



Subject: Clarification on calibration of a gas flow meter and an EVCD

To whom it may concern,

Related to the request for review by the UNFCCC CDM Secretariat, we, as a manufacturer of the used flow meters in the Bandeirantes degassing project, would like to clarify the following:

The request raised is about the fact that *The DOE shall further clarify how they have assessed and verified that the calibration frequency for the flow meters, thermometers and manometers, is appropriate as per the applied methodology.*

The flow meters being used at the Bandeirantes landfill project are so-called SM-RIs, measurement devices that are, by Dutch and international law, obliged to have a calibration certificate at delivery. This calibration is done by the NMI, which is the Dutch Calibration/Measurement Institute. The certificates of these calibrations are available and binding. Devices with such a certificate are officially properly working devices within the specified tolerances.

For the EVCD (electronic volume conversion device) it is the same method: the NMI calibrates the whole device, including the fixed connected temperature sensor and the integrated pressure sensor, and issues a certificate. This certificate states that the device is properly working within the specified tolerances.

Then, the issue of re-calibration. It is, in the Netherlands, not obliged by the NMI to do recalibrations. This means that the first certificate is eligible for the whole lifetime of the device. In Germany (by means of their national calibration institute, Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt or PTB), however, it is obliged by law to recalibrate within 10 years. There are no international general rules on how often to recalibrate. It is up to companies themselves to determine a calibration frequency. In case of the Bandeirantes project Biogás Energia Ambiental S.A. chose an interval of 5 years, which is half the required interval in Germany. The devices were implemented in August 2004 and should therefore be re-calibrated before August 2009.

At re-calibration, a new certificate must be issued by the NMI or another accredited company, stating that the measurement quality is assured until the next re-calibration.

With kind regards,

ELSTER-INSTROMET BV

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

G.J. Lujmes  
Senior sales engineer