

# TENMARS

## RF three-Axis Field Strength Meter

### TM-196



User's  
Manual



HB2TM1960001

TENMARS ELECTRONICS CO., LTD

## **Table of Contents**

<b>Axis RF Meter Quick Start Guide .....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>1 Introduction .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>2 Simple a method of operation.....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>3 Fundamentals .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>4 Electric field strength (E).....</b>	<b>3</b>
4.1Magnetic field strength (H).....	3
4.2Power density (S) .....	4
4.3The characteristic of electromagnetic fields .....	4
<b>5 Application.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6 Features .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7 Identifying Parts .....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>8 LCD Description .....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>9 Specifications .....</b>	<b>10</b>
9.1 General specifications.....	10
9.2 Electrical specifications .....	12
9.3 Units of measurement.....	13
9.4 Result modes.....	13
<b>Measurement Procedures and Preparation .</b>	<b>14</b>
9.5 POWER key.....	15
9.6 Data hold key.....	15
9.7 Units key: .....	16
9.8 MAX / AVG Record .....	16
9.9 Manual data memory storing .....	17
9.10 XYZ/CALL .....	17
9.11 Alarm ON/OFF Setup .....	17

9.11.1 Viewing Data Records.....	18
9.12 Cancel the automatic power off/on.....	18
9.13 Clock LCD Display .....	19
<b>10 Setup Mode.....</b>	<b>19</b>
10.1 Clock Setup-1 .....	20
10.2 Setting the alarm limit value (ALARM)-2 .....	21
10.3 DEL data logger memory setup-3 .....	22
10.4 Analogue bar graphsetup-4.....	23
10.5 Auto Power Off Time function setup-5...	23
10.6 Setting the calibration factor (CAL)-6 ....	24
<b>11 Calibration factor is important for the measurements .....</b>	<b>25</b>
11.1 Short-term measurements.....	26
11.2 Short-term measurements.....	26
11.3 Long-term exposure measurements.....	27
<b>12 Battery replacement.....</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>13 External DC Power .....</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>14 Safety Precaution .....</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>15 SAFETY INFORMATION .....</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>16 SAFETY INFORMATION .....</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>17 End of life.....</b>	<b>32</b>

**Axis RF Meter Quick Start Guide**

This meter has many capabilities, including memory, alarm, date/time, average etc. which will require some study of the manual to use properly. However, you can quickly and easily begin making measurements right out of the box. Just follow these simple steps:

1. Insert 9V battery.
2. Turn meter on with GREEN button.
3. Press XYX/MEM button until all three (XYZ) letters are displayed on the screen (to the left of the main number.
4. Press UNIT/ENTER button until the desired units are displayed below the main number (we recommend using mV/m... and we recommend a maximum level of 614 mV/m for prolonged exposure).

You are now ready to make your first measurements!

**1 Introduction**

This meter is designed for measuring and monitoring Radio-Frequency electromagnetic field strength. The meter is calibrated precisely over the frequency range of 10MHz~8GHZ.

**2 Simple a method of operation**

Press "power" button on. To change measuring unit (mV/m), push UNIT"button to change the unit. Electric field strength (V/m). Computed magnetic field strength (mA/m). Computed power density ( $mW/m^2$ ). Computed power density ( $\mu W/cm^2$ ).

Press "xyz" this key to change sensor axis selector:

"All axis" → "X axis" → "Y axis" → "Z axis".

### **3 Fundamentals**

#### **Electromagnetic pollution**

This meter is used to indicate electromagnetic pollution generated artificially. Wherever there is a voltage or a current, electric (E) and magnetic (H) fields arise. All types of radio broadcasting and TV transmitters produce electromagnetic fields, and they also arise in industry, business and the home, where they affect us even if our sense organs perceive nothing.

#### **4 Electric field strength (E)**

A field vector quantity that represents the force (F) on an infinitesimal unit positive test charge (q) at a point divided by that charge. Electric field strength is expressed in units of volts per meter (mV/m). This meter measures electric field strength directly.

#### **4.1 Magnetic field strength (H)**

A field vector that is equal to the magnetic flux density divided by the permeability of the medium. Magnetic field strength is expressed in units of amperes per meter (A/m). In far field situations, one can

calculate the magnetic field for the electric field value. This meter can display the calculated magnetic field strength.

#### **4.2 Power density (S)**

Power per unit area normal to the direction of propagation, usually expressed in units of watts per square meter ( $W/m^2$ ) or, for convenience, units such as mill watts per square centimeter ( $mW/cm^2$ )

#### **4.3 The characteristic of electromagnetic fields**

Electromagnetic fields propagate as waves and travel at the speed of light (C). The wavelength is proportional to the frequency.

$$\lambda \text{ (wavelength)} = C \text{ (speed of light)} / f \text{ (frequency)}$$

If the distance to the field source is less than three wavelengths, then we are usually in the near field. If the distance is more than three wavelengths, the far-field conditions usually hold.

In near field conditions, the magnetic field value cannot be calculated from the electric field value. This meter is designed for reliable far field measurements only.


**5 Application**

- Quite often routine, maintenance and service work has to be done in areas where active electromagnetic fields are present, e.g. in broadcasting stations, etc. Additionally, other employees may be exposed to electromagnetic radiation. In such cases, it is essential that personnel be not exposed to dangerous levels of electromagnetic radiation, such as:
  - High frequency (RF) electromagnetic wave field strength measurement.
  - Mobile phone base station antenna radiation power density measurement.
  - Wireless communication applications (CW, TDMA, GSM, DECT).
  - RF power measurement for transmitters.
  - Wireless LAN (Wi-Fi) detection, installation.
  - Spy camera, wireless bug finder.
  - Cellular /Cordless phone radiation safety level.
  - Microwave oven leakage detection.
  - Personal living environment EMF safety.

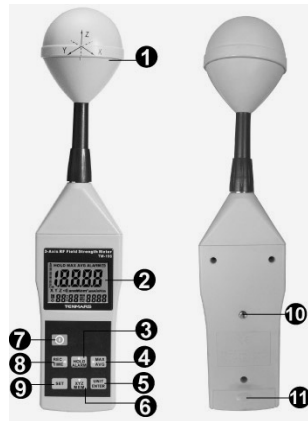


**6 Features**

- The meter is a broadband device for monitoring high- frequency radiation in the range from 10MHz to 8GHz
- The non-directional electric field antenna and high sensitivity also allow measurements of electric field strength in TEM cells and absorber rooms.
- The unit of measurement and the measurement types have been selected to expressed in units of electrical and magnetic field strength and power density.
- At high frequencies, the power density is of particular significance. It provides a measure of the power absorbed by a person exposed to the field. This power level must be kept as low as possible at high frequencies.
- The meter can be set to display the instantaneous value, the maximum value measured or the average value. Instantaneous and maximum value measurements are useful for orientation, e.g. when first entering an exposed area.

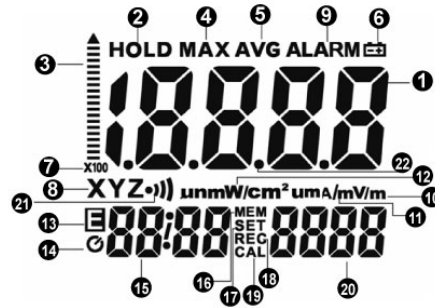
- For isotropic measurements of electromagnetic fields.
- Non-directional (isotropic) measurement with three-channel measurement sensor.
- High dynamic range due to three-channel digital results processing.
- Configurable alarm threshold and memory function.
- Easy & safe to use
- Low battery detector “”.
- Manual data memory storing: 200 data sets.
- Memory Over load indication “OL”.

**7 Identifying Parts**



1. RF three-Axis Sensor.
2. Liquid-crystal LCD.
3. Hold /ALARM / Up Button.
4. MAX / AVG/ Right Button.
5. UNIT / ENTER Button.
6. XYZ / MEM / Down Button.
7. Power Button.
8. REC/ time / Leftward Button.
9. SET Button.
10. Tripod mounting screw.
11. Battery Cover.

8 LCD Description



- |   |                               |
|---|-------------------------------|
| 1. Primary Display                              | 15. Time unit<br>(month: day) |
| 2. Hold symbol                                  | (hour: minute)                |
| 3. Analogue bar graph                           | (second)                      |
| 4. MAX symbol                                   | 16. MEM reading<br>symbol     |
| 5. AVG symbol                                   | 17. SET symbol                |
| 6. Low battery symbol                           | 18. REC symbol                |
| 7. x1x10x100 unit                               | 19. CAL symbol                |
| 8. X.Y.Z unit                                   | 20. Secondary<br>Display      |
| 9. ALARM sound                                  | 21. BUZZER symbol             |
| 10. mV/m, V/m (E)                               | 22. Decimal point             |
| 11. $\mu\text{A/m}$ , A/m unit (H)              |                               |
| 12. $\mu\text{W/m}^2$ , $\mu\text{W/cm}^2$ unit |                               |
| 13. E Symbol                                    |                               |
| 14. Auto power off symbol                       |                               |

**9 Specifications****9.1 General specifications**

- Display type: Liquid-crystal (LCD), 4-1/2 digits maximum reading 19999.
- Measurement method : Digital, Tri axis measurement.
- Directional characteristic: Isotropic, Tri axis.
- Measurement range selection: one continuous range.
- Display resolution : Display resolution:0.1mV/m, 0.01V/m, 0.1 $\mu$ A/m, 0.1mA/m,0.001 $\mu$ W/ m<sup>2</sup>, 0.01mW/ m<sup>2</sup>, 0.001 $\mu$ W/cm<sup>2</sup>
- Setting time: typically 1.5s (0 to 90% measurement value.)
- Sample rate: 1.5 times per second.
- Sample rate: 3 times per second.
- Audible alarm: Buzzer.
- Units: mV/m, V/m,  $\mu$ A/m, mA/m,  $\mu$ W/m<sup>2</sup>, mW/m<sup>2</sup>,  $\mu$ W/cm<sup>2</sup>
- Display value: Instantaneous measured value, maximum value, average value, or maximum average value.
- Alarm function : adjustable threshold with ON / OFF

- Calibration factor CAL: adjustable
- Manual data memory and read storage: 200 data sets.
- Batteries : 9V NEDA 1604, IEC 6F22 or JIS 006P
- Battery life: Approximate 15 hours.
- Auto power off: Default time 15 minutes. Adjustable threshold 0~99 minutes.
- Operating temperature range: 0°C to +50°C.
- Operating humidity range : 25% to 75 % RH
- Storage temperatures range: -10°C to +60°C.
- Storage humidity range: 0% to 80% RH.
- Dimensions: 370 (L)x80(W)x80(H) mm.
- Weight (including battery): Approx.400g.
- Accessories: User's manual, 9V battery, Carrying case.

**EMC**

This tester was designed in accordance with EMC Standards in force and its compatibility has been tested in accordance with EN61326-1 (2006).

**9.2 Electrical specifications**

- Unless otherwise stated, the following specifications hold under the following conditions:
- The meter is located in the far field of a source; the sensor head is pointed towards the source.
- Ambient temperature:  $+23\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C} \pm 3\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ .
- Relative air humidity 25%~75%
- Sensor type: electrical field (E).
- Frequency range: 10MHz ~ 8 GHz.
- Specified measurement range:  
CW signal ( $f > 50\text{MHz}$ ): 38mV/m to 11.00 V/m, 53.0uA/m to 28.64mA/m  
0.1uA/m<sup>2</sup> to 309.3mW/m<sup>2</sup>, 0uW/cm<sup>2</sup> to 30.93mW/cm<sup>2</sup>
- Dynamic range: Typically 75dB
- Absolute error at 1V/m and 2.45GHz:  $\pm 1.0\text{ dB}$ .
- Frequency response:  
Sensor taking into Account the typical CAL factor:  
 $\pm 2.4\text{dB}$ (50 MHz to 1.9 GHz , 3.5 GHz to 8GHz).  
 $\pm 1.0\text{dB}$ (1.9 GHz to 3.5GHz).
- Isotropy deviation: Typically  $\pm 1.0\text{ dB}$  (2.45GHz).

- Overload limit:  $0.083 \text{ mW/cm}^2$ , ( $17.7 \text{ V/m}$ ) per axis.
- Overload limit: (0 to  $50^\circ\text{C}$ ):  $\pm 0.2\text{dB}$ .

### **9.3 Units of measurement**

The meter measures the electrical component of the field; the default units are those of electrical field strength ( $\text{mV/m}$  or  $\text{V/m}$ ). The meter converts the measurement values to the other units of measurement, i.e. the corresponding magnetic field strength units ( $\mu\text{A/m}$  or  $\text{mA/m}$ ) and power density units ( $\mu\text{W/m}^2$ ,  $\text{mW/m}^2$  or  $\mu\text{W/cm}^2$ ) using the standard far-field formulae for electromagnetic radiation.

The conversion is invalid for near-field measurements, as there is no generally valid relationship between electrical and magnetic field strength in this situation. Always use the default units of the sensor when making near-field measurements.

### **9.4 Result modes**

The bar graph display always shows the instantaneous measured dynamic range value. The digital display shows the result



according to one of three modes, which can be selected.

**Instantaneous:** The display shows the last value measured value measured by the sensor, no symbol is displayed.

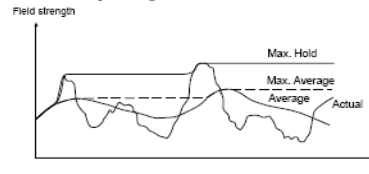
**Maximum instantaneous (MAX):**

The digital display shows the highest instantaneous value measured, the "MAX" symbol is displayed.

**Average (AVG):** The digital display shows the average value measured, the "AVG" symbol is displayed.


Instantaneous mode is the default setting when the meter is turned on. The following graph shows of Instantaneous (actual), MAX (hold), AVG and

● **MAX/AVG:**




**Measurement Procedures and Preparation**


Battery loading: Remove the battery cover

on the back and put a 9V battery inside.  
Battery replacement: When the symbol of  appears on the LCD display, the battery should be replaced with a new one.


The battery symbol will be displayed on the LCD, this is a battery low indicator.


### 9.5 POWER key :

Press  key turn ON the meter.

Press  key again to turn power OFF.

### 9.6 Data hold key:

Press the  key to go into hold mode, and "HOLD" appears on the screen to allow you to read the data.

Press  this key once again to deactivate it.



**9.7 Units key:**

Change units with the "UNITS" key as follows  
 Electric field strength (V/m)  
 Computed magnetic field strength (mA/m).  
 Computed power density (mW/m<sup>2</sup>).  
 Computed power density (μW/cm<sup>2</sup>).  
 Press "UNIT ENTER" key to change the units:  
 mV/m, V/m, μA/m, mA/m, μW/m<sup>2</sup>, mW/m<sup>2</sup>, μW/cm<sup>2</sup>



**9.8 MAX / AVG Record:**

Press "MAX AVG" key to switch to the next display. The display switches from MAX to AVG to MAX/AVG and back to MAX.




Press and hold "MAX AVG" key for 3 seconds to disable this function.

The maximum storage is up to 99 minutes and 99 seconds

After this period of time, updating will be completed automatically and then the LCD

displays .


### 9.9 Manual data memory storing

Press " key, the meter will save the current measured result, and REC with a number 001~200 will appear.

Manual data memory Storing: 200 data sets. Over load Indication: "OL".





  


### 9.10 XYZ/CALL:

Press " this key to change sensor axis selector : " All axis " → " X axis " → " Y axis " → " Z axis " .






### 9.11 Alarm ON/OFF Setup

Press hold " and " key to switch the alarm function on The "ALARM" symbols in the display indicates that the alarm function is on. Press hold " and " key to turn off the alarm

function. When the Alarm is ON, the display shows .






### 9.11.1 Viewing Data Records


Press hold " " key and press " " key to view the saved data records Use " " or " " key to see the next or previous records Press " " key to close the setup, exit the mode.




### 9.12 Cancel the automatic power off/on :



The default setting is auto power-off, the time is set for 15 minutes.

Press hold " " key and press " " key to disable the automatic power-off, the symbol of  will be disappeared on the LCD display.

Press hold " " key and " " key again to enable the automatic power-on,

the symbol of  will be appeared on the LCD display.

### 9.13 Clock LCD Display


Press hold "" key and press "" key for more than seconds to select the display method of the Year, Month, Date, hour and Second.


This meter's clock uses 24 hour time setting.


Default time mode setting is "2010/01/07 00: 02" ":00".



### 10 Setup Mode

Press hold "" key first and "" button to enter the Setup Mode.

Press "" key to change setup function. (Setup function see Note1)

Push "" key to save setup data

Note1: you can set up 6 different functions in setup mode Clock Setup

- setup 1 : Setting the alarm limit value (ALARM)
- setup 2 : Clear data logger memory

- setup 3 : Analogue bar graph  
X1.X10.X100
- setup 4 : Auto Power Off Time
- setup 5 : Setting the calibration factor  
(CAL)

### 10.1 Clock Setup-1

Press hold "I" key first and "SET" key to enter the Setup Mode.

Press "HOLD ALARM" or "XYZ MEM" key to select option adjust.

Press "REC TIME" or "MAX AVG" key to change the date and time (hour→day→month→year→minute).

Press "UNIT ENTER" key to save and exit.

This meter clock is 24 hour time setting.

Date/Time default Format : 2009/12/21

12:12.

Year Format: 2000~2099 display as 00 ~ 99.



1231 1231 1231  
08:38<sup>SET</sup> 2009 08:38<sup>SET</sup> 2009 09:38<sup>SET</sup> 2009

1221 1221 1221

09:38<sup>SET</sup> 2009 09:38<sup>SET</sup> 2009 09:38<sup>SET</sup> 2009

## 10.2 Setting the alarm limit value (ALARM)-2

The alarm limit value is used to monitor the display value automatically. It controls the alarm indication function. The alarm limit value can be edited in the displayed V/m unit. The ALARM setting range is from 0.001 to 999.9V/m. ALARM default is set at 999.9V/m.

Alarm limit function is only used for total three axial value Comparator.

Press hold "i" key first and "SET" key to enter the Setup Mode.

Press "SET" key again to enter the alarm setting mode.

Press "MAX AVG" key to move decimal.

Press "REC TIME" key to select the desired setting value.

Press "HOLD ALARM" key and "XYZ MEM" key to change digit.





Press "REC TIME" key to select the value.



Press "UNIT ENTER" key to store the new setting value and exit.

**10.3 DEL data logger memory setup-3**

Press hold "I" key first and "SET" key to enter the Setup Mode.

Press "SET" key twice to enter the default

display "no", Press "XYZ MEM" or "HOLD ALARM" key to select "yes".

Press "UNIT ENTER" key to delete the memory and exit.

Press "XYZ MEM" or "HOLD ALARM" key to



select "000" and then press "UNIT ENTER" to keep the memory and exit.

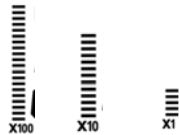
#### 10.4 Analogue bar graphsetup-4

Press hold "I" key first and "SET" key to enter the Setup Mode.

Press "SET" key for three times to enter the analogue bar graph setting mode.

The "graph" unit is flashing displayed X1 、 X10 、 X100.


Press "HOLD ALARM" or "XYZ MEM" key to select the value X1 、 X10 、 X100 .



Press "UNIT ENTER" key to save and exit.

#### 10.5 Auto Power Off Time function setup-5

Press hold "I" key first and "SET" key to enter the Setup Mode.

Press " **SET** " key for four times, the symbol  is displayed. The auto power off time default setting is 15 minutes.

Press " **HOLD ALARM** " and " **XYZ MEM** " key to change the: 00~:99 minutes.

Press " **UNIT ENTER** " key to save and exit.  
 :00 → Auto power off disable.  
 :99 → Maximum auto power off time

 : **15**<sup>SET</sup>  : **99**<sup>SET</sup>

## 10.6 Setting the calibration factor (CAL)-6

Press hold " **I** " key first and " **SET** " key to enter the Setup Mode.

Press " **SET** " key for five times to display

**00**

the " CAL SET " the default factor ... .

The CAL setting range is from 0.10 to 9.99.

**0.10 ~ 9.99**

Press "HOLD ALARM" or "XYZ MEM" key to select the value.

Press "REC TIME" or "MAX AVG" key to select the digits.

Press "UNIT ENTER" key to save and exit.

### **11 Calibration factor is important for the measurements:**

The calibration factor CAL serves to calibrate the result display. The field strength value measured internally is multiplied by the value of CAL that has been entered and the resulting value is displayed. The CAL setting range is from 0.10 to 9.99.

The CAL factor is often used as a means of entering the sensitivity of the field sensor in terms of its frequency response in order to improve measurement accuracy.

The following effect will be noted with all field strength meters:

- If the sensor is moved quickly, excessive field strength values could be displayed. This effect is caused by

electrostatic charges.

- Recommendation: hold the meter steady during the measurement.

#### **11.1 Short-term measurements:**

**Application** : Use either the “instantaneous” or the “Max .instantaneous” mode, if the characteristics and orientation of the field are unknown when entering an area exposed to electromagnetic radiation.

#### **11.2 Short-term measurements**

**Procedure** : Hold the meter at arm’s length.

Make several measurements at various locations around your work place or the interested areas as described above. This is particularly important is the field conditions are unknown.

Pay special attention to measuring the vicinity of possible radiation sources.

Apart from active sources, those components connected to a source may also act as radiators. For example, the cables used in diathermy equipment may also radiate electromagnetic energy. Note



that metallic objects within the field may locally concentrate or amplify the field from a distant source.

### 11.3 Long-term exposure measurements

**Location** : Place the meter between yourself and the suspected source of radiation. Make measurements at those points where parts of your body are nearest to the source of radiation.

**Note** : Use the “Average” or “Max average” modes only when the instantaneous measurement values are fluctuating greatly. You may fix the meter to a wooden or plastic tripod.

## 12 Battery replacement

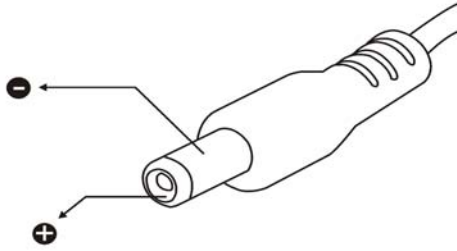
	<b>waring</b>
	If the symbol “  ” appears on the LCD, please replace the battery immediately

- Turn off the instrument.
- Remove the battery cover
- Replace the battery.
- Install the battery cover.



### 13 External DC Power

- External AC to DC adapter: Voltage 9VDC(8~14VDCMax)
- Supply current : > 300mADC
- Socket : pin Positive, Ground Casing External
- Diameter 6.3mm; internal Diameter 2.0 mm




**14 Safety Precaution**

- For cleaning the instrument use a soft dry cloth. Never use a wet cloth, solvents or water, etc.
- Operation Altitude : Up to 2000M.
- Operating Environment : Indoors use.  
This instrument has been designed for being used in an environment of pollution degree 2.



**15 SAFETY INFORMATION****CAUTION**

Before making a measurement, check if the low battery symbol"

 " is shown on the display as soon as the meter is switched on. Change the battery if the symbol is displayed.

In the case of prolonged storage, it is preferable to remove the battery from the meter.

Avoid shaking the meter, particularly in the measurement mode.

The specified limits outside and improper handling may adversely affect the accuracy and function of the meter.

## 16 SAFETY INFORMATION

**DANGER**

In some cases, work in the vicinity of powerful radiation sources can be a risk of your life.

Be aware that persons with electronic implants (e.g. cardiac pacemakers) are subject to particular dangers in some cases. Observe the local safety regulations of the facility operation.

Observe the operating instructions for equipment, which is used to generate, conduct, or consumer electromagnetic energy.

Be aware that secondary radiators (e.g. reflective objects such as a metallic fence) can cause a local amplification of the field.

Be aware that the field strength in the near vicinity of radiators increases proportionally to the inverse cube of the distance. This means that enormous field strengths can result in the immediate vicinity of small radiation sources (e.g. leak in wave guides, inductive ovens)

Field strength measuring device can underrate pulsed signals.

Particularly with radar signals, significant measurement errors can arise.

All field strength measuring devices have a limited specified frequency range. Fields with spectral components outside of this frequency range are generally

	incorrectly evaluated and tend to be underrated. Before using field strength measuring devices, you should thus be certain that all field components to be measured lie in the specified frequency range of the measuring device.
--	---

### 17 End of life



**Caution** : this symbol indicates that equipment and its accessories shall be subject to a separate collection and correct disposal

**TENMARS**



**Professional Electrical and  
Environment Test & Measurement  
Instruments:**

LED light meter, Temperature & Humidity meter,  
Infrared Thermometer, Sound level meter  
Light meter, EMF meter, UV Light meter,  
RF meter, Hot wire Anemometer, Co meter  
Anemometer, Lan cable tester, Co2 meter,  
Solar power meter, Radiation meter,  
Clamp meter, Multimeter, Phase Rotation test,  
Digital Insulation tester

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well all over the world**

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[http : //www.tenmars.com](http://www.tenmars.com)