Model 101A
ICP® Dynamic Pressure Sensor
Installation and Operating Manual

For assistance with the operation of this product, contact the Division of PCB Piezotronics, Inc.
Division toll-free 888-684-0015
24-hour SensorLineSM 716-684-0001
Fax 716-686-9129
E-mail pressure@pcb.com
The information contained in this document supersedes all similar information that may be found elsewhere in this manual.

**Total Customer Satisfaction** – PCB Piezotronics guarantees Total Customer Satisfaction. If, at any time, for any reason, you are not completely satisfied with any PCB product, PCB will repair, replace, or exchange it at no charge. You may also choose to have your purchase price refunded in lieu of the repair, replacement, or exchange of the product.

**Service** – Due to the sophisticated nature of the sensors and associated instrumentation provided by PCB Piezotronics, user servicing or repair is not recommended and, if attempted, may void the factory warranty. Routine maintenance, such as the cleaning of electrical connectors, housings, and mounting surfaces with solutions and techniques that will not harm the physical material of construction, is acceptable. Caution should be observed to insure that liquids are not permitted to migrate into devices that are not hermetically sealed. Such devices should only be wiped with a dampened cloth and never submerged or have liquids poured upon them.

**Repair** – In the event that equipment becomes damaged or ceases to operate, arrangements should be made to return the equipment to PCB Piezotronics for repair. User servicing or repair is not recommended and, if attempted, may void the factory warranty.

**Calibration** – Routine calibration of sensors and associated instrumentation is recommended as this helps build confidence in measurement accuracy and acquired data. Equipment calibration cycles are typically established by the users own quality regimen. When in doubt about a calibration cycle, a good “rule of thumb” is to recalibrate on an annual basis. It is also good practice to recalibrate after exposure to any severe temperature extreme, shock, load, or other environmental influence, or prior to any critical test.

PCB Piezotronics maintains an ISO-9001 certified metrology laboratory and offers calibration services, which are accredited by A2LA to ISO/IEC 17025, with full traceability to N.I.S.T. In addition to the normally supplied calibration, special testing is also available, such as: sensitivity at elevated or cryogenic temperatures, phase response, extended high or low frequency response, extended range, leak testing, hydrostatic pressure testing, and others. For information on standard recalibration services or special testing, contact your local PCB Piezotronics distributor, sales representative, or factory customer service representative.

**Returning Equipment** – Following these procedures will insure that your returned materials are handled in the most expedient manner. Before returning any equipment to PCB Piezotronics, contact your local distributor, sales representative, or factory customer service representative to obtain a Return
Materials Authorization (RMA) Number. This RMA number should be clearly marked on the outside of all package(s) and on the packing list(s) accompanying the shipment. A detailed account of the nature of the problem(s) being experienced with the equipment should also be included inside the package(s) containing any returned materials.

A Purchase Order, included with the returned materials, will expedite the turn-around of serviced equipment. It is recommended to include authorization on the Purchase Order for PCB to proceed with any repairs, as long as they do not exceed 50% of the replacement cost of the returned item(s). PCB will provide a price quotation or replacement recommendation for any item whose repair costs would exceed 50% of replacement cost, or any item that is not economically feasible to repair. For routine calibration services, the Purchase Order should include authorization to proceed and return at current pricing, which can be obtained from a factory customer service representative.

Warranty – All equipment and repair services provided by PCB Piezotronics, Inc. are covered by a limited warranty against defective material and workmanship for a period of one year from date of original purchase. Contact PCB for a complete statement of our warranty. Expendable items, such as batteries and mounting hardware, are not covered by warranty. Mechanical damage to equipment due to improper use is not covered by warranty. Electronic circuitry failure caused by the introduction of unregulated or improper excitation power or electrostatic discharge is not covered by warranty.

Contact Information – International customers should direct all inquiries to their local distributor or sales office. A complete list of distributors and offices can be found at www.pcb.com. Customers within the United States may contact their local sales representative or a factory customer service representative. A complete list of sales representatives can be found at www.pcb.com. Toll-free telephone numbers for a factory customer service representative, in the division responsible for this product, can be found on the title page at the front of this manual. Our ship to address and general contact numbers are:

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3425 Walden Ave.
Depew, NY 14043 USA
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1.0 INTRODUCTION

These two miniature sensor series are intended for general purpose pressure measurements. Eight models in the series, 101A02, 101A03, 101A04, 101A06, 111A22 and 111A23, 111A24 and 111A26 are acceleration compensated.

Models 101A, 101A05, and 111A21 are designed for applications where acceleration compensation is not required.

Other applications for these sensors include the monitoring of pulsating pneumatic and hydraulic pressures in R & D and industrial applications.

2.0 DESCRIPTION

This series consists of sensors with three basic mechanical configurations and six different sensitivities (.5, 1.0, 5.0, 10, 40 and 50 mV/psi). Each model is basically similar in internal design and construction.

The pressure element used in the 101A, 101A05 and 111A21 sensors is the Model 111A. The acceleration-compensated models in both the 101A and 111A20 Series use the Model 113A quartz element.

These elements consist of an IC source follower amplifier and an acceleration-compensated or non-compensated quartz package. The amplifier and element are joined as an inseparable unit.

Refer to "General Guide to ICP® Instrumentation," G-0001 for a complete treatment of the ICP® concept.

The Models 111A21, 111A22, 111A23, 111A24 and 111A26 are in the basic probe configuration as illustrated below and are installed with a hollow clamp nut with 5/16-24 external threads.

The housing of these models is at electrical ground potential.

Series 111A20 Probe Style Sensor

The Models 101A02, 101A03, 101A04, 101A05 and 101A06 use the same basic pressure probe mounted in a 3/8-24 threaded mounting adaptor with shoulder seal. The probe is assembled into the adaptor at the factory in an "off-ground" configuration, i.e. the probe body is electrically insulated from the external mounting adaptor body. Do not attempt to disassemble probe and adaptor.
Models 101A02 through A06: Thread Mount Design, Ground-Isolated Sensor

The remaining Model 101A uses the same inner probe design but in a 3/8-24 threaded adaptor with floating clamp nut to permit adjustment of diaphragm depth where it is necessary to adapt to various wall thickness. This model, supplied only in the low-pressure (250 psi) version, is also "off-ground."

3.0 INSTALLATION

Accompanying this manual is an installation drawing for your specific model. Prepare mounting ports in accordance with the installation drawing for the specific model, paying particular attention to sealing surfaces. These surfaces must be smooth and free from chatter marks, nicks, and other irregularities which could preclude a pressure-tight seal.

Seals are provided with each sensor and should always be used. Extra seals for all standard models are in stock at the factory. Replace seals when they become unserviceable.

3.1 FLASH TEMPERATURE PROTECTION

In some cases, e.g. where flash temperatures such as those generated by combustion processes are present, it may be necessary to thermally insulate the diaphragm to minimize spurious signals generated by these effects.

Common black vinyl electrical tape has been found to be an effective insulating material in many cases. One or more layers may be used across the end of the diaphragm without affecting response or sensitivity.

A silicone rubber coating approximately .010 inches thick has also been proven effective in many applications. General Electric RTV type 106 silicone rubber is recommended.

Apply the rubber coating and allow to cure in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. Use standard coaxial cable between the sensor and power unit.

4.0 OPERATION

It is necessary only to supply the sensor with a 2 to 20 mA constant current at +20 to +30 VDC through a current-regulating diode or equivalent circuit. See Guide G-0001B for powering and signal conditioning information pertaining to all ICP® instrumentation.

Most of the signal conditioners manufactured by PCB have an adjustable current feature allowing a choice of input currents from 2 to 20 mA. In general, for lowest noise (best resolution), choose the lower current ranges. When driving long cables (to several
thousand feet), use the higher current, up to 20 mA maximum. Consult the factory to determine if higher current settings are required.

Switch power on and observe reading of bias monitoring voltmeter on front panel of power unit.

If indicator is in green section of indicator panel, the IC amplifier is producing proper bias (+8 to 14 VDC), the cable connections are normal, and the system is ready to operate.

If the pointer moves into the red area of the fault monitor meter, output is zero and a short is indicated. Short could be located in amplifier, cable, connectors, or power unit.

If pointer moves into the yellow area of the fault monitor meter, an open circuit is indicated with full power supply voltage. An open circuit could be the result of a faulty amplifier, an open cable, or open connectors.

5.0 POLARITY

This sensor series produces a positive-going output voltage for increasing pressure input.

6.0 LOW-FREQUENCY RESPONSE

The low-frequency response of an ICP® system is determined by:

1. The discharge time constant of the sensor.
2. If AC-coupled at the power unit, the coupling time constant.

Depending upon the sensor's built-in discharge time constant, repetitive output signals slowly or rapidly move toward a stable condition where the average signal level corresponds to a zero voltage position.

In this position, the area contained by the signal above zero is equalized with the area below zero. Such output signal behavior is typical of an AC-coupled system. Since the signal output from the sensor is inherently AC coupled, any static pressure influence applied to the unit will decay away according to the nature of the system’s discharge time constant.

Consult Section 7.0 in General Guide G-0001B for detailed explanation of low-frequency characteristics of ICP® instruments.

7.0 CALIBRATION

Piezoelectric sensors are dynamic devices, but static calibration techniques can be employed if discharge time constants are sufficiently long. Generally, static calibration methods are not employed when testing sensors with a discharge time constant that is less than several hundred seconds.

To calibrate statically, direct couple the sensor to the DVM readout using a T-connector from the "xducer" jack or use the Model 484B in the calibrate mode.

Apply pressure with a dead weight tester and take readings quickly. Release pressure after each calibration point.

For the shorter TC series, rapid step functions of pressure are generated by a pneumatic pressure pulse calibrator or dead weight tester and readout is by recorder or storage oscilloscope.

PCB offers a complete recalibration service. Consult factory for details.

8.0 MAINTENANCE

Although ICP® sensors have low output impedance and are not usually affected by moisture, in extreme environments it is good practice to protect cable connections with shrink tubing.

The miniature size and sealed construction of the 101A and 111A20 ICP® series precludes field maintenance.

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## ICP® PRESSURE SENSOR

### Performance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ENGLISH</th>
<th>SI</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100 psi</td>
<td>689 kPa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>200 psi</td>
<td>1379 kPa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50 mV/psi</td>
<td>7.3 mV/kPa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 kpsi</td>
<td>6895 kPa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 mpsi</td>
<td>0.014 kPa</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Non-Linearity | ≤ 2.0 % FS | ≤ 2.0 % FS |

### Environmental

| Acceleration Sensitivity | ≤ 0.01 psi/g | ≤ 0.007 kPa/(m/s²) |
| Temperature Range (Operating) | -100 to +275 °F | -73 to +135 °C |
| Temperature Coefficient of Sensitivity | ≤ 0.03 %/°F | ≤ 0.05 %/°C |
| Maximum Flash Temperature | 3000 °F | 1650 °C |
| Maximum Shock | 20,000 g pk | 196,000 m/s² pk |

### Electrical

| Output Polarity (Positive Pressure) | Positive |
| Discharge Time Constant (at room temp) | ≥ 1.0 sec |
| Excitation Voltage | 20 to 30 VDC |
| Constant Current Excitation | 2 to 20 mA |
| Output Impedance | ≤ 100 ohm |
| Output Bias Voltage | 8 to 14 VDC |
| Electrical Isolation | 10⁹ ohm |

### Physical

| Sensing Geometry | Compression |
| Sensing Element | Quartz |
| Housing Material | Stainless Steel |
| Diaphragm | Invar |
| Sealing | Welded Hermetic |
| Electrical Connector | 10-32 Coaxial Jack |
| Weight | 0.39 oz |

### OPTIONAL VERSIONS

Optional versions have identical specifications and accessories as listed for the standard model except where noted below. More than one option may be used.

- **H** - Hermetic Seal
- **M** - Metric Mount
- **N** - Negative Output Polarity
- **S** - Stainless Steel Diaphragm
  - Diaphragm: 316L Stainless Steel
  - 316L Stainless Steel
- **W** - Water Resistant Cable

### NOTES:

[1] For +10 volt output, minimum 24 VDC supply voltage required. Negative 10 volt output may be limited by output bias.


### SUPPLIED ACCESSORIES:

Model 065B01 Floating clamp nut and thread seal 3/8-24 thd (1)

### Spec Number:

101-1010-80

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**CE**

All specifications are at room temperature unless otherwise specified. In the interest of constant product improvement, we reserve the right to change specifications without notice. ICP® is a registered trademark of PCB Group, Inc.
ELECTRICAL CONNECTOR
10-32 UNF-2A THREAD

CLAMP NUT
9/32(7.1) HEX

MODEL 065B01 SEAL
9/16(14.3) HEX
(SUPPLIED)

MOUNTING HOLE PREPARATION:

Ø .332 THRU
TAP 3/8-24 UNF-2B THRU

3) LENGTH TO SUIT USER REQUIREMENTS.
4) COAT THREADS OF SENSOR WITH TEFLOM THREAD SEALANT IF REQUIRED.
   (FOR VACUUM TIGHT SEAL ONLY)
5) ADJUST MODEL 065B01 SEAL TO APPROXIMATE POSITION REQUIRED.
6) USE 9/32(7.1) NUT DRIVER TO TURN SENSOR INTO TAPPED HOLE. NORMAL
   LOCATION OF DIAPHRAGM FACE IS FLUSH WITH INSIDE SURFACE. RECESS .010(0.25)
   FOR ABLATIVE COATING IF DESIRED. WHILE HOLDING SENSOR WITH NUT DRIVER,
   TIGHTEN SEAL TO OBTAIN PRESSURE-TIGHT SEAL AND LOCK SENSOR IN PLACE.
   RECOMMENDED MOUNTING TORQUE 20-25 INCH POUNDS(226-282 NEWTON CENTIMETERS).

1.) THIS SENSOR IS A SEALED ASSEMBLY AND MUST BE RETURNED TO THE
FACTORY SHOULD SERVICE BECOME NECESSARY.