

Alaska Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory

Change in Instrument Status Form

Issued: 12/15/2017
Effective: 12/15/2017

Version: CIISF 2017 R0
Status: Active

Date: 02/18/2020

Instrument Serial Number: 100418

Instrument Location: Wildwood Pretrial Facility, 5 Chugach Avenue, Kenai, AK 99611

Supervisor Name and Agency: Officer Garrett Baeten, Kenai PD

Describe the Status Change or Issue with the Instrument:

We are placing the instrument out of service as we had an officer conduct three subject tests this afternoon with a DUI arrest and she received three internal standard errors. The DMT passed the diagnostic check and the blank test before giving the internal standard error message. I would like to change out the dry gas cylinder but it appears we do not have any spares here. The tank in the instrument now does not expire until 09/20/2020.

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

In Service Date/Time: _____

Out of Service Date/Time: 02/18/2020 2000 hours

For Use by SCDL

Additional Notes

Internal standard % difference increased from 0.34% to 26%
from 2/15/20 to 2/18/20. See attached email. JMW 02/18/20
JMW 02/19/20

Internal standard issue was not resolved by 2/24/20. Instrument
will be returned to the lab and replaced on 2/28/20. JMW 02/25/20

Email completed form to dps.scdl.toxicology@alaska.gov

For questions contact the Breath Alcohol Program at 907-269-5740

Walton, Derek J (DPS)

From: Megan Swangel <mswangel@kenai.city>
Sent: Monday, February 24, 2020 1:45 PM
To: Walton, Derek J (DPS)
Subject: RE: Out of Service Report

Derek,

I completed what you asked and let the DMT sit in another area for 30 minutes and ran a VOC. The test failed with an internal standard error message. I then put it back where we normally keep it and it failed again with the same error message. I will be up there Friday to pick up the new DMT unless you are contacted by either Sgt. Ryan Grimm or Officer Garrett Baeten.

Thanks for your time,
Megan

From: Walton, Derek J (DPS) <derek.walton@alaska.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 24, 2020 12:14 PM
To: Megan Swangel <mswangel@kenai.city>
Subject: RE: Out of Service Report

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Not to run tests, just to talk to the lab.

Derek J. Walton

Forensic Scientist III - Chemistry
Technical Lead - Seized Drugs
State of Alaska Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory
Phone: (907) 269-5628

From: Megan Swangel [<mailto:mswangel@kenai.city>]
Sent: Monday, February 24, 2020 12:13 PM
To: Walton, Derek J (DPS)
Subject: Re: Out of Service Report

Does the DMT need to be plugged into a phone line?

Thanks,
Megan

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 24, 2020, at 10:10 AM, Walton, Derek J (DPS) <derek.walton@alaska.gov> wrote:

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I called Sgt. Grimm earlier and asked that Ofc. Swangel take a look at this since she can communicate with us a bit easier during the day.

It is important to document any changes that take place with the instrument such as relocating or repairing. If these types of changes are not documented, it may be very difficult or impossible to say what may have occurred with the instrument in court.

The expectation is that if an operator feels a change is needed to the instrument – it's not working properly, they saw a status message they didn't recognize, it needed to be moved for some reason, etc. – they would notify the breath test supervisor and the supervisor would be responsible for performing and documenting that change.

If the vent is blowing directly onto the instrument or drastically changing the temperature of the room, that could definitely impact the Datamaster. If the power went out, the instrument would not be able to heat itself to operating temperature which could cause issues if it was not warmed up all the way before testing start; however, since it's been a couple of days now I would be surprised if that was the issue.

Ofc. Swangel, please contact me directly once you've had a chance to look at the instrument.

Derek J. Walton

Forensic Scientist III – Chemistry
Technical Lead – Seized Drugs
State of Alaska Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory
Phone: (907) 269-5628

From: Garrett Baeten [<mailto:gbaeten@kenai.city>]
Sent: Monday, February 24, 2020 3:02 AM
To: DPS SCDL Toxicology (DPS sponsored)
Subject: Re: Out of Service Report

Derek,

I checked the DMT out tonight and ran a VOC on it and it failed the diagnostic check along with the internal standard.

We cannot confirm whether or not the instrument was turned off or moved at any point. There possibly was a power outage at the jail but no one knew for sure. There is a cold air vent that was blowing air directly above the instrument. Not sure if that has something to do with it or not?

Any ideas?

I'm working nights so it's almost impossible for me to call during the labs business hours.

Thanks,

Garrett

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 19, 2020, at 8:21 AM, DPS SCDL Toxicology (DPS sponsored) <dps.scdl.toxicology@alaska.gov> wrote:

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Hello Officer Baeten,

Your Datamaster experienced a sudden increase in the internal standard reading between 2/15 (reading was fine at 12:19 AM) and the three breath tests on 2/18 beginning at 5:29 PM.

It seems unlikely that a dramatic change like that would happen with no explanation. Do you know if any of the following happened?

- Instrument recently moved to a different location, even within the same building
- Instrument shut off for a period of time
- Instrument located near a heat/cold source such as a window, door, fan, heating vent

Since this is an internal standard error, changing the external standard (dry gas tank) is unlikely to do anything for you. Your current tank should be around 750 psi.

Please troubleshoot and let us know what you find out. You can contact me directly at 231-342-2843.

Derek J. Walton

Forensic Scientist III – Chemistry
Technical Lead – Seized Drugs
State of Alaska Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory
Phone: (907) 269-5628

From: Garrett Baeten [<mailto:gbaeten@kenai.city>]

Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2020 2:14 AM

To: DPS SCDL Toxicology (DPS sponsored)

Subject: Out of Service Report

Good Morning,

Attached is an out of service report for our Datamaster that's out at the Wildwood Pretrial Facility. Let me know if you have any questions about it.

Thank you,

Garrett Baeten
Patrol Officer
Kenai Police Department
107 S. Willow Street
Kenai, AK 99611