

Alaska Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory  
Change in Instrument Status Form

Version: 6.0

Effective: 1/17/2024

Date: 4/23/2024

Instrument #: 100699

Instrument Location: Valdez PD

Supervisor Name and Agency: Megan Crouse, SCDL

Describe the Status Change or Issue with the Instrument:

Nate Taylor reached out to the Crime Lab because there were several standard out of range status messages. The external standard is routinely reading low. Valdez PD does not have an additional dry gas tank on hand to utilize.

The crime lab recommended keeping subjects away from the DataMaster during the test sequence. The current instrument can still be used, but a new DataMaster will be sent to Valdez PD when one is available.

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

In Service Date/Time: N/A

Out of Service Date/Time: N/A

-----  
**For Use by SCDL**

Additional Notes

Click or tap here to enter text.

**Email completed form to [dps.scdl.toxicology@alaska.gov](mailto:dps.scdl.toxicology@alaska.gov).**

Page 1 of 1

All printed copies are uncontrolled.

Approved by: Chemistry Supervisor

**From:** [Crouse, Megan \(DPS\)](#)  
**To:** [Nate Taylor](#)  
**Cc:** [Glaister, Carlie K \(DPS\)](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Valdez Datamaster #100699  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 23, 2024 10:07:47 AM  
**Attachments:** [image003.png](#)

---

Good morning,

We will send you a new instrument when we have one available. This may take some time to arrive, but we will provide you with the tracking number when it is shipped.

The instrument you currently have is still functional and can be used until the new one arrives.

Your current instrument is reading low on the external standard, and it is possible that ethanol from a subject could be resulting in the standard going out of range which is generating the status message. We recommend that you keep the subject away from the DataMaster while the test sequence is running which may help alleviate this issue.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you,

**Megan Crouse**

Forensic Scientist II – Chemistry Section  
State of Alaska Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory  
907-269-3005  
[Megan.Crouse@alaska.gov](mailto:Megan.Crouse@alaska.gov)

---

**From:** Nate Taylor <[ntaylor@pd.valdezak.gov](mailto:ntaylor@pd.valdezak.gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 22, 2024 1:40 PM  
**To:** Crouse, Megan (DPS) <[megan.crouse@alaska.gov](mailto:megan.crouse@alaska.gov)>  
**Cc:** Glaister, Carlie K (DPS) <[carlie.glaister@alaska.gov](mailto:carlie.glaister@alaska.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Valdez Datamaster #100699

Hello,

No, we do not have an extra bottle. We did process a DUI yesterday and it worked without any issues.

Nate

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

---

**From:** Crouse, Megan (DPS) <[megan.crouse@alaska.gov](mailto:megan.crouse@alaska.gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 22, 2024 1:26:58 PM  
**To:** Nate Taylor <[ntaylor@pd.valdezak.gov](mailto:ntaylor@pd.valdezak.gov)>

**Cc:** Glaister, Carlie K (DPS) <[carlie.glaister@alaska.gov](mailto:carlie.glaister@alaska.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: Valdez Datamaster #100699

Hi Officer Taylor,

Do you have another dry gas tank on hand that you could try in your instrument?

**Megan Crouse**

Forensic Scientist II – Chemistry Section  
State of Alaska Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory  
907-269-3005  
[Megan.Crouse@alaska.gov](mailto:Megan.Crouse@alaska.gov)

---

**From:** Nate Taylor <[ntaylor@pd.valdezak.gov](mailto:ntaylor@pd.valdezak.gov)>

**Sent:** Sunday, April 21, 2024 8:00 AM

**To:** DPS SCDL Toxicology (DPS sponsored) <[dps.scdl.toxicology@alaska.gov](mailto:dps.scdl.toxicology@alaska.gov)>

**Subject:** Valdez Datamaster #100699

You don't often get email from [ntaylor@pd.valdezak.gov](mailto:ntaylor@pd.valdezak.gov). [Learn why this is important](#)

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside the State of Alaska mail system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Last night our Datamaster had numerous status messages while being used to process a DUI. I looked over the records and there were several standard out of range messages. It seems the external standard is consistently reading at the lower limit of the acceptable range. There was one internal standard, which is very rare. The operator ran several VOC's, which did pass, but then received a blank error on a non-drinking test right after the VOC. Could you look over the tests and advise if you recommend any diagnostics.

Thank you,

**Nate Taylor**

**Patrol Officer/Datamaster Supervisor**

Valdez Police Department  
212 Chenega Avenue  
PO Box 307  
Valdez, Alaska 99686  
Cell: 907.313.9021 Email: [ntaylor@pd.valdezak.gov](mailto:ntaylor@pd.valdezak.gov)



The mission of the Valdez Police Department is to provide excellent service and protection, through

leadership and partnership with the community.