

5698
Working Standard
Platinum Resistance Thermometer
User's Guide

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Hart Scientific, Inc.
799 E. Utah Valley Drive
American Fork, Utah 84003-9775
Telephone (801) 763-1600 • Fax (801) 763-1010
Internet: <http://www.hartscientific.com>
E-Mail: support@hartscientific.com

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Tables

Table 1 International Electrical Symbols 1

1 Before You Start

1.1 Symbols Used

Table 1 lists the International Electrical Symbols. Some or all of these symbols may be used on the instrument or in this manual.

Table 1 *International Electrical Symbols*

Symbol	Description
	AC (Alternating Current)
	AC-DC
	Battery
	CE
	DC
	Double Insulated
	Electric Shock
	Fuse
	PE Ground
	Hot Surface (Burn Hazard)
	Read the User's Manual (Important Information)
	Off
	On

Symbol	Description
	Canadian Standards Association
CAT II	OVERVOLTAGE (Installation) CATEGORY II, Pollution Degree 2 per IEC1010-1 refers to the level of Impulse Withstand Voltage protection provided. Equipment of OVERVOLTAGE CATEGORY II is energy-consuming equipment to be supplied from the fixed installation. Examples include household, office, and laboratory appliances.

1.2 Safety Information

Use this instrument only as specified in this manual. Otherwise, the protection provided by the instrument may be impaired.

The following definitions apply to the terms “Warning” and “Caution”.

- “Warning” identifies conditions and actions that may pose hazards to the user.
- “Caution” identifies conditions and actions that may damage the instrument being used.

1.2.1



Warnings

To avoid personal injury, follow these guidelines.

General

- **DO NOT** use this instrument for any application other than calibration work. Use of the instrument outside the designed use may subject the user to unknown hazards.
- **DO NOT** use this instrument in environments other than those listed in the user’s guide. Use of the instrument in inappropriate environments may subject the user to unknown hazards or damage the instrument.
- Follow all safety guidelines listed in the user’s guide.
- Calibration Equipment should only be used by Trained Personnel.

Electric Shock

- **DO NOT** use this instrument to measure the temperature of any hazardous live component. Electric shock may occur.

Burn Hazard

- Use of this instrument at high temperatures for extended periods of time can cause the handle to become hot.

1.2.2



Cautions

- **DO NOT** remove the label from the handle. The delicate nature of the instrument is described on the label.
- Read Section 5 entitled, “Care and Handling Guidelines”, before removing the SPRT from the shipping box or case. Incorrect handling can damage the SPRT and void the warranty.
- If the SPRT has been calibrated, follow the procedure outlined in Section 1.3, Verifying SPRT Accuracy, (or your quality procedure) for verifying the accuracy of your SPRT before placing the instrument in service.
- **DO NOT** subject the SPRT to mechanical shock.
- Use of the SPRT at temperature greater than 500°C requires a specified minimum cooling rate in order to prevent damage to the SPRT. Refer to Section 6.6, Cooling Rates at High Temperatures.
- Keep the shipping container in case it is necessary to ship the SPRT. Incorrect packaging of the SPRT for shipment can cause irreparable damage.

1.3

Verifying SPRT Accuracy



This section is applicable only if the SPRT has been calibrated.

Before using your SPRT, verify that its behavior has not changed significantly from the most recent calibration (as can sometimes occur from mechanical shock during shipping, for example). To verify your SPRT, check the SPRT at the triple point of water (0.01°C) or in a well-constructed ice bath, by following these steps:

1. Connect the SPRT to a calibrated readout.
2. Properly prepare a triple point of water cell (TPW) or ice bath. Ensure that the SPRT is pre-chilled prior to measurement. (Contact a Hart Scientific Authorized Customer Service Center if unsure how to do this.) A triple point of water cell is preferred. Ice baths should use distilled water and crushed ice made with distilled water in a Dewar flask or thermos

bottle. The ratio of ice-to-water should be such that the mixture is firm after preparation.

3. Set your readout to read in ohms rather than temperature. Place your pre-chilled SPRT in the TPW or ice bath and allow it to stabilize. (Remember a TPW is at 0.01°C and an ice bath is at 0°C.)
4. If using a TPW cell, compare the resistance value on your readout with the resistance value at TPW given on the probe's certificate. If using an ice bath, compare the resistance value on your readout with the resistance indicated on the certificate for 0°C. (You may have to use the SPRT's temperature versus resistance table to get the SPRT's calibrated resistance value at 0°C.)
5. Considering the SPRT's uncertainty specification and the uncertainty of the thermometer readout, determine whether or not it is within tolerance, as specified in your quality requirements, of the data on its most recent Report of Calibration. If it is, it may be placed in service.

Hart recommends that an SPRT be periodically checked against a standard such as a triple point of water cell (or well-constructed ice bath if an ITS-90 fixed-point standard is not available). The verification interval depends on how the SPRT is handled, how much it is used, and your documented experience with it. Your probe should also be checked any time you suspect it may have received mechanical shock or whenever its accuracy appears suspect.

1.4 Hart Scientific Authorized Service Centers

Please contact one of the following authorized Service Centers to coordinate service on your Hart product:

Hart Scientific, Inc.

799 E. Utah Valley Drive
American Fork, UT 84003-9775
USA

Phone: +1.801.763.1600
Telefax: +1.801.763.1010
E-mail: support@hartscientific.com

Fluke Nederland B.V.

Customer Support Services
Science Park Eindhoven 5108
5692 EC Son

NETHERLANDS

Phone: +31-402-675300

Telefax: +31-402-675321

E-mail: ServiceDesk@fluke.nl

Fluke Int'l Corporation

Service Center - Instrimpex

Room 2301 Sciteck Tower

22 Jianguomenwai Dajie

Chao Yang District

Beijing 100004, PRC

CHINA

Phone: +86-10-6-512-3436

Telefax: +86-10-6-512-3437

E-mail: xingye.han@fluke.com.cn

Fluke South East Asia Pte Ltd.

Fluke ASEAN Regional Office

Service Center

83 Clemenceau Avenue

#15-15/06 Ue Square

239920

SINGAPORE

Phone: +65-737-2922

Telefax: +65-737-5155

E-mail: antng@singa.fluke.com

When contacting these Service Centers for support, please have the following information available:

- Model Number
- Serial Number
- Complete description of the problem

2 Introduction

2.1 General

The Hart Standard Platinum Resistance Thermometer (SPRT) is designed to be the best primary standard interpolating instrument converting resistance to temperature. With full calibration options, ITS-90 coefficients can be used with your 1590, 1560, or 1529 Hart thermometer readout. With drift rate typically around ± 3 mK, this SPRT gets you from -200°C up to 661°C .

The 5698 is hand constructed at Hart by experts with years of SPRT manufacturing experience. Each SPRT is carefully annealed at the appropriate temperatures and precisely tested for stability. Convection prevention discs are used to reduce stem errors caused by thermal radiation. The sensing element is fabricated using high purity platinum wire wound in a strain free design on a fused silica cross frame. A fused silica sheath is pressure sealed with a special argon/oxygen mixed gas and fitted with a terminal box handle with a strain relieved connection to the four wire cable. Gold plated spade lugs terminate the wires.

2.2 Application

The 5698 SPRT is a working standard. A working standard is defined in terms of transfer of the ITS-90 from a standards laboratory to a customer's laboratory. Working standards are calibrated in a standards lab using known intrinsic values.



Figure 1 5698 Working Standard Platinum Resistance Thermometer

2.3 Calibration

In order for any instrument to be used as a standard it must be calibrated. The SPRT may be purchased calibrated or non-calibrated. Hart Scientific has the capability of performing fixed-point calibrations traceable to NIST. The 5698 can be economically calibrated using the comparison method or any one of several fixed point calibrations matching ITS-90 subranges.

2.3.1 Calibration Options

In order for the SPRTs to make accurate temperature measurements, they must be calibrated. Calibration can be attained through any recognized primary standard laboratory performing temperature calibrations. Hart Scientific can provide either comparison calibration or fixed-point calibrations.

2.4 Recalibration

The recalibration of the SPRTs should be scheduled according to the user's company Quality Assurance requirements. Generally, an SPRT is used over a specific range. The SPRT should be calibrated over the range applicable to its use. The SPRT should only be calibrated over its full temperature range if it is used over its full range. For information on recalibrating your SPRT, contact a Hart Scientific Authorized Customer Service Center (see Section 1.4).

2.5 Return Procedure

Note: Call a Hart Scientific Authorized Customer Service Center for a return authorization.

We recommend that a good TPW measurement be made before returning the SPRT to ensure stability.

Extreme care must be taken when shipping an SPRT. Place the SPRT in the factory provided protective storage case. Be sure the case is latched securely. Place the protective case in the original manufacturer's wooden shipping crate or wooden crate with similar dimensions (44 ½ in. x 11 ¾ in. x 11 ¾ in.). Place soft insulation on all sides of the crate to cushion the SPRT against mechanical shocks. The cover of the crate should be attached with screws. We recommend that you label the crate as extremely fragile. Whether the SPRT is returned for repair or warranty, please include a letter containing the following information

- Description of the faulty operation and circumstances of failure.
- Complete shipping instructions for the return of the thermometer to the customer.

3 Specifications

3.1 Specifications

Temperature Range	−200°C to 661°C
Nominal R_{TPW}	25.5Ω ($\pm 0.5\Omega$)
Current	1.0 mA
Resistance Ratios	W(234.315K) $\leq$ 0.844235 W(302.9146K) $\geq$ 1.11807
Sensitivity	0.1Ω/°C
Drift Rate	<0.006°C/100 hours at max temperature (typically < 0.003°C)
Diameter of Pt Sensor Wire	0.003" (0.07 mm)
Protective Sheath	Fused Silica Glass Diameter: 0.28" (7 mm) Length: 19.1" (485 mm)
Lead Wires	Four sensor wires

3.2 Construction

Construction of the 5698 is shown in Figure 2 and explained below.

The 5698 covers the range from −200°C to 661°C. The 25.5Ω sensor element is

crafted using high purity platinum wire wound in a strain free design on a fused silica cross frame. The 5698 has a sensitivity of $0.1\Omega/^{\circ}\text{C}$.

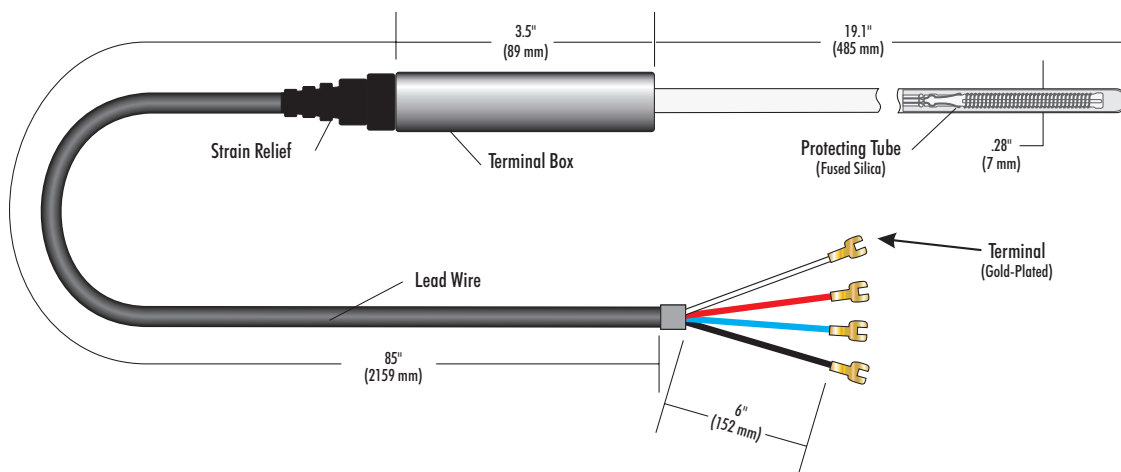


Figure 2 Standard Dimensions

3.3 Electrical Circuit

The SPRT is provided with a terminal box handle. The eight-foot cable has four Teflon-coated wires enclosed in a silicon rubber jacket with a stainless steel spring strain relief. Gold plated spade lugs terminate the wires.

3.4 Warranty

Hart Scientific, Inc. (Hart) warrants this product to be free from defects in material and workmanship under normal use and service for a period as stated in our current product catalog from the date of shipment. If your SPRT was calibrated by Hart, Hart also warrants the validity of the data on the certificate of calibration accompanying your probe. However, because probes are subject to change from mishandling, vibration, and other forms of mechanical shock, Hart does not warrant the behavior of your probe once it has left Hart's control. (See Section 1.3, Verifying Probe Accuracy, for procedures for initially checking your probe upon receipt at your facility.) This warranty extends only to the original purchaser and shall not apply to any product which, in Hart's sole opinion, has been subject to misuse, alteration, abuse or abnormal conditions of operation or handling.

Software is warranted to operate in accordance with its programmed instructions on appropriate Hart products. It is not warranted to be error free.

Hart's obligation under this warranty is limited to repair or replacement of a product which is returned to Hart within the warranty period and is determined,

upon examination by Hart, to be defective. If Hart determines that the defect or malfunction has been caused by misuse, alteration, abuse or abnormal conditions or operation or handling, Hart will repair the product and bill the purchaser for the reasonable cost of repair.

To exercise this warranty, the purchaser must forward the product after calling or writing a Hart Scientific Authorized Service Center for authorization (see Section 1.4). The Service Center assumes NO risk for in-transit damage.

THE FOREGOING WARRANTY IS PURCHASER'S SOLE AND EXCLUSIVE REMEDY AND IS IN LIEU OF ALL OTHER WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO ANY IMPLIED WARRANTY OR MERCHANTABILITY, OR FITNESS FOR ANY PARTICULAR PURPOSE OR USE. HART SHALL NOT BE LIABLE FOR ANY SPECIAL, INDIRECT, INCIDENTAL, OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES OR LOSS WHETHER IN CONTRACT, TORT, OR OTHERWISE.

4 Installation

4.1 Environmental Issues

Primary standard equipment should be used in a calibration laboratory or other facility specifically designed for this purpose. Environmental requirements include:

- Stable temperature and humidity.
- Clean, draft-free area.
- Low noise level: low radio frequency, magnetic or electrical interference.
- Low vibration levels

4.2 Mounting

Most often temperature standards, primary and secondary, are used to calibrate other temperature-sensitive equipment. Three representative applications are shown in the following figures.

- Figure 3 Liquid Bath Installation
- Figure 4 Water Triple Point Cell in an Ice Bath Dewar
- Figure 5 Hart 9114 Metrology Furnace with SPRT in Fixed Point Cell

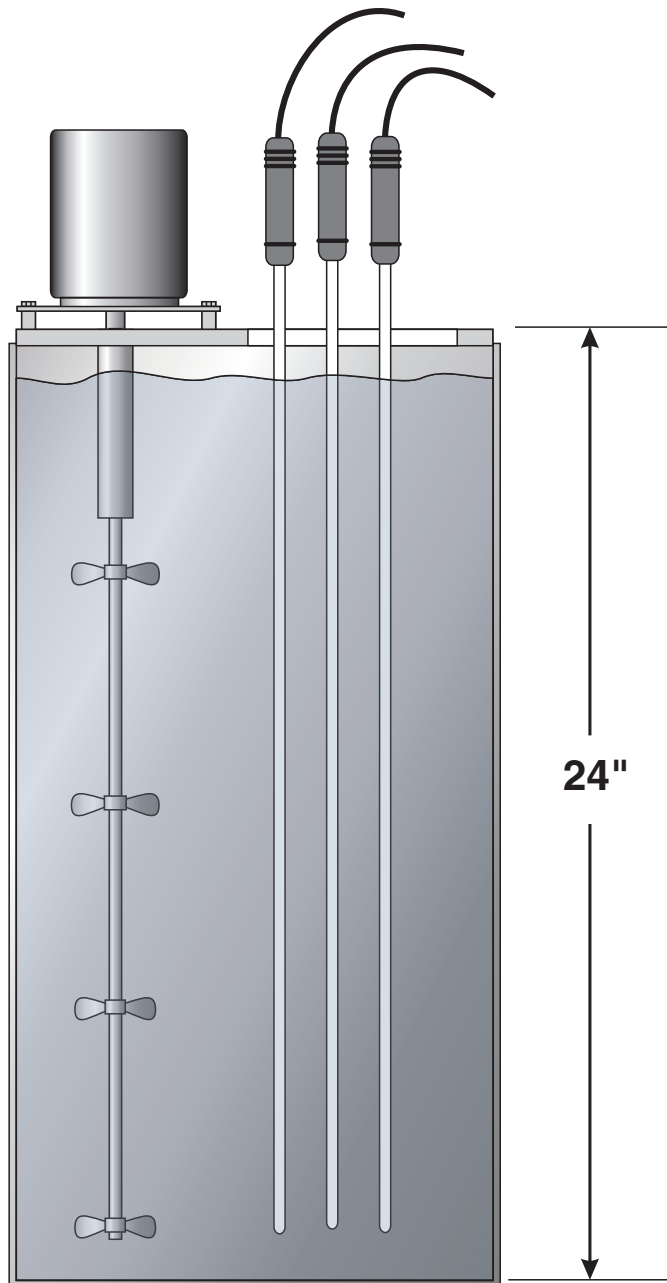
The SPRT must be mounted carefully to avoid any damage to the sheath or sensor. If the fluid bath used does not have a lid designed for SPRT insertion, clamps should be used to ensure the handle and cable are not immersed. If metal comparison blocks are used in the bath, maintain a close fit between the SPRT sheath and the well in the comparison block. However, allow for the thermal expansion and contraction of the SPRT sheath and block when determining block well tolerances.

For applications where the fluid in the bath is not compatible with the SPRT (e.g. salt), the SPRT can be slid into a thin walled metal sheath for protection. Ensure that the sheath is clean inside. The gap between the protective sheath and the SPRT should not be any larger than 0.003 in. (0.08 mm).

At high temperatures, the SPRT is subject to metal ion contamination. If a metal equilibration block is used in a furnace above 700°C, protective shielding such as thin wall platinum tubing or high purity ceramic is advised.

4.3 Lead Wire Identification

The SPRT is equipped with a four-wire cable (see Figure 6). Four lead wires are used to prevent measurement errors due to lead wire resistance. For proper



7007 Tank with Long Stem SPRTs

Figure 3 Liquid Bath Installation

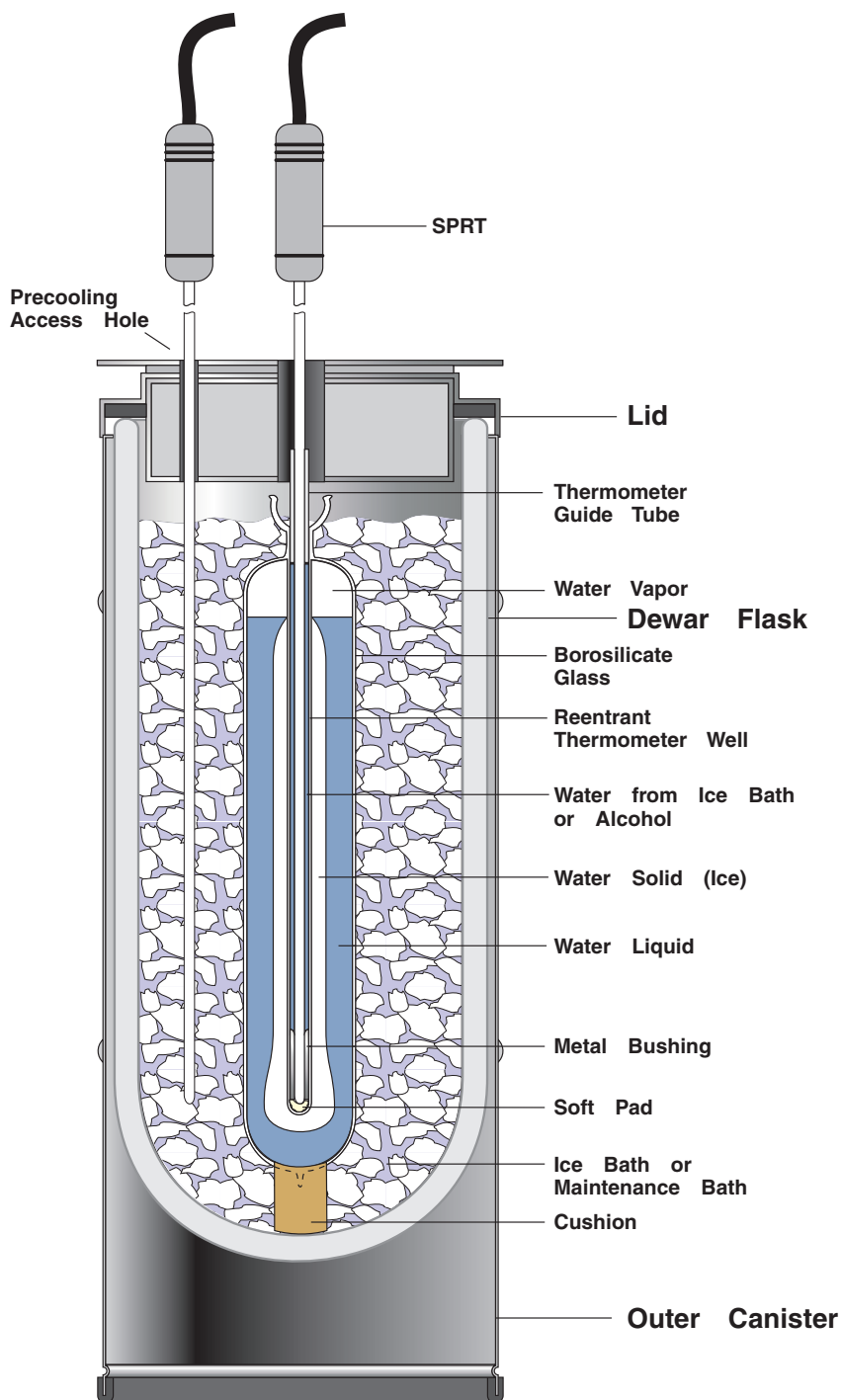


Figure 4 Water Triple Point Cell in an Ice Bath Dewar

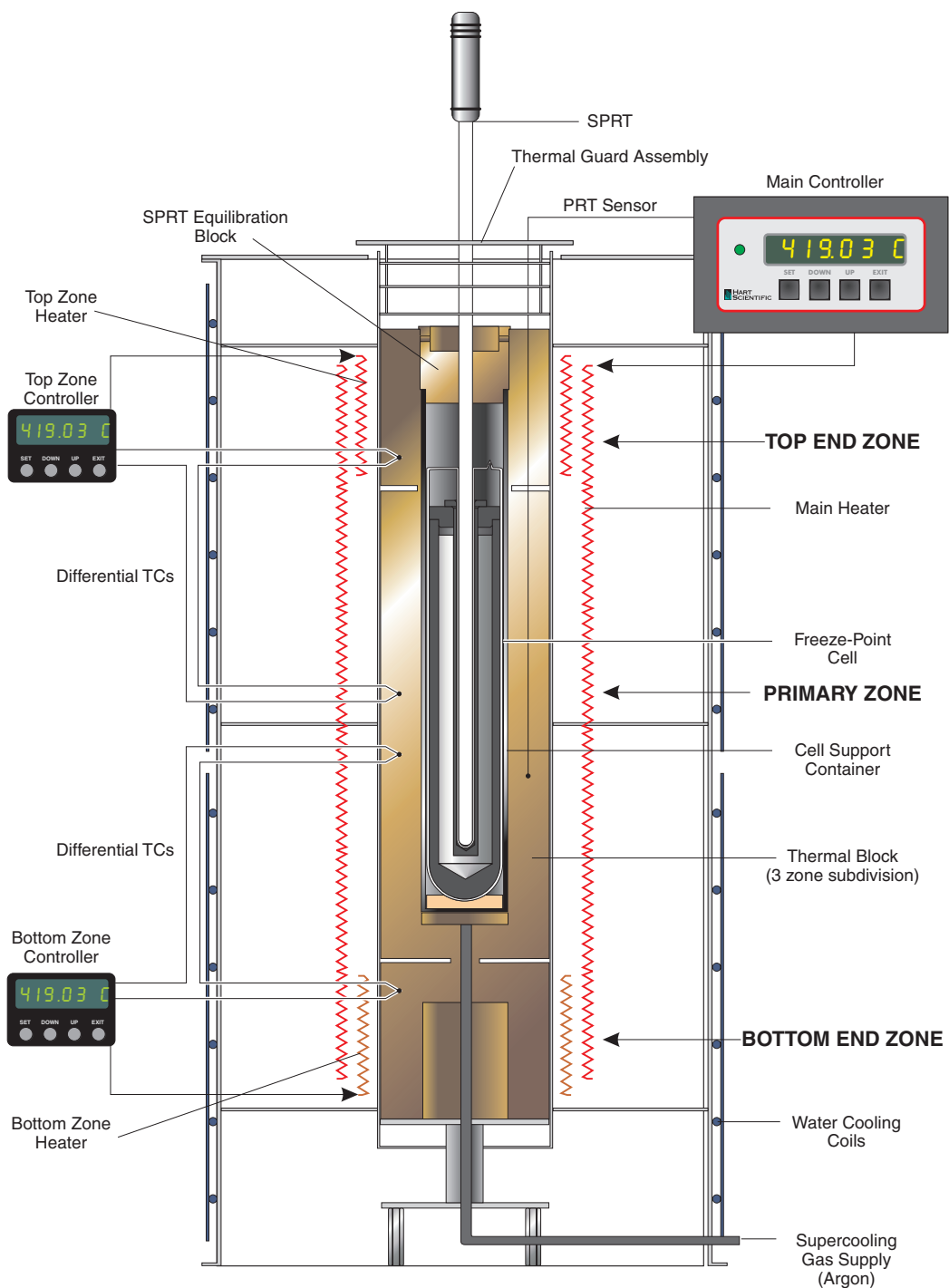


Figure 5 Hart 9114 Metrology Furnace with SPRT in Fixed Point Cell

measurement, the readout device should be equipped to handle four-terminal resistors.

The lead wire colors are red, black, white, and blue. Lead wire pairs attached to each end of the sensor are identified by heat shrink tubing. Red and black wires have red heat shrink tubing. Blue and white wires have black heat shrink tubing (see Figure 6 for details).

The circuit is connected in true four terminal configuration. Therefore, there is no distinction between voltage (sense) and current (source) leads.

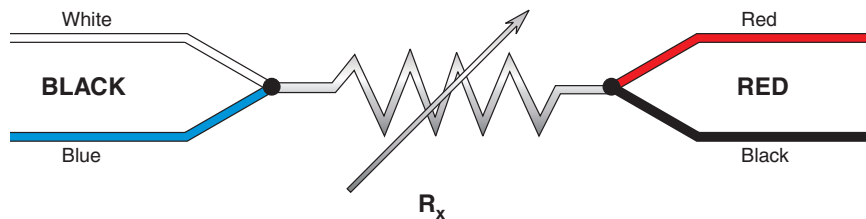


Figure 6 SPRT Circuit Schematic

5 Care and Handling Guidelines



Caution: Read before removing the SPRT from the case.

5.1 SPRT Care

The 5698 Standard Platinum Resistance Thermometer (SPRT) is an extremely delicate instrument. Great care must be taken in handling the SPRT to maintain calibration accuracy. Vibration or shock may cause the resistance to increase. A slight tap to the SPRT tip as it is removed from an instrument can cause a change in R_{tpw} as high as 1 mK. At high temperatures, the SPRT may become contaminated if inserted into metal blocks. This contamination can effect the condition of the sensor if the contamination invades the sensor degrading the purity of the platinum wire. The fused silica sheath is very fragile and also susceptible to contamination. Once a SPRT is contaminated, it can contaminate other standards equipment. (Copper contamination shows as red smudged on the sheath.) Any contamination can cause devitrification of the sheath at high temperatures. The fused silica sheath should not be handled with bare hands. Cotton gloves or other suitable methods should be used in handling the SPRT.

The sheath should always be cleaned with 200 proof Ethyl Alcohol or other suitable solvent before exposure to high temperatures. Correct handling of the SPRT will prolong the life expectancy. When not in use, the SPRT should be stored in its protective case.

5.2 SPRT Handling Guidelines

1. **DO** keep the SPRT as clean as possible. Always remove any fluid from the sheath as soon as possible after taking the SPRT from a bath. Ensure that the fluid and SPRT have cooled sufficiently to prevent a safety hazard. To remove any possible contaminants, always wipe the sheath with ethyl alcohol or other solvent before submitting the SPRT to high temperatures.
2. **DO** immerse the SPRT in the appropriate liquid for the temperature range. If a dry block is used, the well diameter should allow the SPRT to comfortably slip in and out without excess movement. For best results, immerse the SPRT as deep as possible to avoid “stem effect” (the temperature error caused by the conduction of heat away from the sensor). Do not submerge the handles.
3. **DO** allow sufficient time for the SPRT to stabilize before making measurements. This allows for the best accuracy.
4. **DO** use the correct drive current with the SPRT to prevent error in temperature or resistance.

5. **DO** anneal the SPRT at a temperature slightly higher than the maximum temperature at which the thermometer will be used when it has been subjected to mechanical or temperature shock. The SPRT should also be annealed before calibration. The SPRT should be annealed at 675°C.
6. **DO** use the protective case provided or other protection when the thermometer is not in use.
7. **DON'T** subject the thermometer to any physical shock or vibration.
8. **DON'T** subject the thermometer to temperatures above the highest specified operating temperature.
9. **DON'T** expose the thermometer's handle or cables to extreme temperatures.
10. **DON'T** submerge the handle or cable in liquids.

5.3 Metal Ion Contamination of SPRTs

Since the acceptance of ITS-90, information has been accumulating about contamination of SPRTs. ITS-90 extended the range of the SPRT as an interpolation device and new problems manifested themselves. Metal ion contamination is one of the new problems and can start at approximately 700°C.

At high temperatures the lattice structure of most metals becomes open. This allows energetic metal ions to come off the surface, analogous to steam rising from hot water. Since the molecular activity increases with temperature, so does the amount of ion loss and the risk of contamination. Ion transfer occurs at different temperatures for different metals. Copper, nickel, iron, and manganese are metals that have been attributed to causing contamination. In addition, the fused silica lattice structure also becomes open at these high temperatures. This allows the fused silica to become transparent to these metal ions permitting the transfer of these ions from adjacent metal surfaces to the pure platinum wire of the SPRT sensor. The contaminated platinum behaves unpredictably, resulting in a loss of stability and calibration.

Contamination can be spread by an “infected” SPRT to other primary standards analogous to a virus. Therefore, it is very important to avoid contamination as much as possible to ensure the longevity of the SPRT itself and to decrease the spread to other standards.

Isolation of sensitive materials can prevent contamination. Pure platinum foil is being used by some experts to intercept the ions before they reach the SPRT. Silicon carbide is also used by some experts to shield the SPRT because it is less expensive than platinum foil. Information on contamination effects and prevention is still being gathered by experts in the field.

5.4 Devitrification of Fused Silica Glass

Devitrification is a natural process with quartz materials. The fused silica is utilized in a glass (non-crystalline) state. The most stable state for fused silica is crystalline. Therefore, devitrification is the tendency of the fused silica to return to its most stable state. If the fused silica is kept extremely clean and free of contamination, devitrification occurs only at high temperatures. The process occurs more rapidly and at lower temperatures when the glass is contaminated by alkaline metals (Na, K, Mg, and Ca). The alkalis found in normal tap water can trigger the process.

Note: There is conflicting opinion among the experts as to whether the process can be stopped. Some say that once the process starts, it does not stop. Others indicate that once the alkali is removed, the process of devitrification stops.

Removal of the devitrification is not practical as it requires drastic measures and is potentially dangerous to the instrument and/or the user.

Devitrification starts with a dulling or opacity of the fused silica sheath. It develops into a rough and crumbling surface. Devitrification ultimately weakens the fused silica until it breaks or is otherwise no longer useful.

The best cure for contamination and devitrification is prevention. Being aware of the causes and signs of contamination can help the user take the steps necessary to control contamination of the SPRT. Keep your SPRT clean and avoid contact with metals at temperatures above 700°C.

6 Operation

6.1 General

For best results, be familiar with the operation of the calibration bath or furnace and the readout instrument. Be sure to follow the manufacturer's instructions for the readout instrument and the calibration bath or furnace.

6.2 Comparison Calibration of Other Instruments

The uniformity and stability of the bath and the degree of accuracy required determine the number of temperature measurements necessary. However, to follow "good" practice procedures, always measure the triple point of water (Rtp) after each temperature measurement. This provides the most accurate measurement of the ratio:

$$W_t = \frac{R_t}{R_p}$$

6.3 Measuring Current

The 5698 SPRT has a specified drive current. The recommended current is listed in the specifications and below.

Suggested Drive Current

Model	Resistance	Drive Current
5698	25Ω	1 mA

Errors caused by self-heating of the element need to be minimized. Allowing sufficient time for the SPRT to stabilize and the heat to be dispersed into the surrounding medium will provide the most accurate results.

The Report of Calibration provided with the SPRT represent data that has been extrapolated. For example, on a 5698 measurements are made at 1 mA and 1.4 mA. These measurements are then extrapolated to zero current. This can be done graphically by plotting i^2 vs. R and extrapolating to zero power or by using the following equation:

$$R_0 = R_1 - \frac{i_1^2(R_2 - R_1)}{i_2^2 - i_1^2}$$

where:

R_0 = Zero current resistance

R_1 = Resistance measured at current i_1

R_2 = Resistance measured at current i_2

6.4 Immersion Requirements

Stem effect can cause measurement errors for SPRTs not immersed in the fluid at least six inches. This error is due to heat lost or gained by the sensing element through the thermometer stem. In addition, heat losses occur due to radiation losses from the sensing element to the housing. The sand-blasted finish on the fused silica sheath is designed to minimize losses due to radiation piping. Convection prevention discs also provide multiple radiation shields along the lead wires. Convection discs and the quartz insulation on lead wires cause some shunt resistance at very high temperatures. However, the effect of the shunt resistance is insignificant. Full immersion is recommended in a furnace or freeze point cell.

The immersion depth for primary standards is dependent on several factors including accuracy requirements and type of liquid. Therefore, we recommend an 8 inch minimum immersion depth.

The exact immersion depth required can be determined by performing a gradient test taking measurements approximately every 1/2 inch (1.27 cm) until there is a significant difference in readings. Allow the thermometer to stabilize at each new depth. Plot the results to see the stem effect.

6.5 Thermal EMF

Two factors contribute to thermal EMF, chemical consistency and physical consistency. Variations in chemical structure due to impurities and discrepancies in crystal structure can contribute to thermal EMF. These factors are minimized by annealing the full length of wire before construction of the SPRT.

Likewise, connection to extension lead wires and readout instruments can be a source of thermal EMF. The thermal EMF is caused by a difference in temperature between two connections. If the two connections are the same temperature, there will be little or no thermal EMF effects. However, if there is a substantial temperature difference between connections, the thermal EMF effects will be significant. Therefore, cover or insulate any exposed bridge or galvanometer terminals to lessen the source of error. The effects of thermal EMF can be reduced by using an AC bridge or a DC bridge with reversible current.

6.6 Cooling Rates at High Temperatures

The equilibrium concentration of point defects in the pure platinum wire increase exponentially to the increase in temperature. If a high cooling rate (i.e., removing a SPRT from a high temperature and cooling it to room temperature in less than a minute) occurs above 500°C, some of the point defects in the platinum wire become trapped in the crystalline structure causing a slight increase

in resistance. This slight increase in resistance can be reversed by annealing the SPRT. To avoid this problem, slowly cool the SPRT at a rate of roughly 150°C/hour above 500°C before removing to room temperature.

The SPRT can be safely removed from an instrument at 500°C or less and cooled to room temperature without concern for the cooling rate.

7 Accessories

7.1 Case

The SPRTS are shipped in a protective case. The SPRT should be stored in this case when not in use. The SPRT should be shipped in this case when returning (see Section 2.5, Return Procedure).

7.2 SPRT Termination

The 5698 SPRTs are terminated with gold plated lugs.

8 Troubleshooting

8.1 Troubleshooting

In the event that the SPRT appears to function abnormally, this section may help to find and solve the problem. Several possible problem conditions are described along with likely causes and solutions. If a problem arises, read this section carefully and attempt to understand and solve the problem. If the SPRT seems faulty or the problem cannot otherwise be solved, contact a Hart Scientific Authorized Service Center for assistance (see Section 1.4).

Problem	Solution
Data changes	Slight mechanical shock can cause temperature errors as much as 2mK. If this is observed, first measure and record the R_{TPW}. Next anneal the SPRT at 675°C overnight (12 hours). Measure the R_{TPW} again. The annealing should decrease the R_{TPW}. Repeat the annealing, R_{TPW} measurement cycle several times. If the R_{TPW} returns to the proper value, the SPRT may be returned to service. If the SPRT does not return to the proper R_{TPW} value but is stable, return for recalibration. When the R_{TPW} is stable, recalibrate the SPRT. If the R_{TPW} does not stabilize, contact a Hart Scientific Authorized Service Center for assistance (see Section 1.4.) Severe mechanical shock can permanently damage the SPRT. If annealing the SPRT does not resolve the data change, contact a Hart Scientific Authorized Service Center for assistance (see Section 1.4). Oxidation of the platinum sensor may occur after prolonged use between 200 and 450°C. R_{TPW} will show an increase. To reduce the effects of oxidation, anneal the SPRT at the appropriate temperature as described above. Measure the R_{TPW} again. Repeat the annealing, R_{TPW} measurement cycle several times. This annealing process should return R_{TPW} to within calibration tolerances. If the R_{TPW} is within calibration tolerance, the SPRT is usable. If the R_{TPW} is not within calibration tolerance, but it is stable, recalibrate the SPRT.
Data unstable	Connection may not be made. If the data is unstable at the Triple Point of Water (TPW), check the connection first. If this action does not fix the problem contact a Hart Scientific Authorized Service Center for assistance (see Section 1.4). The SPRT may be damaged and need repair. Electrical noise in the system. If the data is unstable at high temperatures, it may be due to electrical noise in the system. Reduce the temperature and observe the data. If it is stable, electrical noise is interfering with the measurements at high temperatures. Check the grounding of the readout device and the heat source. A faulty ground on either device could interfere with high temperature measurements.

Problem	Solution
Temperature readout different than expected, e.g. the heat source is set at 300°C, the SPRT measures 275°C	Measure the SPRT resistance at TPW. If the resistance of the SPRT is less than the rated resistance, there may be a short in the sensor. If the resistance of the SPRT is only a few ohms, there may be a short in the four lead-wires. If the SPRT is open, the resistance will be “Out of Limits” or in the kilo-ohm or mega-ohm range. Contact a Hart Scientific Authorized Service Center for assistance (see Section 1.4)