

Safety Alert 253 : Calibration of Drager Portable Gas Detectors

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Distribution: Thames Water Operational Managers

What is the danger?



Drager portable gas detectors are used widely across the water and wastewater business for work in confined spaces and other hazardous areas. The gas detectors require calibration every 6 months to ensure that they are safe for continued use. When a gas detector is turned on, a message first appears on the screen consisting of the word “CAL” followed by a number which indicates the number of days before a calibration is due. When a calibration is due, the message “CAL 0” appears on the screen as seen in the picture. At this point, it is a mandatory requirement for the user to ensure the detector is re-calibrated on one of the X-Dock calibration units which are located at a number of strategic operational sites, prior to its next use.

Draeger have introduced a modification to the software in each of the X-Doc calibration units, so that the configuration of the detectors will be updated when the detectors are next calibrated. Following an internal review our itinerary shows a number of detectors have not been x-docked at the appropriate times, thus this is a mandatory requirement that all employees issued with a personal detector must re-dock their units by 9th December 2016 in their local x-doc calibration unit.

Action required

Managers must take the following actions:

- Ensure that **all** portable gas detectors are calibrated on an X-Doc unit by 9th December.
- Ensure that all employees are instructed that portable gas detectors **must not be used if out of calibration**
- Confirm that the above action has been taken by the due date.

Note: Draeger will be carrying out an audit of all the X-Doc units after the 9th December 2016 which will provide detail of the calibrations completed.



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Briefing to all Employees

Draeger have introduced a modification to the software in each of the X-Doc calibration units, so that the configuration of the detectors will be updated when the detectors are next calibrated.

If you use a Draeger portable gas detector, you must ensure that it is within its calibration date before use. When turning on the detector it will display the message "CAL" followed by a number which indicates the number of days before a calibration is due. If the message "CAL 0" is displayed, this means that calibration is required, **and the detector must not be used without further action.**

We the undersigned have been made aware of the contents of this briefing. If we are unable to carry out the work safely, we agree that we must immediately stop work and inform our manager/supervisor.

Date	Name	Signature

Manager/supervisor's signature:		Date:	
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Please continue on another copy for additional employees