

Technical Information

EXTENDING THREAD GAUGE CALIBRATION PERIODS T013 Guidance on adopting an extension to recalibration periods

During IDEST inspections it has become clear that many Test Centres are not using some thread gauges as often as they used to. This is particularly true of G $\frac{3}{4}$ " plug and ring gauges, probably due to the reduced usage within the recreational diving sector. It may also apply to other thread gauge sizes depending on your cylinder turn-over.

As a result, IDEST has developed a policy that allows Test Centres to extend the calibration period of such under-used thread gauges.

First - permission from Chief Engineer

To adopt this system for your test centre's gauges permission must be sought from the IDEST Chief Engineer. Permission is applied for using the **Application Form for Tracker Sheet Use (D067)** available for download from the IDEST website and found in your annual membership folder.

This form must be sent to the Chief Engineer, listing all the gauges that you wish to be included in the system. It must include the gauge size, serial number or ID and the last calibration date of the gauges concerned.

Method of use

If accepted, the Chief Engineer will email with a **letter of approval (D047)**, to be kept with your records and a copy of the current **Tracker Sheet (D043)**. A Tracker Sheet must be printed off and filled in for EACH set of gauges for which you have been given permission (e.g. all G $\frac{3}{4}$ gauges on one sheet).

250 uses or 3 years

Each time you use the set of gauges a 'tick' must be placed on the tracker sheet in the next empty box. If the Tracker Sheet reaches 250 uses, then the gauge(s) must then be sent for re-calibration. Alternatively, if the 250 times usage has not been achieved but the time elapsed from the listed calibration date reaches 3 years then the gauge(s) must be sent for re-calibration.

Annual registration

When you are requested to send copies of your calibration certificates at the time of the annual registration, it will be necessary to ALSO send copies of the Tracker Sheets for the gauges that are being tracked using this system.

Scuba Industries Trade Association Ltd
trading as IDEST
A UKAS Accredited Calibration Body No. 0248 for ISO/IEC 17024:2012

Application Form for permission to use Tracker Sheets

Dear IDEST Chief Engineer:

(Company Name) hereby applies for permission to use the IDEST Tracker Sheet (D047) for the following listed thread gauges. The reason for this application is that the listed thread gauges are not being used frequently enough to warrant having them recalibrated on the annual basis required by IDEST.

The company agrees that the listed exempt thread gauges can be used no more than 250 times within a 3-year period.

The company agrees that once either of these limits is reached that the thread gauges concerned will be recalibrated by a UKAS approved calibration laboratory.

Thread Gauges for exemption:

Thread Gauge Size & Type	Serial Number	Last Calibration Date

Test Centre Name: _____ IDEST Centre Number: _____

Yours faithfully,

Signature: _____ Name (printed): _____

Email this completed form to neil.minto@idest.co.uk

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THREAD GAUGE USAGE TRACKING SHEET

Test Centre Name: _____ IDEST No: _____ Gauge Size: _____

Serial Nos: Plug _____ Plug _____ Go Ring _____ Not Go Ring _____

This tracking sheet is to be used for gauges that are not used often and therefore are deemed not to require an annual recalibration. In such circumstances IDEST permits such gauges to be used for a maximum of 250 uses or 3 years before requiring recalibration.

The sheet can be used to track the 250 uses. Each line contains 25 tick boxes. Each time the gauges are used a tick must be put into one of the boxes.

Once 250 boxes are completed or the 3 years have elapsed, whichever occurs first, then the selected gauge must be presented for recalibration to a UKAS Approved Calibration Laboratory as listed on the IDEST website: www.idest.co.uk/ukas

CALIBRATION DATE	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25

Signature of Senior Technician: _____ COMPLETION DATE: _____

Completed sheets must be kept in the company's records as evidence of thread gauge's history of usage, along with any associated calibration certificates.

Technical Information Sheet