

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Portable Turbidity Meter

430-260

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<p><i>In the interests of improving and updating its equipment, ELE reserves the right to alter specifications to equipment at any time ELE International 2005 ©</i></p>		

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Please read these operating instructions carefully before using the instrument. They will provide you with all the necessary information for the correct use of the instrument, as well as a more precise idea of its versatility in a wide range of applications.

This instrument is in compliance with the **CE** directives.

1 Preliminary Examination

Remove the instrument from the packing material and examine it to make sure that no damage has occurred during shipping. If there is any damage, notify ELE International.

The 430-260 is supplied complete with:

- 1.5V AA size Batteries (4 each)
- Glass Cuvette
- Cap
- Cal. solutions
- Cleaning solution
- Cleaning tissue
- Rugged carrying case

Note: Save all packing material until you are sure that the meter functions correctly. All defective items must be returned in its original packaging with the supplied accessories.

2 General Description

With the 430-260 turbidity meter, turbidity measurements can be performed with high precision in the field as well as in the laboratory. The 430-260 turbidity meter is a hand-held, microprocessor-based, battery operated instrument used to determine the turbidity of water and wastewater. The meter covers a 0-1000 FTU range in two scales: 0.00 to 50.00 FTU and 50 to 1000 FTU. The auto-ranging feature of the instrument sets the appropriate range for the measurement.

Note: The 420-360 has been designed according to the ISO 7027 International Standard, consequently the turbidity measurement unit is the FTU (Formazine Turbidity Unit). FTU is identical to the other internationally recognised unit: NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Unit).

The 430-260 is a portable turbidity meter with the **CE** mark, in compliance with the European directives, ensuring low emission values and accurate measurements in the presence of electromagnetic fields.

The meter is housed in a rugged and lightweight case with an easy-to-read LCD. To save battery life the instrument is equipped with an automatic shut-off feature which is activated after 4 minutes of non-use.

The meter is very simple to use. All operations can be carried out with only four keys and troubleshooting functions can be performed with displayed error code guides. An exclusive positive-locking system guarantees that the cuvette is firmly placed in the cell. The keypad is water-resistant and can be wiped with a moist cloth for quick clean-ups.

The one-point calibration at 10 FTU* can be easily performed using the available standard. In addition, the 430-260 is the first portable turbidity meter that allows it to store the last calibration date and to retrieve it at the user's convenience.

ELE International has chosen 10 FTU* as the calibration point because it is the value that best fits the water turbidity measurements in different applications, from drinking water to wastewater treatment.

ELE International uses the primary standard AMCO-AEPA-1 to avoid all formazine-related problems. Formazine is a very toxic, unstable substance, which requires particular care: its standards have to be prepared only a few minutes before performing the calibration, and cannot be re-used because of their short life. ELE International standards are extremely stable, can be re-used, and last up to six months, if free from contamination. The 430-260 can be used with both standards.

3 Principle of Operation

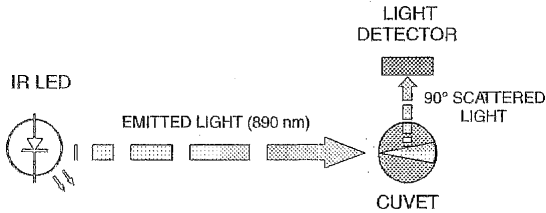
The 430-260 has been designed to perform measurements according to the ISO 7027 International Standard.

The instrument functions by passing a beam of infrared light through a vial containing the sample being measured.

The light source is a High Emission Infrared LED with a wavelength peaking at 890 nm, ensuring that the interference caused by colored samples is minimum.

A sensor, positioned at 90° with respect to the direction of light, detects the amount of light scattered by the undissolved particles present in the sample. The microprocessor converts such readings into FTU* values.

* 1 FTU = 1 NTU



As noted above, FTU unit is equal to the NTU unit. However, there are other known measurement units for turbidity: Jackson Turbidity Unit (JTU) based on the old method of Jackson's candle, and Silica Unit (mg/L of SiO₂). For your reference the conversion table between these measurement units is shown below:

	JTU	FTU/NTU	SiO ₂ (mg/L)
JTU	1	19	2.5
FTU/NTU	0.053	1	0.13
SiO ₂ (mg/L)	0.4	7.5	1

* 1 FTU = 1 NTU

4 Functional Description



- 1) Measurement Cell
- 2) LCD (Liquid Crystal Display)
- 3) ON/OFF Key
- 4) CAL Key, to enter the Calibration Mode
- 5) READ/↑ Key, to perform measurements and to set the date (day and month) of the last calibration
- 6) DATE/=> Key, to display the last calibration date and to select either the month or the day of last calibration

5 Specifications

	430-260
Range	0.00 to 50.00 FTU * 50 to 1000 FTU *
Resolution	0.01 and 1 FTU *
Accuracy	±0.5 FTU* or ±5% of reading (whichever greater)
EMC Typical Deviation	±2% Full Scale
Light Source	High Emission Infrared LED
Light Source Life	Life of the instrument
Light Detector	Silicon Photocell
Power Source	4 x 1.5V AA batteries
Battery Life	60 hours or 900 measurements
Auto Shut-Off	After 5 minutes
Operating Conditions	0 to 50°C (32 to 122°F); 0 to 95% RH (non-condensing)
Dimensions	220 x 82 x 66 mm (8.7 x 3.2 x 2.6")
Weight	510 g (18 oz.)

* 1 FTU = 1 NTU

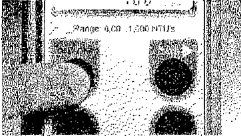
6 Operational Guide

To prepare the instrument for taking measurements, first install the batteries (see Battery Replacement section on page 18) and then turn the instrument on.

To maximize the battery life the meter is automatically switched off after 5 minutes of non-use. To reactivate it, simply press the ON/OFF key.

Measurement Procedure:

- Turn the meter on by pressing the ON/OFF KEY.



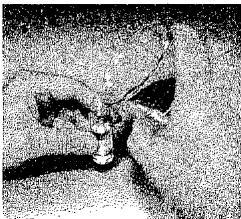
- The meter will carry out a self-test displaying a full set of figures. After the test, the LCD will change to the measurement mode.



- When the LCD displays "----" the meter is ready to measure.



- Fill a clean cuvette up to one quarter inch (0.5 cm) from its rim with the thoroughly agitated sample.



- Allow sufficient time for bubbles to escape before securing the cap.
Note: do not over-tighten the cap.

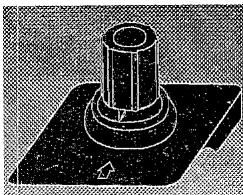
- Wipe the cuvette thoroughly with the lint-free tissue supplied before inserting into the measurement cell. The cuvette must be completely free of fingerprints and other oil or dirt, particularly in the area where the light goes through (approximately the bottom 2 cm/1 inch of the cuvette).



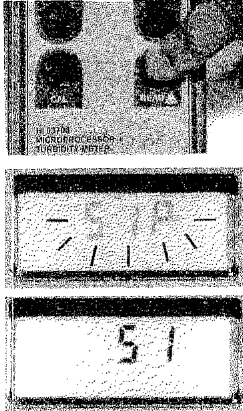
- Place the cuvette into the cell and check that the notch on the cap is positioned securely into the groove.



- The mark on the cuvette cap should point towards the LCD.



- Press the READ/↑ key and the LCD will display a blinking “SIP” (Sampling in Process). The turbidity value will appear after approximately 25 seconds.



- Even though the 430-260 covers a very wide range of turbidity values, for very accurate measurements of samples exceeding 40 FTU*, Standard Methods require dilution. In such cases, the correct amount of Cal. solution or turbidity-free water to be added to the sample can be calculated as follows:

$$\mathbf{Vos = 3000 / T}$$

where: Vos = volume of sample (mL) to be combined with Cal. solution to obtain the final volume of 100 mL.
T = 430-260 reading (exceeding 40 FTU*)

E.g.: 430-260 reading = 200 FTU *
 $3000 / 200 = 15 \text{ mL (Vos)}$
 $15 \text{ mL (Vos)} + 85 \text{ mL (Cal. solution)} = 100 \text{ mL}$

At this point take a sample of this solution and measure turbidity.
The correct turbidity value of the original sample will be:

$$\mathbf{T_n \times 100 \text{ mL} / Vos = T_a}$$

where: T_n = new 430-260 reading
 T_a = actual turbidity value of the original sample

*1 FTU = 1 NTU

How to Ensure Accurate Measurements

- Each time the cuvette is used, tighten the cap to the same degree.
- Discard the sample soon after the reading is taken to avoid permanently clouding the glass.
- All glassware used to contain the standards and the samples should be maintained clean, washed with cleaning solution and rinsed with Cal. solution or turbidity-free water.
- Collect the samples in clean glass or plastic bottles, fit stoppers and perform the analysis quickly. If unavoidable, store the sample in a cool, dark place, but not for longer than 24 hours (the sample needs to be kept at room temperature prior to the analysis).
- To obtain a representative sample, gently, but thoroughly, mix it before samples are taken. Do not shake it (to prevent air bubbles) and do not let the sample settle.
- It is recommended to monthly calibrate the meter with the supplied Cal. solution @ 10 FTU* standard or more frequently for greatest accuracy.
- Before inserting vials into the instrument, wipe them with the soft, lint-free tissue supplied. Handle vials so that no fingerprints can get on the areas where light passes (approximately 2 cm/1 inch from the bottom of the vial).



If you experience any problems in taking measurements, please contact ELE International.

1 FTU = 1 NTU

Sources of Interference

- Presence of floating debris and coarse sediments which settle out rapidly will give false readings.
- The infrared light source used for the 430-260 turbidity meter, according to ISO 7027 International Standard, can effectively minimize errors due to colored dissolved substances. This effect, named “true color”, is a common interference for most commercially available instruments operating in the range of visible light.
- Air bubbles and the effect of vibrations that disturb the surface of the sample will give false results.
- Dirty glassware could also affect readings along with scratched or edged vials.

7 Calibration

A monthly calibration is recommended. To check the date of the last calibration, simply hold the DATE/⇒ key down for a few seconds.

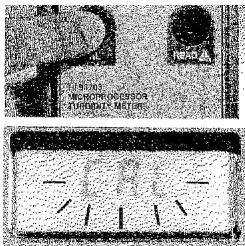
A more frequent check of the instrument is suggested by using the supplied standard solution.

Calibration Procedure

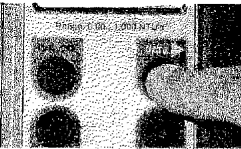
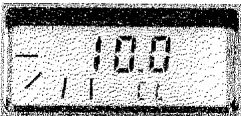
- Turn the meter on and wait for the display to show “----”.



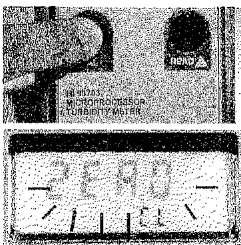
- Press the CAL key once, the “CAL” message will blink on the display for about 6 seconds, then the calibration mode stops.



- While the “CAL” message is still blinking, press CAL again. The instrument is now in the calibration mode and a “CL” will appear on the lower part of the display. The date of calibration can be edited now by simply pressing the DATE/⇒ key. To scroll to the correct number press the READ/↑ key. The default blinking parameter is the month, on the left hand of the display (MM.DD).



- To confirm the displayed data values and to go to the next step, press the CAL key once. A blinking “ZERO” message will appear.

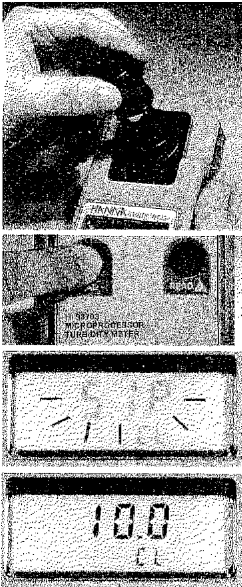


- Take the Cal. solution bottle containing the ZERO FTU* Standard (or turbidity-free dilution water) and fill the measurement cuvette.



Note: in order to minimize any error introduced by the cuvette, it is recommended to use, during calibration, the same cuvette you are going to use to perform the measurement.

- Insert the cuvette with the Cal. solution @ ZERO FTU* standard solution (or turbidity-free dilution water) into the measurement cell and press the CAL key. A blinking "SIP" message indicates that the instrument is performing the measurement. After approximately 50 seconds the instrument will ask for the Cal. solution standard solution @ 10 FTU* by displaying "10.0".



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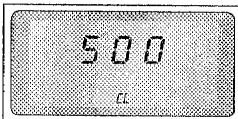
- Repeat the same procedure with Cal. solution @ 10 FTU* standard solution.
- Insert the cuvette with the Cal. Solution AMCO-AEPA-1 standard @ 10 FTU* into the measurement cell and press the CAL key again.



- After approximately 50 seconds the LCD will display “----”.
Now the instrument is calibrated and ready for use.

Adding the **third calibration point** (500 FTU)

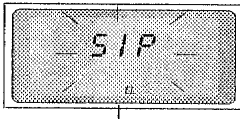
- After the second calibration point (10.00 FTU) has been accepted, the meter will display “500”, asking for the 500 FTU solution to be placed in the cuvette holder.



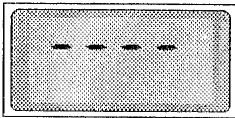
Note: At this point the user can exit the calibration mode and save the two-point calibration by pressing READ.

To perform a three point calibration, place the 500 FTU standard solution in the cuvette holder.

- Press CAL : “SIP” and “CL” will start blinking.



- After approximately 30 seconds, the display will show “----”.



Now the meter is calibrated and ready for use.

Note: If “ERR1” is displayed, the calibration data are maintained.

How to Ensure Accurate Calibration

The instructions listed below should be carefully followed during testing and during calibration:

- All glassware that comes into contact with standards should be maintained clean. Wash with cleaning solution and rinse with Cal. solution or turbidity-free water.
- Rinse the vial twice with 5 ml of the liquid to be tested. This removes the effect of any previous liquid and any dust or foreign matter that may be present inside. Gently pour the liquid down the side of the vial to reduce air bubbles (no mixing is required when Cal. solution and AMCO-AEPA-1 standards are used).
- Before inserting the vial into the instrument, wipe it with the soft, lint-free tissue supplied. Handle vials so that no fingerprints can get on the areas where light passes (approximately 2 cm/1 inch from the bottom of the vial).



Standard Suspension

Presently there are only two recognised primary standards: AMCO-AEPA-1 and formazine.

ELE International supplies the 430-260 with the AMCO-AEPA-1 which has a much longer shelf life at all concentrations (approximately six months, if free from contamination). In addition no special handling or disposal is required and a much higher stability of suspended particles has been observed.

On the other hand, formazine is a very toxic substance, generated by a known carcinogen, its stability is poor (particles flocculate and settle quickly). Lower concentrations change value within a few days or hours after dilution from stock solutions.

The consistency of the 430-260 readings by using both standards has been separately established by Advanced Polymer Systems and ELE International.

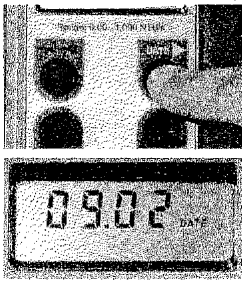
Additional documentation about the formazine standard and more complex calibration procedures are available upon request.

Viewing the Calibration Date

- Turn the meter on and wait for the display to show "----".



- Press and hold the DATE/⇒ key and a “MM.DD” message appears while the key is held.



Note: The displayed date is the date that was input by the user at the beginning of the last calibration.

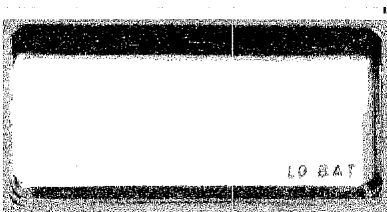
8 Battery Replacement

All components have been selected to minimize current drain without compromising functionality.

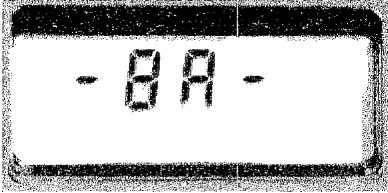
In order to minimize the battery consumption, the meter is equipped with an auto shut-off function which switches the meter off after 5 minutes of non-use.

The power source is 4 x 1.5V batteries with an expected life of 60 hours, or over 900 measurements.

To always grant accurate measurements, the batteries are monitored to ensure that readings are not taken when there is insufficient power.



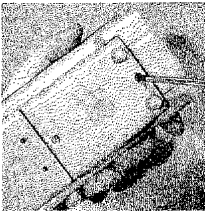
A “LO BAT” indication will appear on the lower right hand side of the display when the batteries are weak and require replacement; at this point the instrument is able to perform only 50 more measurements.



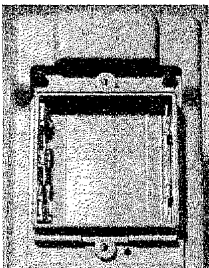
A “-BA-” indication will appear on the display when the batteries are too weak to perform measurements; the message appears for a few seconds, and then the meter will automatically switch off; at this point it is absolutely necessary to replace the batteries to use the instrument.

Battery replacement must only take place in a non-hazardous area using the battery types specified in these operating instructions.

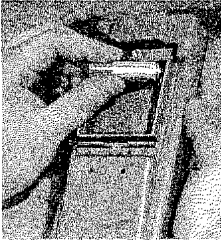
To install or replace the batteries, turn the unit off and unscrew the 2 screws located on the back of the battery cover.



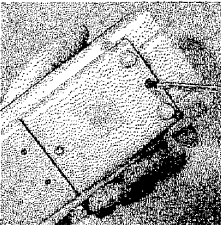
Remove the battery cover exposing the battery compartment.



Place the batteries in the compartment while paying attention to the polarity.



After the batteries have been installed, replace the battery cover on the back of the instrument and tighten the 2 screws.



9 LCD and Error Codes

The 430-260 will display several different LCD codes in different situations to help the user to operate the meter.



This indicates that the meter is in a ready state and measurement or calibration can be performed.



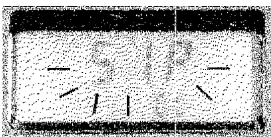
This indicates that the Calibration Mode is active. If the CAL key is not pressed within 6 seconds, the meter will automatically switch to the Measurement Mode.



This indicates that the Calibration Date Setting Mode is active.



This indicates a 0 FTU* standard calibration is required.



This indicates that calibration is performed.



This indicates a 10 FTU* standard calibration is required.



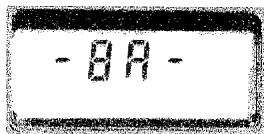
This indicates the last calibration date (MM.DD).



This indicates that measurement is performed.



This indicates that batteries are weak and have to be replaced. When this message appears, the instrument is able to perform 50 more measurements.



This indicates that batteries are too weak to perform measurements. The message appears for a few seconds, then the meter will automatically switch off. At this point it is absolutely necessary to replace the batteries.

* 1 FTU = 1 NTU