

Alaska Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory
Change in Instrument Status Form

Version: 4.0

Effective: 8/10/2022

Date: 12/27/2022

Instrument #: 100421

Instrument Location: JBER

Supervisor Name and Agency: Carlie Glaister

Describe the Status Change or Issue with the Instrument:

During IFIR it was noticed that this instrument has a high prevalence of status messages. The Breath Test Supervisor, Scott Gardner was notified via email. There was a higher than average prevalence of RFI status messages and Scott Gardner was asked to remind officers not to key their radios within the vicinity of the DataMaster. Additionally, on 10/31/2022 an officer tested the same subject 6 times resulting in 2 tank interference detected and 4 blank error status messages. Finally, on 11/6/2022 an officer tested the same subject 8 times resulting in 5 blank error status messages. This was followed by TEST breath tests that resulted in 4 additional blank error status messages. It was communicated that the crime lab does not recommend testing a subject more than 3 times. Additionally, the tank interference and blank error status messages are all likely occurring due to the DataMaster detecting volatile chemicals in the vicinity of the instrument (alcohol or other chemicals). This is likely repeating due to the room being small, not well ventilated, and/or the subject standing too closely to the DataMaster. I advised that if possible, keep subjects away from the immediate vicinity of the DataMaster until it is ready for them to blow. After reviewing the rest of the VOC cycle, in my opinion there is no issue with the DataMaster itself and the numerous status messages are likely due to environmental reasons and mostly due to 2 individuals being tested repeatedly.

If instrument was placed in service or removed from service, fill out the appropriate sections below.

In Service Date/Time: NA

Out of Service Date/Time: NA

For Use by SCDL

Additional Notes

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Click or tap here to enter text.

Email completed form to dps.scdl.toxicology@alaska.gov
For questions contact the Breath Alcohol Program at 907-269-5740

Glaister, Carlie K (DPS)

From: Glaister, Carlie K (DPS)
Sent: Tuesday, December 27, 2022 10:57 AM
To: scott.gardner.14@us.af.mil
Subject: Excessive tests

Importance: High

Hello! I noticed that JBER has a large amount of status messages during the last VOC cycle.

There is a slightly higher than average prevalence of RFI status messages, so please remind officers not to key radios within the vicinity of the DataMaster.

Additionally on 10/31 one officer tested a subject 6 times, and on 11/6 another officer tested a subject 8 times. This is what I would consider an excessive amount of tests on 1 subject. I am happy to explain the issue, this can be passed along to the officers if you would like.

We generally don't recommend continuing to attempt to test an individual after 3 status messages have occurred.

On 10/31 there were 2 Tank Interference Detected status messages followed by 4 blank errors. The tank interference can go hand in hand with blank errors due to there being volatile chemicals (alcohol or other chemicals) in the environment. I'm assuming the DataMaster is in a small room that is not well ventilated, or the subject was standing very close to the DataMaster and this was causing these status messages. The longer an individual with volatile fumes coming off of them is next to the instrument the more likely you are to get Blank Errors due to the DataMaster detecting the chemicals in the air. This is demonstrated again on 11/6/2022 where there are continuous blank errors. There were TEST breath tests run afterwards starting at 2:29 and you can see that even after an hour blank errors still occurred. Again, this is likely due to the room being filled with alcohol or other chemical fumes that the DataMaster is detecting in the air, and the DataMaster will continue to give Blank Error status messages until it no longer detects chemicals in the air.

I would recommend keeping individuals away from the DataMaster if possible until the DataMaster is ready for them to blow to avoid the DataMaster from detecting chemicals coming from an individual. I would also recommend not testing an individual more than 3 times. Please pass this information along and if you have any questions please let me know. After reviewing the rest of the VOC cycle I am not concerned about there being any issue with the instrument itself, it just seems that on these 2 particular days there were repeated tests and due to environmental reasons it is very unlikely that repeated tests would conclude with a passing/completed test, the issue would just continue to get worse without allowing the room to ventilate.

100421	10/30/2022 11:1...	Joint Base Elmendorf Richa...	P	ANTHONY	W	BURDEN	0.10900000	
100421	10/31/2022 2:09...	Joint Base Elmendorf Richa...	H	EMMANUEL	A	MORTEO		Interference Detected
100421	10/31/2022 2:12...	Joint Base Elmendorf Richa...	H	EMMANUEL	A	MORTEO		Interference Detected
100421	10/31/2022 2:15...	Joint Base Elmendorf Richa...	H	EMMANUEL	A	MORTEO		Blank Error
100421	10/31/2022 2:18...	Joint Base Elmendorf Richa...	H	EMMANUEL	A	MORTEO	XXXXXXXXXX	Blank Error
100421	10/31/2022 2:24...	Joint Base Elmendorf Richa...	H	EMMANUEL	A	MORTEO		Blank Error
100421	10/31/2022 2:27...	Joint Base Elmendorf Richa...	H	EMMANUEL	A	MORTEO		Blank Error
100421	11/1/2022 7:23 ...	Joint Base Elmendorf Richa...	T	SCOTT		GARDNER	0.00000000	
100421	11/6/2022 1:11 ...	Joint Base Elmendorf Richa...	G	ZACHARY	D	SHAW		Blank Error
100421	11/6/2022 1:14 ...	Joint Base Elmendorf Richa...	G	ZACHARY	D	SHAW		Blank Error
100421	11/6/2022 1:17 ...	Joint Base Elmendorf Richa...	G	ZACHARY	D	SHAW	XXXXXXXXXX	Blank Error
100421	11/6/2022 1:26 ...	Joint Base Elmendorf Richa...	G	ZACHARY	D	SHAW		Maximum Attempts Exceeded
100421	11/6/2022 1:40 ...	Joint Base Elmendorf Richa...	G	ZACHARY	D	SHAW		
100421	11/6/2022 1:47 ...	Joint Base Elmendorf Richa...	G	ZACHARY	D	SHAW	XXXXXXXXXX	Blank Error
100421	11/6/2022 1:50 ...	Joint Base Elmendorf Richa...	G	ZACHARY	D	SHAW		Maximum Attempts Exceeded
100421	11/6/2022 1:58 ...	Joint Base Elmendorf Richa...	G	ZACHARY	D	SHAW	XXXXXXXXXX	Blank Error
100421	11/6/2022 2:29 ...	Joint Base Elmendorf Richa...	T	ZACHARY	D	SHAW		Blank Error
100421	11/6/2022 2:32 ...	Joint Base Elmendorf Richa...	T	ZACHARY	D	SHAW		Blank Error
100421	11/6/2022 2:42 ...	Joint Base Elmendorf Richa...	T	ZACHARY	D	SHAW	0.00000000	Blank Error
100421	11/6/2022 2:52 ...	Joint Base Elmendorf Richa...	T	ZACHARY	D	SHAW	0.00000000	
100421	11/6/2022 3:08 ...	Joint Base Elmendorf Richa...	T	NATHANIEL	A	WILSON		Blank Error

Carlie Glaister (Bailey)

Forensic Scientist III – Chemistry Section

State of Alaska Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory

907-269-5689