 About this Manual

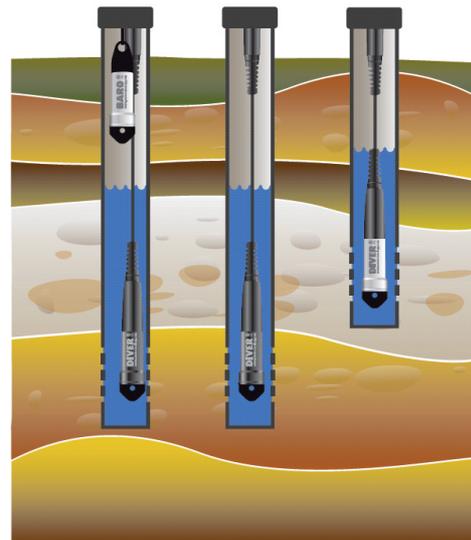
This manual contains information about Van Essen Instruments' Divers®. It contains a description of the Mini-Diver (DI5xx), Micro-Diver (DI6xx), Cera-Diver (DI7xx), Baro-Diver (DI500) and the CTD-Diver (DI27x). The number in brackets designates the Diver part number.

This section contains a brief introduction to the Diver's measurement principles, an instrument designed to measure groundwater levels and temperatures. Furthermore, a brief description of the software that can be used in combination with the Divers is provided. The next section contains the technical specifications for each type of Diver. The following section covers the installation of Divers in monitoring wells and in surface waters. This is followed by a description of how to maintain a Diver. The next section discusses conductivity measurements using the CTD-Diver and conductivity calibration. The last section includes the answers to frequently asked questions.

## 1.2 Operating Principle

The Diver is a datalogger designed to measure water pressure and temperature. Measurements are subsequently stored in the Diver's internal memory. The Diver consists of a pressure sensor designed to measure water pressure, a temperature sensor, memory for storing measurements and a battery. The Diver is an autonomous datalogger that can be programmed by the user. The Diver has a completely sealed enclosure. The communication between Divers and Laptops/field devices is based on optical communication.

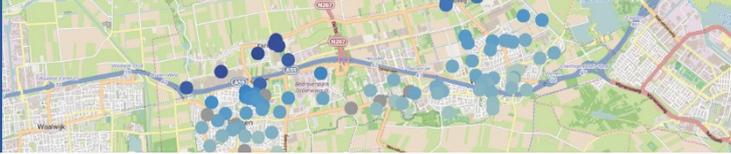
The Divers measures the absolute pressure. This means that the pressure sensor not only measures the water pressure, but also the air pressure pushing on the water surface. If the air pressure varies, the measured water pressure will thus also vary, without having to vary the water level.



## 1.3 Measuring Water Levels

All Divers establish the height of a water column by measuring the water pressure using the built-in pressure sensor. As long as the Diver is not submerged in water it measures atmospheric pressure, just like a barometer. Once the Diver is submerged this is supplemented by the water's pressure: the higher the water column the higher the measured pressure. The height of the water column above the Diver's pressure sensor is determined on the basis of the measured pressure.

To measure these variations in atmospheric pressure a Baro-Diver is installed for each site being measured. The barometric compensation for these variations in atmospheric pressure can be done using the Diver-Office software. It is also possible to use alternative barometric data such as data made available online.



The compensated values can be related to a reference point such as the top of the monitoring well or a vertical reference datum, for example Mean Sea Level (MSL).

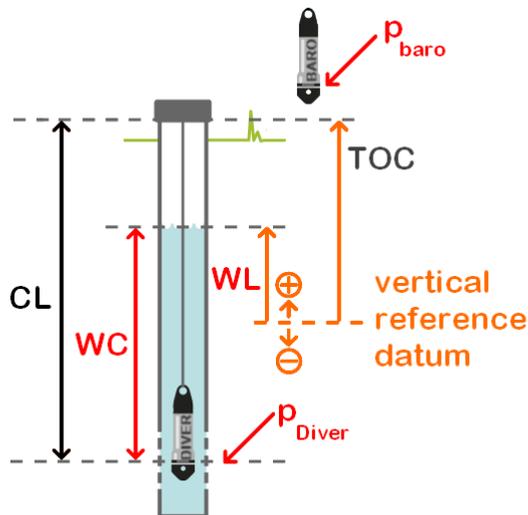
### Theory

This section explains how to calculate the water level in relation to a vertical reference datum using the Diver and Baro-Diver's measurements.

The figure below represents an example of a monitoring well in which a Diver has been installed. In this case we are therefore interested in the height of the water level (WL) in relation to the vertical reference datum. If the water level is situated above the reference datum it has a positive value and a negative value if it is situated below the reference datum.

The top of casing (TOC) is measured in relation to the vertical reference datum and is denoted in the diagram below as TOC cm. The Diver is suspended with a cable with a length equal to CL cm.

The Baro-Diver measures the atmospheric pressure ( $p_{\text{baro}}$ ) and the Diver measures the pressure exerted by the water column (WC) and the atmospheric pressure ( $p_{\text{Diver}}$ ).



The water column (WC) above the Diver can be expressed as:

$$WC = 9806.65 \frac{p_{\text{Diver}} - p_{\text{baro}}}{\rho \cdot g} \tag{1}$$

where  $p$  is the pressure in  $\text{cmH}_2\text{O}$ ,  $g$  is the acceleration due to gravity ( $9.81 \text{ m/s}^2$ ) and  $\rho$  is the density of the water ( $1,000 \text{ kg/m}^3$ ).

The water level (WL) in relation to the vertical reference datum can be calculated as follows:

$$WL = TOC - CL + WC \tag{2}$$

By substituting WC from equation (1) in equation (2) we obtain:

$$WL = TOC - CL + 9806.65 \frac{p_{\text{Diver}} - p_{\text{baro}}}{\rho \cdot g} \tag{3}$$

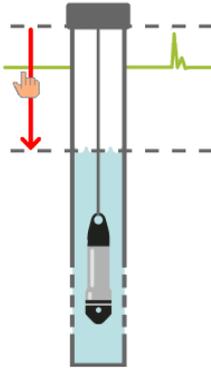
If the cable length is not exactly known, it can be determined using a manual measurement. From the figure below it is clear that the manual measurement (MM) is taken from the top of casing to the water level. The value of the water level is positive unless, in exceptional circumstances, the water level is situated above the top of casing.



The cable length can now be calculated as follows:

$$CL = MM + WC \tag{4}$$

where the water column (WC) is calculated on the basis of the measurements taken by the Diver and the Baro-Diver.



**Comments:**

- If the pressure measured by the Diver and the Baro-Diver is measured at different points in time, it is necessary to interpolate. The software automatically performs this interpolation.
- It is possible to enter manual measurements into the software. The software subsequently automatically calculates the cable length.

**Example:**

The top of casing is measured to be 150 cm above the Mean Seal Level (MSL).  $TOC = 150$  cm. The cable length is not exactly known and is therefore measured manually. It turns out to be 120 cm:  $MM = 120$  cm.

The Diver measures a pressure of 1,170 cmH<sub>2</sub>O and the Baro-Diver measures a pressure of 1,030 cmH<sub>2</sub>O. Substituting these values into equation (1), results in a water column of 140 cm above the Diver:  $WC = 140$  cm.

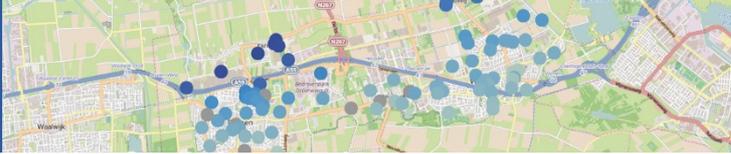
Substituting the values of the manual measurement and the water column in equation (4) results in the following cable length:  $CL = 120 + 140 = 260$  cm.

The water level in relation to MSL can now be easily calculated using equation (2):  $WL = 150 - 260 + 140 = 30$  cm above MSL.

## 1.4 Measuring Temperature

All Divers measure the groundwater temperature. This can, for example, provide information about groundwater flows. This also makes it possible to determine the diffusion of (polluted) water.

The temperature is measured using a semiconductor sensor. This sensor not only measures the temperature, but also uses the value of the temperature to at the same time compensate the pressure sensor and electronics (incl. the crystal clock) for the effects of temperature.



## 1.5 Diver Models

Various types of Divers are available. All Divers measure the absolute pressure and temperature. The summary below explains the differences between the various Diver models.



**Mini-Diver®** This is the basic Diver, manufactured using a stainless steel (316 L) casing with a 22 mm diameter. The Mini-Diver is capable of storing a maximum of 24,000 measurements (date/time, pressure and temperature).



**Micro-Diver®** This is the smallest Diver with a diameter of 18 mm and a stainless steel (316 L) casing. The Micro-Diver is capable of storing a maximum of 48,000 measurements. This Diver is suitable for pipes with a diameter of at least 20 mm (0.787 in).



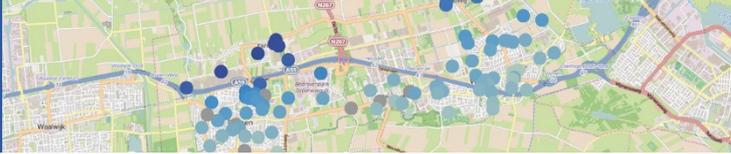
**Cera-Diver®** This Diver comes with a 22 mm diameter ceramic casing and is suitable for use in brackish and salt water or in other aggressive environments. The Cera-Diver is capable of storing a maximum of 48,000 measurements.



**CTD-Diver®** In addition to taking pressure and temperature measurements, this Diver also measures the water's conductivity. The 22 mm diameter ceramic casing is suitable for brackish or saltwater applications as well as in aggressive environments. The CTD-Diver is capable of storing a maximum of 48,000 measurements.



**Baro-Diver®** This Diver measures atmospheric pressure and is used to compensate for the variations in atmospheric pressure measured by the other Divers. This Diver can also be used for measuring shallow water levels up to 1 meter. The stainless steel (316 L) casing has a diameter of 22 mm. The Baro-Diver is capable of storing a maximum of 24,000 measurements.



The Micro-Diver, Cera-Diver and CTD-Diver incorporate a greater range of functionality than the Mini-Diver and Baro-Diver. These last two Divers only offer a fixed measurement option. This means that the Diver takes measurements on the basis of user-defined intervals.

The other Divers offer the following measurement options:

- Pre-programmed pump tests or user-defined pump tests.
- Average values over a specified time period.
- An event-based option. In this case the Diver only stores measurements once the percentage variation limit set for the pressure or conductivity (CTD-Diver) measurement is exceeded. This percentage variation can be specified by the user.

For applications in surface waters it is possible to average the values over a specified period. The average values are then stored. The effects of waves are 'averaged out' this way.

If the memory of the Diver is full, the Diver will stop measuring. The Diver has a non-volatile memory which means that the data is preserved if for whatever reason the battery is empty.

## 1.6 Diver-Office Software

Diver-Office is a software package used in conjunction with every type of Diver described in this manual. The latest version of Diver-Office can be downloaded from [www.vanessen.com](http://www.vanessen.com).

Diver-Office operates under all current versions of Microsoft Windows and is easy to install on a tablet, laptop or PC.

Diver-Office makes it possible to communicate with the Divers and/or to start/stop them. The measurement data recorded by the Divers can be read out at any time. You have the option of reviewing, compensating for variations in atmospheric pressures, printing or exporting the measurement data to various file formats for processing by other software. All values and settings are stored in a database. Furthermore, the raw Diver data is also stored as a file.

The software program's manual contains additional information about the operation of Diver-Office.



## 2 Technical Information

The Diver is a datalogger housed in a cylindrical casing with a suspension eye at the top. The suspension eye can be unscrewed and is designed to install the Diver into the monitoring well and protects the optical connector. The electronics, sensors and battery are installed maintenance-free into the casing. The Diver may not be opened. In case of any complaints, please contact your supplier.

The name of the datalogger, the model number, the measurement range and the serial number (SN) are clearly identified on the side of the Diver. This information is burnt-in using a laser and is consequently chemically neutral and inerasable.

### 2.1 Calibration Procedure

The Diver uses a pressure sensor and is calibrated in centimeters water column (cmH<sub>2</sub>O). The conversion factor from mbar to cmH<sub>2</sub>O is:

$$1 \text{ mbar} = 1.01972 \text{ cmH}_2\text{O} \text{ or } 1 \text{ cmH}_2\text{O} = 0.980665 \text{ mbar}$$

The calibration procedure involves calibrating and verifying the calibration of each individual Diver. First, the calibration is done. Each Diver is immersed in a water bath. Subsequently, this bath is adjusted to 5 different temperatures, 10, 20, 30, 40 and 50 °C. At each temperature 6 rising and 6 falling pressures are created at 0, 20, 40, 60, 80, and 100% of the measuring range. These pressures are created by a calibrated pressure calibrator. The pressures measured by the Diver are then analyzed and processed and then stored in a look-up table within the Diver. Each Diver has his own unique table. To verify the calibration, a calibration check is performed. During this check five rising and falling pressures are created, namely 10, 30, 50, 70, 90% of the measuring range, at 15 and 35 °C. Finally, the Diver is checked against the given specifications.

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### 2.2 Manufacturer's Certificate

The Diver passes calibration if it meets all specifications. A manufacturer's or calibration certificate is available upon request.

### 2.3 Specifications

Aside from the Baro-Diver for atmospheric pressure and temperature measurements, there are 12 Diver versions for pressure and temperature measurements and three CTD-Diver versions for pressure, temperature and conductivity measurements. The summary below summarises the measurement ranges of the water columns that the Divers are capable of measuring:

Mini-Diver:

- Up to 10 meters (DI501)
- Up to 20 meters (DI502)
- Up to 50 meters (DI505)
- Up to 100 meters (DI510)

Micro-Diver:

- Up to 10 meters (DI601)
- Up to 20 meters (DI602)
- Up to 50 meters (DI605)
- Up to 100 meters (DI610)



Cera-Diver:

- Up to 10 meters (DI701)
- Up to 20 meters (DI702)
- Up to 50 meters (DI705)
- Up to 100 meters (DI710)

CTD-Diver:

- Up to 10 meters (DI271)
- Up to 50 meters (DI272)
- Up to 100 meters (DI273)

Baro-Diver:

- Barometric variations (DI500)

## 2.4 Baro-Diver, Mini-Diver, Micro-Diver and Cera-Diver

The above Diver models meet the following general specifications:

	<b>Mini-Diver</b>	<b>Micro-Diver</b>	<b>Cera-Diver</b>
Diameter	Ø 22 mm	Ø 18 mm	Ø 22 mm
Length (incl. suspension ~ 90 mm eye)		~ 88 mm	~ 90 mm
Weight	~ 55 gram	~ 45 gram	~ 50 gram
Protection class	IP68, 10 years continuously submerged in water at 100 m		
Storage/Transport temperature	-20 °C to 80 °C (affects battery life)		
Operating temperature	0 °C to 50 °C		
<b>Material</b>			
Casing	316L stainless steel (active substance no. 1.4404)	316L stainless steel (active substance no. 1.4404)	Zirconia (ZrO <sub>2</sub> )
Pressure sensor	Alumina (Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> )		
Suspension eye/nose cone	Nylon PA6 glass fibre reinforced 30%		
O-rings	Viton®		
Communication	Optically separated		
Memory capacity	24,000 measurements	48,000 measurements	48,000 measurements
Memory	Non-volatile memory. A measurement consists of date/time/pressure/temperature		
Sample interval	0.5 sec to 99 hours		



	<b>Mini-Diver</b>	<b>Micro-Diver</b>	<b>Cera-Diver</b>
<b>Sampling options</b>			
Fixed interval	Yes	Yes	Yes
Event-based	No	Yes	Yes
Pump test (to be configured by user)	No	Yes	Yes
Averaging	No	Yes	Yes
Battery life*	8-10 years, depending on use		
Theoretical capacity	5 million measurements 2000× memory readouts 2000× programming		
Clock accuracy	Better than ± 1 minute per year at 25 °C  Better than ± 5 minutes per year within the calibrated temperature range		
CE marking	EMC in accordance with the 89/336/EEC directive Basic EN 61000-4-2 standard		
Emissions	EN 55022 (1998) + A1 (2000) + A2 (2003), Class B		
Immunity	EN 55024 (1998) + A1 (2000) + A2 (2003)		
Certificate number	06C00301CRT01	06C00300CRT01	06C00299CRT01

## 2.5 CTD-Diver

The CTD-Diver meets the following general specifications:

Diameter	Ø 22 mm
Length	135 mm incl. suspension eye
Weight	~ 95 gram
Material casing	Zirconia (ZrO <sub>2</sub> )
Protection class	IP68, 10 years continuously submerged in water at 100 m
Memory capacity	48,000 measurements
Sampling rate	1 sec to 99 hours
<b>Sampling options</b>	
Fixed interval	Yes
Event-based	Yes
Pump test (to be configured by user)	Yes
Averaging	Yes



### Conductivity

measurement range	(0 – 120) mS/cm
accuracy	±1% of reading with a minimum of 10 µS/cm
resolution	0.1% of reading with a minimum of: - 1 µS/cm for 30 mS/cm range - 10 µS/cm for 120 mS/cm range
Battery life*	8-10 years, depending on use
Theoretical capacity	2 million measurements 500× memory readouts 500× programming
CE marking	EMC in accordance with the 89/336/EEC directive Basic EN 61000-4-2 standard
Emissions	EN 55022 (1998) + A1 (2000) + A2 (2003), Class B
Immunity	EN 55024 (1998) + A1 (2000) + A2 (2003)

*The other parameters are identical to the Cera-Diver.*

\* **The Diver is always active.** The leakage current of the integrated battery is dependent on the temperature. If the Diver is used, stored or transported for extended periods of time under high temperature, this will adversely affect the life of the battery. The battery's capacity at lower temperatures is reduced, but this is not permanent. This is normal behaviour for batteries.

\*\* The accuracy of the clock is highly dependent on temperature. The clock is actively compensated for temperature in all models.

## 2.6 General

<i>Transport</i>	Suitable for transportation by vehicles, ships and airplanes in the supplied packaging.
<i>Resistance to vibration</i>	In accordance with MIL-STD-810.
<i>Mechanical shock test</i>	In accordance with MIL-STD-810, for light-weight equipment.

## 2.7 Temperature

The following specifications apply to the Mini, Micro, Cera, CTD-Diver and Baro-Diver for temperature measurements:

Measurement range	-20 °C to 80 °C
Operating Temperature (OT)	0 °C to 50 °C (for Baro-Diver: -10 °C to 50 °C)
Accuracy (max)	± 0.2 °C
Accuracy (typical)	± 0.1 °C
Resolution	0.01 °C
Response time (90% of final value)	3 minutes (in water)



## 2.8 Pressure

The specifications for atmospheric and water pressure measurements vary by type of Diver. The specifications below apply at operating temperature.

<b>Mini-Diver</b>	<b>DI501</b>	<b>DI502</b>	<b>DI505</b>	<b>DI510</b>	<b>Unit</b>
Water column measurement range	10	20	50	100	mH <sub>2</sub> O
Accuracy (max)	± 2.5	± 5	± 12.5	± 25	cmH <sub>2</sub> O
Accuracy (typical)	± 0.5	± 1	± 2.5	± 5	
Long-term stability	± 2	± 4	± 10	± 20	cmH <sub>2</sub> O
Resolution	0.2	0.4	1	2	cmH <sub>2</sub> O
Display resolution	0.058	0.092	0.192	0.358	cmH <sub>2</sub> O
Burst pressure	15	30	75	150	mH <sub>2</sub> O

<b>Micro -Diver</b>	<b>DI601</b>	<b>DI602</b>	<b>DI605</b>	<b>DI610</b>	<b>Unit</b>
Water column measurement range	10	20	50	100	mH <sub>2</sub> O
Accuracy (max)	± 3	± 6	± 15	± 30	cmH <sub>2</sub> O
Accuracy (typical)	± 1	± 2	± 5	± 10	
Long-term stability	± 3	± 6	± 15	± 30	cmH <sub>2</sub> O
Resolution	0.2	0.4	1	2	cmH <sub>2</sub> O
Display resolution	0.058	0.092	0.192	0.358	cmH <sub>2</sub> O
Burst pressure	15	30	75	150	mH <sub>2</sub> O

<b>Cera -Diver</b>	<b>DI701</b>	<b>DI702</b>	<b>DI705</b>	<b>DI710</b>	<b>Unit</b>
Water column measurement range	10	20	50	100	mH <sub>2</sub> O
Accuracy (max)	± 2	± 4	± 10	± 20	cmH <sub>2</sub> O
Accuracy (typical)	± 0.5	± 1	± 2.5	± 5	
Long-term stability	± 2	± 4	± 10	± 20	cmH <sub>2</sub> O
Resolution	0.2	0.4	1	2	cmH <sub>2</sub> O
Display resolution	0.058	0.092	0.192	0.358	cmH <sub>2</sub> O
Burst pressure	15	30	75	150	mH <sub>2</sub> O



<b>CTD-Diver</b>	<b>DI271</b>	<b>DI272</b>	<b>DI273</b>	<b>Unit</b>
Water column measurement range	10	50	100	mH <sub>2</sub> O
Accuracy (max)	± 2	± 10	± 20	cmH <sub>2</sub> O
Accuracy (typical)	± 0.5	± 2.5	± 5	
Long-term stability	± 2	± 10	± 20	cmH <sub>2</sub> O
Resolution	0.2	1	2	cmH <sub>2</sub> O
Display resolution	0.058	0.192	0.358	cmH <sub>2</sub> O
Burst pressure	15	75	150	mH <sub>2</sub> O

<b>Baro -Diver</b>	<b>DI500</b>	<b>Unit</b>
Water column measurement range	1.5	mH <sub>2</sub> O
Accuracy (max)	± 2	cmH <sub>2</sub> O
Accuracy (typical)	± 0.5	
Long-term stability	± 2	cmH <sub>2</sub> O
Resolution	0.1	cmH <sub>2</sub> O
Display resolution	0.058	cmH <sub>2</sub> O
Burst pressure	15	mH <sub>2</sub> O

### 2.8.1 Water Column Measurement Range

The height of water above the Diver that can be measured.

### 2.8.2 Accuracy (max)

Accuracy is the proximity of measurement results to the true value. Algebraic sum of all the errors that influence the pressure measurement. These errors are due to linearity, hysteresis and repeatability. During the Diver calibration process a Diver is rejected if the difference between the measured pressure and the applied pressure is larger than the stated accuracy.

### 2.8.3 Accuracy (typical)

At least 67% of the measurements during the calibration check are within 0.05% FS of the measurement range.

### 2.8.4 Long-term Stability

The stability of the measurement over a period of time when a constant pressure is applied at a constant temperature.

### 2.8.5 Resolution

The smallest change in pressure that produces a response in the Diver measurement.

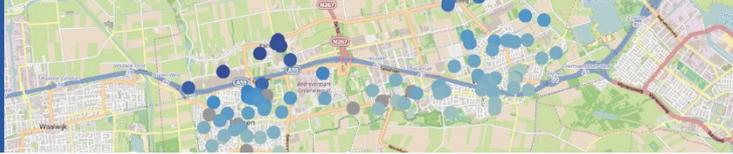


### 2.8.6 Display Resolution

The smallest increment in pressure that the Diver can measure.

### 2.8.7 Burst Pressure

The pressure at which the Diver pressure sensor will fail.



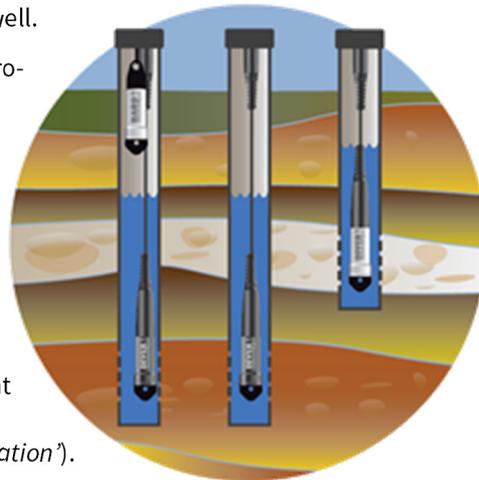
## 3 Diver Installation and Maintenance

### 3.1 Introduction

In practice the Diver is usually suspended in a monitoring well.

The illustration to the right depicts a set of Divers and a Baro-Diver for compensating for barometric pressure.

In addition to the regular Divers, a Baro-Diver that acts as a barometer and records atmospheric pressure is installed at each measurement site. Atmospheric pressure data must be used to compensate the pressure measurements recorded by the Divers for variations in atmospheric pressure. A Baro-Diver, designed for taking atmospheric pressure measurements, is recommended for this purpose. In principle, a single Baro-Diver is sufficient for an area with a radius of 15 kilometers (depending on terrain conditions. Also see Appendix I 'Use of Divers at elevation').



The following sections describe how to install the Divers and Baro-Diver.

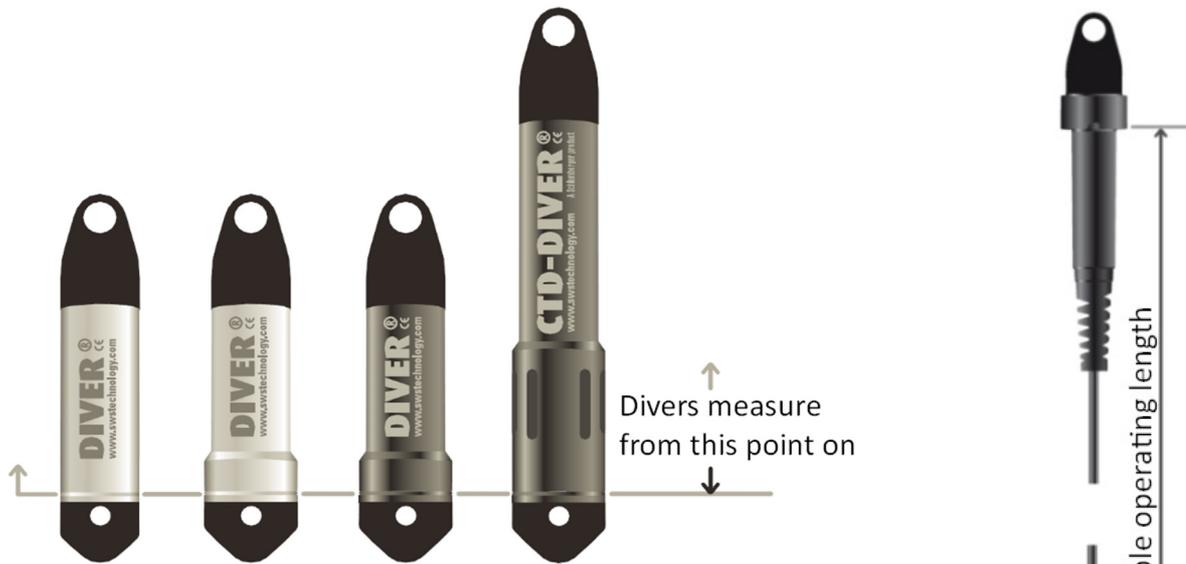
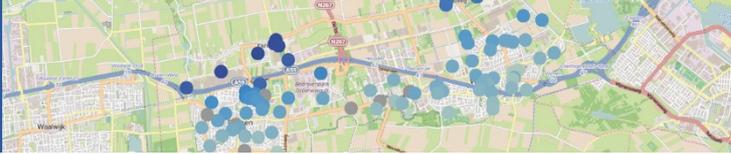
### 3.2 Installation in a Monitoring Well

Divers are normally installed below water level in a monitoring well. The depth at which a Diver can be suspended is dependent on the instrument's measurement range. Further information about the Diver's range is contained in the section 'Technical Information'.

First determine the length of the non-stretch suspension cable on the basis of the lowest groundwater level. Provide for the required additional length for attaching the cable to the Diver and the length of the suspension eye at the upper end when you cut the wire to size.

Next use wire clips to attach the ends of the cable to the monitoring well's end cover and the Diver's suspension eye, respectively.

To determine the distance of the pressure sensor in the monitoring well requires the precise length of the cable to be known, to which the distance to the location of the pressure sensor in the Diver must be added to obtain the overall operating length. This is depicted in the diagram below.



It is also possible to install the Diver with a Diver Data Cable (DDC). This cable allows you to read out the Diver at the top of the monitoring well by using a USB interface cable.



Diver suspended by steel wire



Diver suspended by DDC



Note: When the Diver is installed, it is possible for the groundwater level to be temporarily elevated. The reverse is true when the Diver is removed. The groundwater level may then be temporarily lowered.

If the cable length is not exactly known, it can, for example, be calculated using the Diver-Office and a manual measurement (measuring tape measurement from the top of casing) (manual measurement + Diver measurement – Baro-Diver reading = cable length).

The following must be taken into consideration in installing a CTD-Diver:

- Preferably do not install in very tight fitting piping.
- The C value readings are most accurate (most reliable) when the through flow of the water to be measured is unimpeded.
- The preference is for CTD-Divers to be suspended at screen height.



- In contrast to ‘regular’ Divers, the position within the monitoring well in relation to the screen affects the measurements. Here too the following dictum applies: the greater the through flow the more reliable the measurement.
- The monitoring well is made of non-metal containing material.
- Ions released from the walls of the monitoring well can/will affect the measurements.
- Glued monitoring wells: it is known that certain glue types affect measurements.
- Since CTD-Divers and Cera-Divers are used in brackish and salt water, it is not recommended to use stainless steel wiring. Stainless steel wire and mounting clamps can rust which may cause the Diver to fall into the well.

### 3.3 Installation in Surface Water

If a Diver is to be used in surface waters it is important that there is sufficient circulation around the Diver’s sensors. Water flows prevent the pipe from silting up and ensures that the Diver in fact measures the surrounding water rather than the stagnating water in the monitoring well itself. We recommend that a monitoring well of at least 2” is used, of which the openings must be kept clear of, for example, algae and plant growth as much as possible.



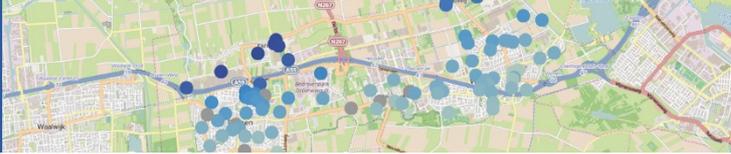
If a steel pipe is used (see pictures) with a 1” monitoring well installed inside the pipe, allow the Diver’s extremity to protrude somewhat beyond the end of the pipe so that the Diver’s sensors also come into contact with the water at this point.

Install the fixing post to which the monitoring well is attached so that the Diver benefits from the maximum water depth and flow, for example in the middle of the ditch. To prevent vandalism, a steel pipe with a steel cap that can be locked can be used.

#### **Position the Divers deep enough so that they remain below a possible ice layer.**

This picture shows a Diver whose sensor protrudes from below the monitoring well. A thinner monitoring well has been placed into the steel pipe in which the Diver can be installed.





### 3.4 Use of Divers at Elevation

Divers can be used at any elevation ranging from 300 meters below sea level to 5,000 meters above sea level. Appendix I contains further information on the use of Divers at elevations.

### 3.5 Baro-Diver

The Baro-Diver must be installed in such a way that it only measures atmospheric pressure under all conditions. A location that is not subject to rapid temperature variations is preferred.

### 3.6 Use in Seawater

**Do not use a Mini-Diver or Micro-Diver in seawater.**

The Mini-Diver and Micro-Diver are made of 316L stainless steel. This material is not suited for brackish and/or seawater because it is subject to corrosion/crevice corrosion. Corrosion is caused by the salt content, and can be enhanced by temperature and the other substances in the water.

We recommend that you select the Cera-Diver and/or CTD-Diver for use in semi-saline water and/or seawater. These Divers are made of ceramic materials that are able to withstand semi-saline water and/or seawater.



### 3.7 Diver Maintenance

In principle, the Diver does not require any maintenance. When required, the casing can be cleaned with a soft cloth. Calcium and other deposits can be removed with white vinegar. The flow-through opening can also be rinsed with water and/or white vinegar.

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**Note:** only use diluted acid solutions if the Diver is seriously dirtied and other cleansers are not effective.

Never use any hard brushes, abrasives or sharp objects for cleaning the Diver and always rinse it properly with clean water after cleaning, particularly near the flow-through openings. Do not use any powerful jets. This could damage the pressure sensor.

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## 4 CTD-Diver

### 4.1 Measuring Conductivity

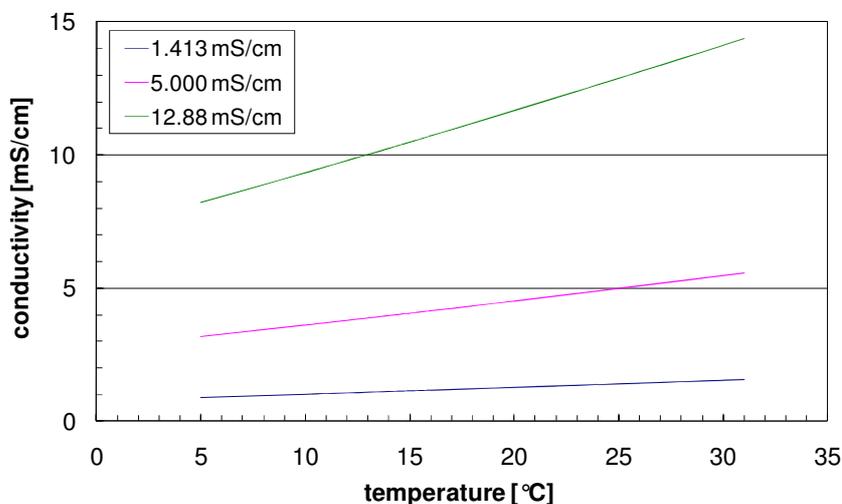
In addition to water levels and temperature, the CTD-Diver also measures the water's electrical conductivity in millisiemens per centimetre (mS/cm). A change in conductivity may be caused by for example changes in water flow, or increasing/decreasing pollution or salinization.

The CTD-Diver measures the conductivity of a solution. The CTD-Diver can be programmed by the user to measure either the true conductivity or the specific conductivity. The specific conductivity is defined as the conductivity as if the temperature is 25 °C. This setting must be programmed prior to starting the CTD-Diver.

The conductivity is measured using a 4-electrode measuring cell. This type of measuring cell is relatively insensitive to sensor fouling, thus keeping maintenance to a minimum. *The measuring cell combined with the selected measurement method results in an electrolysis-free measurement system.*

#### Example

The conductivity of a liquid depends on the type of ions in the liquid and to a significant degree on the liquid's temperature. This dependency is indicated on the packaging of the calibration liquids, for example. The diagram below displays the conductivity as a function of temperature for three different calibration liquids. The specified value of the calibration liquid is the conductivity of the liquid at 25 °C.



As a rule of thumb it can be assumed that conductivity varies by 2% for each 1 °C change in temperature. This means that a calibration liquid rated at 5 mS/cm (at 25 °C) still only has a conductivity of approximately 4 mS/cm at 15 °C.

The table below lists a number of typical conductivity values for various types of water.

Type	Conductivity [mS/cm]
Tap water	0.2 – 0.7
Groundwater	2 - 20
Seawater	50 - 80



## 4.2 Factory Calibration

Each CTD-Diver is calibrated for pressure, temperature and conductivity:

1. First the CTD-Diver is calibrated for pressure and temperature. This process is identical for each Diver and is described in the chapter calibration procedure.
2. Then the factory calibration of the conductivity sensor is performed. The CTD-Diver immersed in a 6 ascending conductivity values. The exact value of the conductivity of the liquid is determined with a calibrated reference sensor.
3. During the calibration check of the conductivity sensor, the CTD-Diver is immersed in 6 conductivity fluids: (0.15, 0.9, 3.0, 12, 35 and 75) mS/cm. The values measured by the CTD-Diver are compared to the reference values, this determines whether the deviation is within the limits of the specifications.

The factory calibration is stored permanently in the CTD-Diver.

## 4.3 Field Calibration

The conductivity sensor is, in contrast to the pressure and temperature sensor, sensitive to pollution. Therefore, it is advisable to check the sensor regularly. A simple verification consists of two steps. Firstly, take the CTD-Diver out of the well and shake it dry. Then take an actual reading, the reading should be 0 mS/cm. The reading may be slightly higher if the conductivity sensor is not completely dry. Second, immerse the CTD-Diver in a conductivity calibration solution. Ensure, that there are no air bubbles trapped inside the conductivity measurement cell. Take another actual reading and compare with the value of the calibration solution. Note: if the CTD-Diver is set to read Conductivity, i.e. not Specific Conductivity ensures that the reading is corrected for temperature.

If the deviation is greater than the specified accuracy it is recommended to recalibrate the CTD-Diver. It is important to note that this calibration should be performed in an environment with a stable temperature. It is necessary to make use of good reference fluids and clean tools in order to perform a proper and reliable recalibration.

The conductivity accuracy specification of the CTD-Diver for the full 0-120 mS/cm measurement range can only be achieved if the CTD-Diver is calibrated at all four calibration points (1.413; 5; 12.88 and 80 mS/cm).

If you choose to use the CTD-Diver in a specific application, you may decide to perform the calibration on no 1 or 2 points. This means that the CTD-Diver meets the specifications in that particular measurement range. The CTD-Diver may deviate somewhat from the specifications outside the calibrated measurement range.

Example: If the CTD-Diver is used in a measurement range of 2-3 mS/cm, perform the user calibration at 1.413 and/or 5 mS/cm. The CTD-Diver will consequently be within the specifications for the 1.413 to 5 mS/cm measurement range.

If the user calibration is later carried out at the four calibration points, then the CTD-Diver will once again meet its specifications for the full measurement range.

The procedure for calibrating a CTD-Diver can be found in the Diver-Office software manual.

Note: When the CTD-Diver has not been used for an extended period of time take the following steps prior to calibration. Program the CTD-Diver with a one minute sample interval and start the CTD-Diver. Immerse the CTD-Diver in tap water for a period of at least 24 hours.



**Important:**

*Prior to each reference measurement and/or calibration, the CTD-Diver must be thoroughly rinsed in demineralised water. After it has been rinsed it may not be touched by bare hands since the reference liquid can easily become contaminated by residual contaminants and/or residual salts left on hands. This invalidates a reference measurement/calibration since the reference has become distorted. This effect is highest at the lowest values.*

Erroneous or improper calibration can also **negatively** affect the accuracy of the CTD-Diver.

Cleanliness during calibration is very important. All salt residues adhering to the CTD-Diver will negatively affect the accuracy of the calibration liquid. **This is why this calibration solution may never be used twice.**

Temperature differences can also cause errors (extended acclimatization is a required).

In such cases it is recommended that the factory calibration be restored.

#### 4.4 Specific Conductivity

The specific conductivity of an electrolyte solution is defined as the conductivity if the solution is at a certain – reference – temperature. The specific conductivity is an indirect measure of the presence of dissolved solids such as chloride, nitrate, phosphate, and iron, and can be used as an indicator of water pollution.

The following equation is used for calculating the specific conductivity  $K_{T_{ref}}$  from the measured conductivity  $K$ .

$$K_{T_{ref}} = \frac{100}{100 + \theta(T - T_{ref})} \cdot K \quad (5)$$

where:

$K_{T_{ref}}$  = Specific conductivity at  $T_{ref}$

$K$  = Conductivity at  $T$

$T_{ref}$  = Reference temperature (25 °C)

$T$  = Sample temperature

$\theta$  = Temperature coefficient (1.91 %/°C)

The temperature coefficient used in the CTD-Diver is 1.91 %/°C and the reference temperature is 25°C. The setting to measure conductivity or specific conductivity can be programmed into the CTD-Diver by the user.



## 5 FAQ

This section contains an overview of questions frequently received from our customers and our answers to them. If you do not find the answer you are looking for in this FAQ, please contact Van Essen Instruments.

**Q:** *How do I install my Diver?*

**A:** Most Divers are installed underwater in a monitoring well. The depth at which you can suspend a Diver depends on the instrument's measurement range. Determine the lowest possible water level measured from the top of the casing (or another reference point) prior to the installation. If the Diver is at least suspended at this depth, it is then certain that the Diver always measures the water level.

**B:** The Diver can be suspended from a Diver Data Cable (DDC) or from a non-stretch steel cable by means of a suspension eye. Attach the Diver to the monitoring well cover and the suspension eye with two cable clips.



**Q:** *How do I connect a Diver to my computer?*

**A:** The way in which a Diver is connected to a computer depends on the way in which the Diver is installed in the monitoring well.

A Diver hanging in the monitoring well suspended from a cable must first be removed from the monitoring well before it can be read out. The Diver is read using a computer and reading unit:

1. Connect the reading unit to your computer via the USB port. The required drivers are supplied. These are automatically installed using the Diver-Office software. The software can be downloaded from [www.vanessen.com](http://www.vanessen.com).
2. Unscrew the Diver's suspension eye.
3. Insert the Diver upside down into the reading unit (see above).

A Diver suspended from a Diver Data Cable (DDC) can be left hanging in the well. This Diver can be read out with a computer using an interface cable:

1. Connect the DDC interface cable to the computer.
2. Unscrew the protective cap from the end of the DDC.
3. Connect the connector on the interface cable to the end of the DDC.
4. Read out the Diver measurements using one of our programs.
5. Unscrew the DDC's interface cable.
6. Replace the protective cap on the DDC.





**Q:** Do you always need two Divers for measuring a single monitoring well?

**A:** No, but at least one Baro-Diver to monitor barometric pressure must be included in each network. For example, 20 Divers and one Baro-Diver would have to be installed for a network with 20 monitoring wells. We recommend installing one surplus Baro-Diver as a backup for larger networks. This is dependent on geographical conditions.

**Q:** What is the radius from the Divers within which the Baro-Diver should be placed to ensure proper compensation for atmospheric pressure?

**A:** The rule of thumb on open terrain, at approximately the same elevation one Baro-Diver is required within a maximum radius of 15 km.

**Q:** What is the formula for converting the results of the Divers/Baro-Diver measurements from cmH<sub>2</sub>O (e.g. 1020.74 cmH<sub>2</sub>O) to atmospheric pressure (mbar)?

**A:** The Divers/Baro-Diver measure in cm water column (cmH<sub>2</sub>O). To convert the measured cm water column to atmospheric pressure, it must be multiplied by 0.980665. In this example: 1020.74 × 0.980665 = 1001 mbar.

**Q:** What is the Diver's battery's lifespan?

**A:** The battery's lifespan is dependent on many factors, for example its temperature exposure, measurement interval, data reading and programming cycles and the type of Diver.

- For the battery of the Mini, Micro, Cera en Baro-Diver:
  - 5 million measurements;
  - 2,000 reading cycles;
  - 2,000 programming cycles.
- For the battery of the CTD-Diver:
  - 2 million measurements;
  - 500 reading cycles;
  - 500 programming cycles..

Given past experience, a maximum lifespan of 10 years is considered standard under 'typical' use. Typical use means that, among other things, Divers are not exposed to extreme temperatures over extended periods of time, the measurement sampling rate is not set at 1 second, a download is not requested by modem every hour, etc.

Examples:

- 1 measurement per hour over a period of 10 years produces 87,600 measurements.
- 1 measurement every 15 minutes over a period of 10 years produces 350,400 measurements.

**Q:** Is it possible to use the Divers in seawater?

**A:** The Mini and Micro-Divers are made of 316L stainless steel. This material is not suitable for use in seawater. The Cera-Diver and CTD-Diver are made of zirconia, a ceramic material. This material does not corrode in seawater and these Divers can therefore be used in seawater. Van Essen Instruments explicitly selected a 'non-metal' for the Diver types required for use in aggressive environments (such



as seawater). Any metal will eventually corrode in an environment that is too aggressive or due to the lack of oxygen. The zirconia used in the Cera-Diver and CTD-Diver is extremely resistant to corrosion. The ceramic (Alumina) pressure sensors exhibit the same properties. The Viton o-rings have been selected for their favourable properties in this environment.

**Q:** *How do I clean the Diver when it is very dirty?*

**A:** If your Diver is very dirty, it can easily be cleaned with white distilled vinegar.

**A diluted phosphoric acid solution may also be used for ceramic Diver types.**

Place the Diver in the solution for some time. Always thoroughly rinse the Diver with clean water after cleaning, especially near the flow through openings. If necessary, use a soft cloth to remove any deposits. Never use any hard brushes, abrasives or sharp objects to clean your Diver.

**Q:** *Must the Diver be calibrated?*

**A:** No, this is not necessary. Van Essen Instruments calibrates the Divers before they are delivered. A factory calibration certificate can be supplied as part of the production process.

The Divers can only be calibrated by Van Essen Instruments. In case of doubt, the user can perform a control measurement locally.

**B:** For the CTD-Diver, a user calibration can be carried out for the conductivity channel. See the user manual of the software for more information.

**Warning:**

A conductivity calibration is a delicate matter. How the CTD-Diver is cleaned prior to the calibration, temperature-related matters and how the calibration liquid is handled are all very important. It is not recommended to calibrate the CTD-Diver in the field.



## 6 Appendix I – Use of Divers at Elevation

Divers can be used at any elevation ranging from 300 meters below sea level to 5,000 meters above sea level. It is however recommended that all Divers and the Baro-Diver forming part of the same network be used at the same elevation (whenever possible).

The relationship between atmospheric pressure variations and elevation is exponential, rather than linear:

$$P_H = P_0 \cdot e^{-(M \cdot g \cdot H)/(R \cdot T)}$$

where

$P_H$  = atmospheric pressure at elevation height H

$P_0$  = atmospheric pressure at reference height

$M = 28.8 \cdot 10^{-3}$  kg/mol (molecular mass of air)

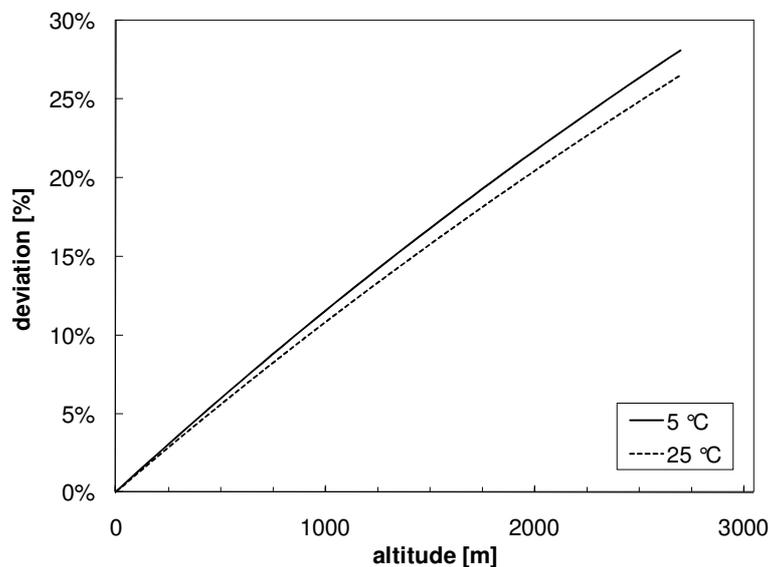
$g = 9.81$  m/s<sup>2</sup> (standard gravity)

H = height in meters

R = 8.314 J/mol/K (gas constant)

T = temperature in Kelvin

If the Baro-Diver is placed at a different elevation in relation to the other Divers in a measurement network, it is possible for a deviation to occur in the barometrically compensated data due to the relationships referred to above. The graph below illustrates the deviation in the barometric data as a function of the variation in elevation at 5 °C and 25 °C.



To determine the relative barometric pressure deviation relative to  $P_0$  at 5 °C ( $T = 278.15^\circ\text{K}$ ) at a height differential of H, the above referenced formula can be used:

$$(P_H - P_0) / P_0 = 1 - e^{-(M \cdot g \cdot H)/(R \cdot T)} \times 100\% \quad (6)$$



By substituting the data a relative deviation of 1.2 % at a height differential of 100 m is obtained. At a height differential of 1,000 m this increases to 11.5 %.

We therefore recommend that all Divers and the Baro-Divers in a network be placed such that the mutual height differentials are minimised.

If necessary, multiple Baro-Divers can be deployed to avoid the abovementioned issues.