ALTAIR[®] 5X Multigas Detector

Electrochemical Sensor Cross-sensitivity Data*

It is quite common for electrochemical sensors to be cross-sensitive to specific gases other than the target gas of interest. Cross-sensitivities are limited as much as possible by sensor design, but some interactions still exist. The tables below are a general guide to these common cross-sensitivities. In some cases, these percentages are used to determine an approximate concentration of a gas other than the target. In other cases, these percentages can be used to correct for possible errors

in readings if one cross-sensitive gas is present together with the target gas.



MSA XCell[®] Electrochemical Sensor Cross-sensitivity Tables

XCell Hydrogen Sulfide (H ₂ S) Sensor			XCell Ammonia (NH ₃) Sensor	
Gas Applied	Approximate % Cross-sensitivity		Gas Applied	Approximate % Cross-sensitivity
H ₂ S	100%		NH ₃	100%
CO	1%		H ₂ S	75%
NO	25%		NO ₂	-50%
NO ₂	-1%		SO ₂	40%
SO ₂	14%			
Cl ₂	-14%		XCell Sulfur Dioxide (SO	₂) Sensor
HCN	-3%		Gas Applied	Approximate % Cross-sensitivity
NH ₃	-1%		SO ₂	100%
Isopropanol	-3%			
		-	XCell Chlorine (Cl ₂) Sens	or
XCell Carbon Monoxide (CO) Sensor			Gas Applied	Approximate % Cross-sensitivity
Gas Applied	Approximate % Cross-sensitivity		Cl ₂	100%
CO	100%		NO ₂	27%
NO	84%		SO ₂	-2%
SO ₂	-4%			
HCN	-5%		XCell Oxygen (O ₂) Senso	r
Isopropanol	-8%		Gas Applied	Approximate % Cross-sensitivity
H ₂	48%		02	100%

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20mm Toxic Electrochemical Sensor Cross-sensitivity Tables

Nitrogen Dioxide (NO ₂) Sensor				
Gas Applied	Approximate % Cross-sensitivity			
NO ₂	100%			
H ₂ S	8%			
Cl ₂	90%			

Chlorine Dioxide (ClO ₂) Sensor				
Gas Applied	Approximate % Cross-sensitivity			
CIO ₂	100%			
Cl ₂ S	60%			
03	280%			
H ₂ S	-25%			

Phosphine (PH ₃)					
Gas Applied	Approximate % Cross-sensitivity				
PH ₃	100%				
AsH ₃	80%				
NO ₂	-16%				
Cl ₂	-6%				
B₂H ₆	5%				
SiH ₄	11%				
HCN	2%				

Hydrogen Cyanide (HCN) Sensor				
Gas Applied	Approximate % Cross-sensitivity			
HCN	100%			
H ₂ S	400%			
NO ₂	-150%			
SO ₂	180%			
Cl ₂	150%			
NO	2%			
NH ₃	1%			

Please note: These cross-sensitivity values are intended for reference only and may change under varying environmental conditions, varying concentrations, varying sensor lots, and varying sensor age. These tables do not contain a complete or inclusive list of cross-sensitive gases, but rather is a sampling of the most common examples.

For additional information regarding electrochemical sensor cross-contamination, consult your instrument instruction manual or call MSA Customer Service at 800-MSA-2222.

Note: This bulletin contains only a general description of the products shown. While uses and performance capabilities are described, under no circumstances shall the products be used by untrained or unqualified individuals and not until the product instructions including any warnings or cautions provided have been thoroughly read and the complete and detailed proper use and care of these products.



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MSA Corporate Center 1000 Cranberry Woods Drive Cranberry Township, PA 16066 USA 724-776-8600 Phone www.MSAnet.com U.S. Customer Service Center

Phone 1-800-MSA-2222 1-800-967-0398 Fax MSA Canada Phone 1-800-672-2222

Fax 1-800-967-0398 MSA Mexico Phone 01-800-672-7222

52-44 2227 3943 Fax MSA International

Phone 724-776-8626 Toll Free 1-800-672-7777 FAX 724-741-1559

Offices and representatives worldwide For further information:

www.MSAnet.com/ALTAIR5X | 1.800.MSA.2222

