

Technical Specifications for Verification and Inspection of Diaphragm Gas Meters

S/N	CNMV 31	
Rev.	4	

- 1. This Technical Specification is developed pursuant to the stipulations in Paragraph 2 of Articles 14 and Paragraph 2 of Articles 16 in the Weights and Measures Act.
- 2. The date of promulgation, document number, date of enforcement and content of amendment are listed as follows:

Rev.	Date of Promulgation	Document No. Date of (Ching-Piao-Szu-Tsu) Enforcement		Content of Amendment	
1	Jun. 2, .2003	No. 09240005160	Jul. 1, 2003		
2	May 1, 2006	No. 09540001570	Jul. 1, 2007	Revised according to related OIML requirements.	
3	Nov. 18, 2010	No. 09940005810	Jan. 1, 2011	1. When implements re-verification against meters that passed initial verification prior to subject to type approval, meters shall be sampled and tested for their errors at flow rate point 3 Q_{min} as required against meters that has been subject to type approval 2. For the verified flow rate between 0.1 Q_{max} and Q_{max} and when the symbols " \pm " are the same, the stipulations regarding the errors are revised.	
4	Sep. 2, 2014	No. 10340007390	Sep. 2, 2014	1. For gas meters with Q _{max} more than 16 m³/h that are not subject to type approval, the test for errors at flow rate 3 Q _{min} is no longer conducted. 2. For gas meters with Q _{max} equal to or less than 16 m³/h that passed initial verification before the implement of type approval, the test for errors at flow rate 3 Q _{min} is maintained. For gas meters with Q _{max} more than 16 m³/h, the test for errors at flow rate 3 Q _{min} is no longer conducted with reference to those procedures for gas meters that are not subject to type approval.	

3. This specification is formulated with reference to the following international specifications:

OIML R6 General provisions for gas volume meters (1989 (E))

OIML R31 Diaphragm gas meters (1995 (E))

CNS 14741 Microcomputer diaphragm gas meters for natural gas (2003(E))

Date of Promulgation Bureau of Standards, Metrology and Sep. 2, 2014 Inspection, Ministry of Economic Affairs Sep. 2, 2014

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1. Scope: This technical specifications applies to diaphragm gas meters (hereinafter referred to as "gas meters") subject to verification and inspection, that are the gas volume meters in which the gas flow is measured by means of measuring chambers with deformable thin walls, including the gas meters with a built-in temperature conversion device.

2. Definition

2.1 Flow rate (Q)

- Quotient of the actual quantity of gas passing through the gas meter and the time taken for this quantity to pass through the gas meter.

2.2 Maximum flow rate (Q max)

- Highest flow rate at which a gas meter is required to operate within the limits of its maximum permissible error.

2.3 Minimum flow rate (Q min)

- Lowest flow rate at which a gas meter is required to operate within the limits of its maximum permissible error.

2.4 Flow rate range

- The range of the flow rate of gas that is limited by the maximum flow rate Q_{max} and the minimum flow rate Q_{min} .

2.5 Maximum permissible error

- The extreme value of the error that is permitted by the legal requirements.

2.6 Maximum pressure (P_{max})

- Maximum gas pressure that a gas meter can withstand.

2.7 Minimum pressure (P min)

- Minimum gas pressure that a gas meter can withstand.

2.8 Pressure range

- The range that is between the maximum pressure and the minimum pressure.

2.9 Pressure loss

- The pressure difference between the inlet and the outlet of a gas meter when gas is flowing.

2.10 Value of a given air volume quantity

- The specified air volume that has been passing through the gas meter under

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tested to ensure to get correct error of the meter.

2.11 Cyclic volume of a gas volume meter

- The volume of gas corresponding to the working cycle of the gas volume meter, i.e. to all the movements of the moving components which, except for the indicating device and the intermediate transmissions, resume for the first time the position they occupied at the beginning of the cycle.

2.12 Built-in temperature conversion device

- A device which converts the volume measured at the metering conditions to a volume at base conditions.

2.13 Pressure absorption

- The difference between the pressures at the inlet and outlet of the gas volume meter while the gas is flowing. When does verification, using air under ambient pressure and ambient temperature as the medium at flow rate Q_{max} measures the the pressure loss in one measurement cycle as the total pressure absorption.

3. Constitution

- 3.1 Gas meters shall be clearly marked with the following items on easy scrutiny spot:
 - (1) Model and serial number.
 - (2) Name of measured gas.
 - (3) Flow rate range: mark the maximum flow rate and the minimum flow rate as Table 1, in cubic meters per hour (m³/h).
 - (4) The nominal diameter (inside diameter of inlet and outlet, in mm)
 - (5) Cyclic volume: $V = \dots m^3$ (or dm³).
 - (6) Directions of gas inlet and outlet.
 - (7) Manufacturer's name or trademark.
 - (8) Maximum pressure; P_{max}=....kPa (Pa, kgf/cm² or mmH₂O).
 - (9) Maximum permissible pressure difference between inlet and outlet; ΔP $_{max}=...kPa$ (Pa, kgf/cm², or mmH₂O).
 - (10) Applicable ranges of temperature and pressure.
 - (11) Type approval number.
 - (12) For a gas meter with a built-in temperature conversion device, the base temperature and the range of convertible temperature shall be marked.

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The aforementioned Items 8 to 12 do not apply to meters not subject to type approval or meters which passed initial verification prior to type approval has come into force applying for re-verification.

- 3.2 The indicating device of a gas meter must be provided with scale marks which stand out in contrast to the scale (i.e. the silver lines).
- 3.3 The upper limit of the maximum flow rate and the corresponding minimum flow rate for a gas meter are given in Table 1.

Table 1			
Q_{max}	Upper limit of Q min		
m³/h	m^3/h		
1	0.016		
1.6	0.016		
2.5	0.016		
4	0.025		
6	0.040		
10	0.060		
16	0.100		
25	0.160		
40	0.250		
65	0.400		
100	0.650		
160	1.000		
250	1.600		
400	2.500		
650	4.000		
1000	6.500		

- 4. Verification, inspection and maximum permissible errors
 - 4.1 The traceability of verification and inspection equipments is required.
 - 4.2 Prior to verification or inspection, gas meters shall be placed at least 12 hours in the place in which the verification is implemented.
 - 4.3 External airtight test of gas meters Blocks the outlet of gas meters; conducts the test with an air pressure of 10 kPa, and holds for 3 minutes; the leakage rate shall be less than 67 Pa/min.
 - 4.3.1 With regard to the requirements of Section 4.3 regarding "External airtight test of gas meters", 5% of the number of meters applied for verification shall be sampled and tested. If the number of meters applied for verification is less than 100, it is counted as 100. If any of the samples failed the test, another 10 % of the same batch of meters applied for

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verification shall be sampled and tested, and if any of them failed the test again, all the meters shall be tested.

4.4 Pressure absorption test

The total pressure absorption of gas meters, averaged over a measuring cycle, with a flow with ambient condition, at flow rate as Q_{max} , shall not exceed the values given in Table 2.

Table 2

Maximum Flow rate m ³ /h	Maximum permissible average value for total pressure absorption (including safety detection control unit) Verification Pa	Maximum permissible average value for total pressure absorption (including safety detection control unit) Inspection Pa
1 to 10 (inclusive)	200 (242)	220 (242)
16 to 65 (inclusive)	300 (330)	330 (363)
100 to 1000 (inclusive)	400 (440)	440 (484)

4.5 When implements the verification and inspection of gas meters' errors, the procedure shall be conducted at specified flow rates for verification and inspection and minimum volume for verification and inspection listed in Table 3. The difference between the real flow rate to do verification and inspection specified and the flow rate listed in Table 3 shall not be greater than 5%.

For gas meters subject to type approval shall be conducted the tests verification at flow rate Q_{max} and 0.2 Q_{max} one by one for errors. Also, 5% of the meters applied for verification shall be sampled and tested for errors at flow rate 3 Q_{min} . If the number of meters applied for verification is less than 100, it is counted as 100. In case any of the samples failed the test, another 10 % of the same batch of meters applied for verification shall be sampled and tested, and if any of them failed the test again, all the meters shall be tested.

For gas meters with Q_{max} more than 16 m³/h that are not subject to type approval, all meters shall be verified one by one for errors at flow rates Q_{max} and 0.2 Q_{max} .

For gas meters with Q_{max} equal to or less than 16 m³/h that passed initial verification before the implement of type approval, all meters shall be tested one by one for errors at flow rate Q_{max} and 0.2 Q_{max} when apply for re-verification. Also, 5% of the meters apply for re-verification shall be

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sampled and tested for errors at flow rate 3 Q_{min} . If the quantity of meters apply for re-verification is less than 100, it is counted as 100. In case any of the samples failed the test, another 10 % of the same batch of meters apply for re-verification shall be sampled and tested, and if any of them failed the test again, all the meters shall be tested. For gas meters with Q_{max} more than 16 m^3/h that passed initial verification before the implement of type approval, all meters shall be tested one by one for errors at flow rate Q_{max} and 0.2 Q_{max} when apply for re-verification.

Table 3

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Maximum	Verification and inspection			Minimum volume for verification		
Flowrate	flowrate		(inspection)			
(m^3/h)	m^3/h		dm ³⁽			
	Q _{max}	0.2 Q _{max}	3 Q _{min}	Q _{max}	0.2 Q _{max}	3 Q _{min}
1	1	0.20	0.048	50	20	10
1.6	1.6	0.32	0.048	50	20	10
2.5	2.5	0.50	0.048	50	30	10
4	4	0.80	0.075	70	50	20
6	6	1.20	0.120	120	70	30
10	10	2.00	0.180	200	100	50
16	16	.020	0.30	500	300	100
25	25	5.00	0.48	800	400	200
40	40	8.00	0.75	1200	600	300
65	65	13.00	1.20	2000	1000	500
100	100	20.00	1.95	4000	2000	1000
160	160	32.00	.300	8000	4000	2000
250	250	50.00	4.80	12000	6000	3000
400	400	80.00	7.50	20000	10000	5000
650	650	130.00	12.0	32000	16000	8000
1000	1000	200.00	19.5	60000	30000	15000

4.6 The error of gas meter shall be expressed by percentage; i.e., the ratio of the deviation between the indicated value of air volume flowing through the gas meter and the standard value from the standard meter divided by the standard value from the standard meter. If the gas meter does not equip a temperature conversion device, the reference conditions of the standard value of standard meters shall be the absolute pressure at the inlet and the temperature at outlet of the gas meter. If the gas meter equips a temperature conversion device, the reference conditions of the standard value for a standard meter shall be the absolute pressure at inlet and basic temperature of the gas meter.

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Error (%) =
$$\frac{\text{(Indicated value - standard value)}}{\text{(standard value)}} \times 100 \text{ (%)}$$

(1) When a wet gas meter is used as calibrator, the standard value V_s is defined as follows.

$$(V_s) = V_{WG} \times CF(Q) \times C_T \times C_P$$

V_{WG}: Volume of wet gas meter

CF(Q): Correction function of instrument error of the wet gas meter

C_T: Temperature correction quantity between calibrator and gas meter

C_p: Pressure correction quantity between calibrator and gas meter

(2) When sonic nozzle is used as calibrator, the standard value V_s is defined as follows.

$$(V_s) = \frac{C_d \times A^* \times C^* \times P_0 \times t}{\sqrt{RT_o/M} \times \rho(T_m, P_m)}$$

C_d: Discharge coefficient of sonic nozzle

A*: Cross-section area at throat

C*: Critical flow function of sonic nozzle

P₀: Stagnation pressure at the upstream of sonic nozzle

 T_0 : Stagnation temperature at the upstream of sonic nozzle

t: Collection time for verification

 \overline{R} : Universal gas constant

M: Molecular mass of air

 $P^{(T_m, P_m)}$: Air density under T_m and P_m , in which T_m and P_m respectively stand for the temperature and pressure of the meter under testy

4.7 Maximum permissible errors for verification and inspection of gas meters. With the air under room temperature and normal pressure as the medium, the maximum permissible errors for verification and inspection shall conform to the stipulations given in Table 4. On verification of a meter the absolute value of each meter error shall not exceed 1 % at flow rates between 0.1 Q_{max} and Q_{max} where these errors are all of the same sign.

Table 4

Flow rate	Maximum permissible errors		
(m^3/h)	Verification	Inspection	
$Q_{min} \leq Q < 0.1 Q_{max}$	±3%	-6%,+3%	
$0.1Q_{max} \leq Q \leq Q_{max}$	±1.5%	±3%	

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4.8 The period of validity of verification is 10 years, from the day of a verification compliance mark affixed to the gas meter to the first day of the following month of the next 10 years.

5. Verification compliance marks

5.1 The verification compliance mark shall be attached with metal wire and lead seal at the opening of the shell on the body of a gas meter. The duration of validity of verification shall also mark at easy scrutiny spot on the front of the meter.