

## CABLE PRESSURE SYSTEMS

### CORRECTION OF PRESSURE MEASUREMENTS

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**1. GENERAL**

**1.01** This section describes the procedures required for converting cable pressure measurements from gauge pressure, as indicated by measuring with a C pressure gauge, to an equivalent value at a nominal temperature (60°F) and an absolute pressure. Absolute pressure (psia) is the sum of the gauge pressure and the atmospheric pressure in pounds per square inch (psi). This conversion

is necessary when plotting pressure measurements for the purpose of locating leaks in pressurized cables.

**1.02** This section is issued to consolidate and update information previously covered in Sections 637-400-011, -501, -502, and -503.

**1.03** Generally, pressure measurements are made and compared with previous measurements which may have been taken under different conditions. When an accurate comparison is necessary, the readings must be corrected for the effect of changes in temperature, atmospheric pressure, and altitude.

**1.04** In order to understand under what conditions pressure measurement corrections are required and how they are made, the following fundamentals should be understood thoroughly:

- Effect of temperature
- Effect of atmospheric pressure
- Effect of altitude.

**2. TEMPERATURE**

**EFFECT OF TEMPERATURE**

**2.01** When the temperature of air or other gases increase, they tend to expand and take up more space. Since the space inside a cable is fixed, the air cannot take up more space; therefore, the pressure increases with rising temperature and decreases with falling temperature.

**2.02** If the temperature does not change uniformly throughout the entire length of a cable, the pressure change will not be uniform and there will be a movement of air from the section of cable at the higher temperature toward the section at the lower temperature. This movement will stop only when temperature changes cease and pressure

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in the entire length of cable is equalized. In any section of pressurized cable, the average temperature change determines the average pressure change.

**2.03** The pressures in cables maintained at 6 to 9 psi vary from 0.15 to 0.30 psi for each 5-degree change in temperature. Consequently, pressures measured at different temperatures first must be converted to their equivalent values at a reference temperature before they can be compared directly. This usually is done by converting all pressure readings to their equivalent values at 60°F. The value of 60°F is selected as a reference value because it is approximately the middle of the temperature range normally encountered. It is specified as the reference temperature for normal cable maintenance and contactor operating pressures.

#### MEASUREMENT OF TEMPERATURE

**2.04** For pressure testing purposes, temperature is determined by measuring the ambient or ground temperature, using a thermometer having a range of 0° to 150°F. When measuring temperature, the thermometer should not be held in the hand. Approximately 5 minutes should be allowed for the thermometer to record the correct temperature.

**2.05** When measuring the temperature of cable on reels, loading coil cases, etc, located in the sun, the thermometer should be on the sunny side, with its tube facing the sun. If they are in the rain, the thermometer is placed so that the rain strikes it directly. If they have recently been moved, allow sufficient time to permit the material to reach ambient temperature before making temperature measurements.

**2.06** For aerial cable, temperature measurements are made at each point where a pressure reading is made. If the sun is shining, suspend the thermometer from the cable or a pole so that the tube is in and facing the sun (whether the pressure measuring point is in the sun or shade). If the sun is not shining, face the tube in the general direction of where the sun should be at that time of day; if raining, place the thermometer where the rain strikes it directly.

**2.07** When temperature measurements are required for underground cable in conduit or buried cable, generally, they need to be made at only a few valve points. On individual reel lengths after placing and loading sections during construction of

a cable, a temperature measurement at one point is sufficient. For tests on completed cable sections, temperature measurements can be made at valve locations at intervals of 12,000 to 18,000 feet.

**2.08** To measure the temperature of underground cable, fasten the thermometer to a duct rod and insert it 6 to 9 feet inside the duct containing the cable to be measured. If the conduit is filled with water or there is no room to insert the duct rod, suspend the thermometer in the manhole at approximately the same level as the cable.

**2.09** Temperature measurements on buried cable can be made by inserting the thermometer in a hole (1 to 2 feet in depth) formed by driving a rod or bar into the ground approximately 10 feet to the side of the cable run. Suspend the thermometer in the hole for approximately 5 minutes, then withdraw and observe its reading.

**2.10 Nitrogen Cylinders:** When measuring the temperature of a nitrogen cylinder, the thermometer should be placed in a vertical position alongside the cylinder. If the cylinder is in the sun, place the thermometer on the sunny side with its tube facing the sun. If the cylinder is in the rain, the thermometer should be placed so the rain strikes it directly. Recently moved cylinders should be allowed time to adjust to temperature at the new location before measurement is made.

#### TEMPERATURE CORRECTIONS

**2.11** Temperature correction *is required* when pressure measurements are made for the following purposes:

- (a) Determining rate of air loss in a cable section, in a reel of cable, or in some piece of equipment not connected to a cable, such as a load coil case. This is necessary because two sets of measurements are to be compared, and the effect of temperature should be taken into account to permit direct comparison of the readings.
- (b) Adjusting cable pressure monitoring devices.
- (c) Charging or recharging cables on reels, or during construction.
- (d) Determining the exact amount of gas in a cylinder. Day-to-day operations do not

require that the exact amount of gas in a cylinder be known; but certain special tests, such as determining pneumatic resistances, may require this information.

**2.12** Temperature corrections *are not necessary* when pressure measurements are taken simultaneously or within a relatively short period of time. In fact, any attempt to compensate for

temperature is likely to reduce the accuracy of the pressure measurements.

**A. Correction for Cable Temperature**

**2.13** Measured cable pressures can be converted to their equivalent values at 60°F, or to any other temperature by use of Table A.

TABLE A

CABLE TEMP. DEGREES F.	EQUIVALENT GAUGE PRESSURES AT VARIOUS TEMPERATURES (ASSUMING NORMAL SEA-LEVEL ATMOSPHERIC PRESSURE OF 30 INCHES MERCURY OR 15 POUNDS PRESSURE ) PRESSURE IN CABLE - POUNDS PER SQUARE INCH												
110	4.7	5.8	6.9	8.0	9.1	10.2	11.3	12.4	13.5	14.6	15.7	16.8	
105	4.5	5.6	6.7	7.8	8.9	10.0	11.1	12.1	13.2	14.3	15.4	16.5	
100	4.4	5.4	6.5	7.6	8.7	9.7	10.8	11.9	13.0	14.1	15.1	16.2	
95	4.2	5.3	6.3	7.4	8.5	9.5	10.6	11.7	12.7	13.8	14.9	15.9	
90	4.0	5.1	6.1	7.2	8.3	9.3	10.4	11.4	12.5	13.5	14.6	15.7	
85	3.9	4.9	5.9	7.0	8.0	9.1	10.1	11.2	12.2	13.3	14.3	15.4	
80	3.7	4.7	5.8	6.8	7.8	8.9	9.9	11.0	12.0	13.0	14.1	15.1	
75	3.5	4.5	5.6	6.6	7.6	8.7	9.7	10.7	11.7	12.8	13.8	14.8	
70	3.3	4.4	5.4	6.4	7.4	8.4	9.5	10.5	11.5	12.5	13.5	14.6	
65	3.2	4.2	5.2	6.2	7.2	8.2	9.2	10.2	11.2	12.3	13.3	14.3	
60	3.0	4.0	5.0	6.0	7.0	8.0	9.0	10.0	11.0	12.0	13.0	14.0	
55	2.8	3.8	4.8	5.8	6.8	7.8	8.8	9.8	10.8	11.7	12.7	13.7	
50	2.7	3.6	4.6	5.6	6.6	7.6	8.5	9.5	10.5	11.5	12.5	13.4	
45	2.5	3.5	4.4	5.4	6.4	7.3	8.3	9.3	10.3	11.2	12.2	13.2	
40	2.3	3.3	4.2	5.2	6.2	7.1	8.1	9.0	10.0	11.0	11.9	12.9	
35	2.1	3.1	4.1	5.0	6.0	6.9	7.9	8.8	9.8	10.7	11.7	12.6	
30	2.0	2.9	3.9	4.8	5.7	6.7	7.6	8.6	9.5	10.5	11.4	12.3	
25	1.8	2.7	3.7	4.6	5.5	6.5	7.4	8.3	9.3	10.2	11.1	12.1	
20	1.6	2.6	3.5	4.4	5.3	6.3	7.2	8.1	9.0	9.9	10.9	11.8	
15	1.5	2.4	3.3	4.2	5.1	6.0	7.0	7.9	8.8	9.7	10.6	11.5	
10	1.3	2.2	3.1	4.0	4.9	5.8	6.7	7.6	8.5	9.4	10.3	11.2	
5	1.1	2.0	2.9	3.8	4.7	5.6	6.5	7.4	8.3	9.2	10.1	11.0	
0	1.0	1.8	2.7	3.6	4.5	5.4	6.3	7.1	8.0	8.9	9.8	10.7	
-5	0.8	1.7	2.5	3.4	4.3	5.2	6.0	6.9	7.8	8.7	9.5	10.4	
-10	0.6	1.5	2.3	3.2	4.1	4.9	5.8	6.7	7.5	8.4	9.3	10.1	

**2.14** Table A graduations are based on the variation of absolute pressure with temperature, but are expressed in terms of average gauge pressure at sea level. An error results when this table is used to convert pressure readings taken at higher elevations. However, the error introduced is small (less than 0.1 psi) and may be neglected in ordinary pressure maintenance operations requiring temperature correction.

**B. Correction for Cylinder Temperature**

**2.15** The pressure of gas in a cylinder varies with changing temperature. Cylinder pressure is indicated by the high-pressure gauge of the regulator. This gauge is calibrated to indicate the volume of gas contained in the cylinder, equivalent cubic feet of gas at sea-level pressure and 60°F. Readings taken at other cylinder temperatures are in error (readings increase with rising temperature).

**2.16** At temperatures other than 60°F, indicated volumes on the high-pressure gauge of the regulator can be converted to equivalent volumes at 60°F by the use of Table B.

**3. ATMOSPHERIC PRESSURE**

**EFFECT OF ATMOSPHERIC PRESSURE**

**3.01** Atmospheric pressure is measured with a barometer and is expressed in inches of mercury. Atmospheric pressure at sea level is approximately 30 inches of mercury, which is equivalent to approximately 15 psi. A variation of 1 inch of mercury is equivalent to a change of 0.50 psi in atmospheric pressure.

**3.02** Changes in weather conditions may result in atmospheric pressure variations of 0.1 inch of mercury or 0.05 psi change in a period of 1 hour. Barometric pressure at a given location may vary by 1 inch of mercury from day to day and by more than 2 inches of mercury over a period of

several days. Under storm conditions, the pressure may vary by the latter amount in a few hours.

**3.03** As changes in atmospheric pressure occur, the gauge pressure of a cable will vary accordingly. For example, a measurement of 6.5 psi taken when the barometer reads 30 inches is equivalent to a measurement of 7.0 psi when the barometer reads 29 inches. This is the reason that pressure measurements taken on consecutive days, although corrected for temperature variation, may appear to show that a cable has gained pressure. Operating in the reverse direction, this effect exaggerates pressure losses. Before pressure readings (taken under different atmospheric conditions) can be compared, they must be converted to their equivalent values at a common atmospheric pressure.

**3.04** The normal atmospheric pressure of 30 inches of mercury at sea level is due to the weight of the layer of air which envelopes the earth. At elevations above sea level there is less air overhead, and therefore less atmospheric pressure. Atmospheric pressure decreases approximately 1 inch of mercury for each 1000 feet increase in altitude. Normal weather changes produce about the same atmospheric pressure variations at higher altitudes as at sea level.

**3.05** Barometers are equipped with movable scales graduated to read from approximately 27 to 31 inches of mercury. Regardless of the altitude, the 30-inch graduation generally is adjusted to correspond to the normal atmospheric pressure at the location of the barometer. U. S. Weather Bureau Stations are prepared to furnish barometric readings adjusted to the 30-inch (sea-level) base.

**3.06** Atmospheric pressure variations caused by weather conditions can be compensated for by converting all pressure readings to their equivalent values under normal atmospheric pressure of 30 inches of mercury (sea-level base). It is specified as the reference atmospheric pressure for normal cable maintenance and contactor operating pressures.

TABLE B

TEMP. DEG. F.	EQUIVALENT VOLUME OF GAS IN 220 CUBIC FOOT CYLINDER CUBIC FEET AT NORMAL SEA-LEVEL ATMOSPHERIC PRESSURE AND 60°F.																				TEMP. DEG. F.		
125	34	46	57	68	80	91	103	115	126	138	149	161	173	185	196	208	220	2230	2340	2460	2530	2590	125
120	34	45	56	67	79	90	102	113	125	137	148	159	171	183	194	206	217	2200	2310	2440	2500	2560	120
115	34	45	56	67	78	90	101	112	124	136	147	158	170	181	192	204	215	2180	2290	2410	2470	2530	115
110	33	44	55	66	78	89	100	111	122	134	145	156	168	179	190	201	213	224	2270	2380	2440	2510	110
105	33	44	55	66	77	88	99	110	121	133	144	155	166	177	188	199	211	222	2240	2360	2420	2480	105
100	33	44	54	65	76	87	98	109	120	131	142	153	164	176	186	197	208	220	2220	2330	2390	2450	100
95	32	43	53	64	76	86	97	108	119	130	141	151	163	174	184	195	206	217	2190	2300	2360	2420	95
90	32	43	53	64	75	85	96	107	118	129	139	149	161	172	182	193	204	215	225	2270	2330	2390	90
85	32	42	52	63	74	85	95	106	116	127	138	148	159	170	180	191	201	212	222	2250	2300	2360	85
80	31	42	52	63	73	84	94	105	115	126	136	146	157	168	178	189	199	210	220	2220	2270	2330	80
75	31	41	51	62	72	83	93	103	114	124	135	145	155	166	176	187	197	207	217	2200	2250	2300	75
70	31	41	51	61	71	82	92	102	112	123	133	143	154	164	174	185	195	205	215	225	2220	2280	70
65	30	40	50	61	71	81	91	101	111	121	131	141	152	162	172	182	192	203	213	223	2200	2250	65
60	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	110	120	130	140	150	160	170	180	190	200	210	220	225	2220	60
55	30	40	49	59	69	79	89	99	109	119	129	138	148	158	168	178	188	198	207	217	222	2190	55
50	29	39	49	59	69	78	88	98	107	117	127	137	146	156	166	176	185	195	205	215	220	225	50
45	29	39	48	58	68	77	87	97	106	116	126	135	145	154	164	174	183	193	202	212	217	222	45
40	29	38	48	57	67	77	86	95	105	115	124	133	143	152	162	171	181	190	199	209	214	219	40
35	28	38	47	57	66	76	85	94	104	113	122	132	141	150	159	169	179	188	197	207	211	216	35
30	28	37	47	56	65	75	84	93	102	112	121	130	139	148	157	167	176	185	194	204	209	213	30
25	28	37	46	55	65	74	83	92	101	110	119	129	138	147	155	165	174	183	192	201	206	210	25
20	27	36	46	55	64	73	82	91	100	109	118	127	136	145	153	162	171	180	189	198	203	207	20
15	27	36	45	54	63	72	81	89	99	108	116	125	134	143	151	160	169	178	187	195	200	204	15
10	27	36	45	53	62	71	80	88	97	106	115	123	132	141	149	158	167	175	184	193	197	201	10
5	26	35	44	53	62	70	79	87	96	105	113	121	130	139	147	156	164	173	181	190	194	198	5
0	26	35	43	52	61	69	78	86	95	103	111	120	129	137	145	153	162	170	179	187	191	195	0
+5	26	34	43	51	60	68	77	85	93	102	110	118	127	135	143	151	159	168	176	184	189	192	-5
-10	25	34	42	51	59	67	76	84	92	100	109	117	125	133	141	149	157	165	173	181	186	189	-10

Instructions:

\*2220 pounds, 60°F. = 230 cu ft

(1) Read across line representing measured cylinder temperature and determine column in which observed volume reading appears on that line. Then read vertically in column to line representing 60°F. cylinder temperature. True volume of atmospheric gas in cylinder appears in column opposite 60°F. temperature.

(2) The volume scale of the high pressure gauge does not extend above 225 cubic feet. To obtain volume readings above end of scale, observe cylinder pressure and read across line representing measured cylinder temperature to column in which observed pressure reading appears on that line. Then proceed

## MEASUREMENT OF ATMOSPHERIC PRESSURE

3.07 Barometer readings generally can be obtained from the nearest weather bureau or airport.

Where this is found impracticable, barometers may be installed at the test desk or at other offices. These local barometers should be adjusted to read in accordance with weather bureau and airport barometers.

3.08 A barometer reading should be obtained each day that pressure measurements are made, and as close to the time of the measurements as practicable. Where a series of pressure measurements is to be compared, all barometer readings used to correct such measurements should be obtained from the same source. Except during periods of rapidly changing weather, barometer readings from a particular source may be applied to correct pressure readings taken within 50 to 75 miles of that source.

## ATMOSPHERIC PRESSURE CORRECTIONS

3.09 Corrections for the effect of atmospheric pressure changes should be considered when making pressure measurements for the purpose of:

- (a) Determining rate of air loss
- (b) Adjusting cable pressure monitoring devices
- (c) Charging or recharging cables on reels, or during construction.

3.10 Pressure measurements made for the purpose of locating a leak generally are made within a short interval of time, during which little or no atmospheric pressure changes occur; and hence, no correction is necessary.

3.11 Measured pressures can be converted to their equivalent values in psi at normal barometric pressure of 30 inches of mercury as follows:

- (1) Calculate the difference between 30 inches and the barometer reading in inches of mercury.
- (2) Divide this difference by two (1 inch of mercury is equivalent to approximately 1/2 pound pressure).

(3) Add the value found in (2) to the *pressure reading* if the barometer reads more than 30 inches; subtract the value found in (2) if the barometer reading is less than 30 inches.

3.12 **Example:** Assume that pressure readings have been made to determine the rate of air loss in a cable section. The *first set of readings* was found to average 6.8 psi at 60°F, with a barometer reading of 29.6 inches. A *second set of readings*, taken 10 days later, indicates an average pressure of 6.4 psi at 60°F, with a barometer reading of 30.2 inches.

(1) First, convert the average pressure found for the *first set of readings* to normal barometric pressure. Subtract 29.6 inches from the normal 30.0 inches and divide this value by two to find:

$$\frac{30.0 - 29.6}{2} = 0.2 \text{ psi.}$$

(2) Since the barometer reading was *less* than 30 inches, subtract the value found in (1) from the average pressure reading:

$$6.8 - 0.2 = 6.6 \text{ psi.}$$

(3) Next, convert the average pressure found for the *second set of readings* to normal barometric pressure. Subtract the normal 30.0 from 30.2 and divide this value by two to find:

$$\frac{30.2 - 30.0}{2} = 0.1 \text{ psi.}$$

(4) Since the barometer reading was *greater* than 30 inches, add the value found in (3) to the average pressure reading:

$$6.4 + 0.1 = 6.5 \text{ psi.}$$

(5) The pressure loss in 10 days is:

$$6.6 - 6.5 = 0.1 \text{ psi.}$$

(6) The pressure loss in 30 days would be:

$$0.1 \left( \frac{30}{10} \right) = 0.3 \text{ psi.}$$

**3.13** If correction for variation in atmospheric pressure had been omitted in the example given in 3.12, the computed loss would have been:

$$6.8 - 6.4 = 0.4 \text{ psi (10-day period)}$$

$$0.4 \left( \frac{30}{10} \right) = 1.2 \text{ psi (30-day period).}$$

#### 4. ALTITUDE

##### EFFECT OF ALTITUDE

**4.01** As stated previously, normal atmospheric pressure at sea level is equal to 30 inches of mercury or approximately 15 psi and decreases approximately 1 inch of mercury or 0.50 psi for each 1000-foot increase in altitude. Thus, at 4000 feet above sea level, the normal atmospheric pressure is 26 inches of mercury, which is equivalent to approximately 13 psi.

**4.02** Gauge or manometer readings of a given absolute pressure will be influenced accordingly. For example, the gauge pressure of a reel of cable is measured as 6 psi at sea level. The cable is shipped to a point 3000 feet above sea level. On arrival, the gauge pressure (assuming no leakage and comparable temperature conditions) should measure 7.5 psi. In both cases, the absolute cable pressure is the same (21.0 psia). At sea level the normal atmospheric pressure is 15.0 psi.

$$15.0 \text{ psi} + 6.0 \text{ psi} = 21.0 \text{ psia.}$$

Whereas, at 3000 feet, it is

$$13.5 \text{ psi} + 7.5 \text{ psi} = 21.0 \text{ psia.}$$

**4.03** Consequently, pressure readings on a reel of cable, load coil case, etc, made at different altitudes must be converted to their equivalent values at a common altitude before they can be compared. This may be done by converting the

pressure readings to their equivalent value at sea level.

**4.04** Another factor must be taken into account when a **completed cable section** is placed, at considerably different altitudes, in mountainous country. In such cases, pressure measurements will read **higher** at the lower elevation than at the higher elevations due to the gravitational pull on the air inside the cable. For example, a buried cable charged to 9 psi will vary approximately 0.1 psi per 300-foot difference in elevation.

##### MEASUREMENT OF ALTITUDE

**4.05 Ordinary Measurements:** These measurements apply only in correcting pressure measurements taken with a C pressure gauge or a mercury manometer.

**4.06** In order that pressure measurements made at different elevations can be converted to their equivalent values at a common elevation, the elevation of all valve points in a cable section must be determined. In general, this should be done whenever there is a difference in elevation of approximately 150 feet or more between the highest and lowest valve points in the cable section.

**4.07** The elevation of each valve point should be determined to an accuracy of  $\pm 10$  feet by use of a surveyor level or hand level, or by other approved instruments such as precise altimeters.

**4.08** When determining elevation of a buried cable section in mountainous country, it is desirable to obtain the elevation of each cable marker along the route in addition to the elevation at valve points. These marker elevations are shown on the plant records for pressure maintenance purposes.

**4.09** When temporary valves are installed for leak location measurements, the elevations should be determined at that time. The known elevation of a regular valve point or marker can be used as the base and starting point of the survey.

**4.10** If the elevation of a regular valve point or marker is not known, an assumed elevation can be used as the base and starting point for the survey of elevations for leak location measurements.

**4.11 Precise Measurements:** These measurements apply only in correcting

pressure measurements taken with precision instruments that measure absolute pressures to the nearest 0.001 psi, such as the Type FA-176021 W. and T. manometer.

**4.12** When making precise measurements at different elevations, determine the elevation differences between the temporary valve points where measurements are made for leak location purposes. This is done whenever there is a difference in elevation of 1 foot or more between the lowest and highest valves at which pressure measurements are taken.

**4.13** The difference in elevations between each of the temporary valve points and the base valve (lowest valve point) must be determined to an accuracy of approximately 1 foot. These elevations are determined for each valve at the point where the precision instrument will be placed when the pressure measurement of that valve is taken. Elevations may be determined to the accuracy required by the use of a surveyor level, builder level, or suitable equivalent.

#### ALTITUDE CORRECTIONS

**4.14** Good judgment is necessary in order to determine when and to what extent altitude correction should be applied. Measurements generally are recorded to the nearest 0.1 psi when making routine readings and charging and recharging cables. In these cases, altitude correction should be made whenever there is a difference in elevation of about 150 feet or more between the highest and lowest pressure measuring points.

**4.15** Smaller differences in elevation will be significant in the location of a small leak in an underground or buried cable. When a mercury manometer or C pressure gauge is employed and accuracy to the nearest 0.01 psi is required, altitude correction should be applied for differences in elevation of 20 feet or more. Pressure measurements made with a W. and T. manometer, which provides accurate measurements to  $\pm 0.001$  psi, should be corrected for differences of 1 foot or more in elevation.

**4.16** No altitude correction is necessary when checking or adjusting the operating pressures of contactors. All contactors are set to operate at a fixed pressure above atmospheric pressure, regardless of altitude. However, it should be

recognized that the cable pressure will be less at the higher elevations of a cable section.

**4.17** Altitude correction is necessary when the pressure measurement(s) at one elevation are to be compared with a measurement(s) at a different elevation.

**4.18 *Ordinary Corrections:*** Pressure measurements made at different elevations may be converted to their equivalent values at a common elevation by the use of Table C.

**4.19** The altitude correction always should be based on the difference in elevation between the valve point where the pressure is measured and the elevation of the lowest valve point in the section of cable under test. The altitude correction is added to the pressure readings taken at valves above the base elevation to obtain the equivalent pressure at the base elevation. The reverse is true when determining the correct charging pressure to use at a charging valve above the base elevation of a section. In the latter case, the altitude correction is subtracted from the nominal charging pressure in order to obtain the proper regulator setting at that valve.

**4.20** The values of altitude correction given in Table C are based on cable pressure at 60°F and normal sea-level atmospheric pressure of 15.0 psi. The corrections will differ slightly at other cable temperatures and atmospheric pressures. For all practical purposes, the cable pressures given in Table C may be considered to be the measured cable pressures, regardless of cable temperature or atmospheric pressure.

**4.21 *Example:*** Assume that a small leak exists in a section of cable and that appreciable differences in altitude exist between the valve points which must be read to secure a gradient.

- (1) Prepare a table similar to Table D, and enter in columns 1, 2, and 3 the valve number, pressure at valve, and elevation of each valve, respectively.
- (2) Enter in column 4 the difference in elevation between the valves and the base elevation. (For convenience, valve number 6 was selected, since it has the lowest elevation—1590 feet.)



TABLE C

ALTITUDE CORRECTION (ADD TO PRESSURE MEASURED AT HIGHER VALVE POINT)										
DIFFERENCE IN ALTITUDE (FEET)	CABLE PRESSURE (PSI)									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.01	0.01	0.01
30	0	0	0	0	0	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
40	0	0	0	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
50	0	0	0	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.02
60	0	0	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.02
70	0	0	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02
80	0	0	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.03
90	0	0	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.03
100	0	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.03	0.03
200	0	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.04	0.05	0.05	0.06	0.07
300	0.01	0.02	0.03	0.04	0.05	0.06	0.07	0.08	0.09	0.10
400	0.01	0.02	0.04	0.05	0.06	0.08	0.09	0.10	0.12	0.13
500	0.01	0.03	0.04	0.06	0.08	0.10	0.11	0.13	0.15	0.17
600	0.01	0.03	0.05	0.07	0.10	0.12	0.14	0.16	0.18	0.20
700	0.01	0.04	0.06	0.09	0.11	0.14	0.16	0.18	0.21	0.23
800	0.01	0.04	0.07	0.10	0.13	0.15	0.18	0.21	0.24	0.27
900	0.02	0.05	0.08	0.11	0.14	0.17	0.21	0.24	0.27	0.30
1000	0.02	0.05	0.09	0.12	0.16	0.19	0.23	0.26	0.30	0.34

*Note:* Correction for differences in elevation greater than shown above may be obtained by adding the corrections for two or more of the differences in elevation to obtain the desired total.

(3) Enter in column 5 the altitude correction obtained from Table C by use of columns 2 and 4 of Table D. For example, the observed pressure at valve 1 is 8.00 psi and the altitude difference from the base is 190 feet. In Table C, the altitude correction for 8.00 psi at 100 feet is 0.03 psi, and at 90 feet, it is 0.02 psi, which gives a total of 0.05 psi. This total (0.05 psi) is entered in column 5 and then added to the observed pressure (column 2) to give a corrected pressure of 8.05 psi, which is entered in column 6. Corrections for the other values are obtained in a similar manner.

**4.22** When the observed pressure falls between two columns (Table C) and the difference in altitude correction in the two columns is 0.01 psi, use the correction value in the column which is nearest the pressure reading. For example, if the pressure reading is 7.40 psi and the difference in altitude from base is 300 feet, use 0.07 psi as the correction.

**4.23** When the observed pressure falls between two columns (Table C) and the difference in altitude correction in the two columns is 0.02 psi or greater, it is necessary to interpolate between

TABLE D

VALVE NO.	OBSERVED PRESSURE READING (PSI)	ELEVATION OF INSTRUMENT (FT)	DIFF. IN ALTITUDE FROM BASE* (FT)	ALTITUDE CORRECTION (PSI)	CORRECTED PRESSURE READING (PSI)
COL 1	COL 2	COL 3	COL 4	COL 5	COL 6
1	8.00	1780	190	0.05	8.05
2	7.74	1845	255	0.07	7.81
3	7.48	1775	185	0.04	7.52
4	7.48	1715	125	0.03	7.51
5	7.73	1660	70	0.02	7.75
6	8.05	1590	0	--	8.05

\*Base Elevation 1590 Feet

the two values to determine the altitude correction. For example, if the observed pressure is 8.50 psi and the difference in altitude from the base elevation is 500 feet, use an altitude correction of 0.14 psi because it is halfway between the values of 0.13 for 8 psi and 0.15 for 9 psi.

**4.24 Precise Corrections:** The elevation corrections for precise measurements given in Table E are for absolute pressure readings of 19.0 to 24.0 psia at cable temperatures of 30° to 101°F. By interpolation, correction values are determined for pressure readings to the closest 0.01 psia. This degree of accuracy will be sufficient for determining the altitude correction to be applied.

**4.25** Since the correction values in Table E are given in psia-per-foot elevation difference, these values must be multiplied by the difference in elevation before being added to the pressure readings to obtain the equivalent pressure at the base elevation.

**4.26 Example:** Assume that a pressure measurement of 23.128 psia taken at a cable temperature of 65°F is to be corrected for an

elevation difference of 4.7 feet above the base location (lowest valve point):

- (1) The 23.128 psia pressure reading is rounded off to the closest 0.01 psi, which is 23.13 psia.
- (2) For a cable temperature of 65°F, Table E shows a correction value of 0.000799 psi for a pressure of 23.1 psia, and 0.000802 psi for a pressure of 23.2 psia.
- (3) The correction value for the 23.13 psia is approximately one-third the difference of 0.000003, or 0.000001. Adding to 0.000799, we get 0.0008.
- (4) The 0.0008 then is multiplied by the elevation difference of 4.7 feet to obtain the total correction.  

$$0.0008 \times 4.7 = 0.00376 \text{ or } 0.004 \text{ psi.}$$
- (5) Add the 0.004 psi correction to the 23.128 psia measurement to obtain the equivalent pressure at the base elevation.  

$$23.128 + 0.004 = 23.132 \text{ psia (corrected absolute pressure measurement).}$$

TABLE E

ELEVATION CORRECTIONS FOR PRESSURE MEASUREMENTS

PRESSURE CORRECTION PER FT CHANGE IN ELEVATION

Cubic Temperature of °F

Absolute Pressure P.S.I.A	Cubic Temperature of °F																																						
	30°	31°	32°	33°	34°	35°	36°	37°	38°	39°	40°	41°	42°	43°	44°	45°	46°	47°	48°	49°	50°	51°	52°	53°	54°	55°	56°	57°	58°	59°	60°	61°	62°	63°	64°	65°			
13.4	004194	004202	004211	004220	004229	004238	004247	004256	004265	004274	004283	004292	004301	004310	004319	004328	004337	004346	004355	004364	004373	004382	004391	004400	004409	004418	004427	004436	004445	004454	004463	004472	004481	004490	004499	004508	004517		
13.5	107	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118	119	120	121	122	123	124	125	126	127	128	129	130	131	132	133	134	135	136	137	138	139	140	141	142	143	144	145
13.6	215	216	217	218	219	220	221	222	223	224	225	226	227	228	229	230	231	232	233	234	235	236	237	238	239	240	241	242	243	244	245	246	247	248	249	250	251	252	253
13.7	323	324	325	326	327	328	329	330	331	332	333	334	335	336	337	338	339	340	341	342	343	344	345	346	347	348	349	350	351	352	353	354	355	356	357	358	359	360	361
13.8	431	432	433	434	435	436	437	438	439	440	441	442	443	444	445	446	447	448	449	450	451	452	453	454	455	456	457	458	459	460	461	462	463	464	465	466	467	468	469
13.9	539	540	541	542	543	544	545	546	547	548	549	550	551	552	553	554	555	556	557	558	559	560	561	562	563	564	565	566	567	568	569	570	571	572	573	574	575	576	577
14.0	647	648	649	650	651	652	653	654	655	656	657	658	659	660	661	662	663	664	665	666	667	668	669	670	671	672	673	674	675	676	677	678	679	680	681	682	683	684	685
14.1	755	756	757	758	759	760	761	762	763	764	765	766	767	768	769	770	771	772	773	774	775	776	777	778	779	780	781	782	783	784	785	786	787	788	789	790	791	792	793
14.2	863	864	865	866	867	868	869	870	871	872	873	874	875	876	877	878	879	880	881	882	883	884	885	886	887	888	889	890	891	892	893	894	895	896	897	898	899	900	901
14.3	971	972	973	974	975	976	977	978	979	980	981	982	983	984	985	986	987	988	989	990	991	992	993	994	995	996	997	998	999	1000	1001	1002	1003	1004	1005	1006	1007	1008	1009

TABLE E (Cont)

ELEVATION CORRECTIONS FOR PNEUM MEASUREMENTS  
PRESSURE CORRECTION PER FT CHANGE IN ELEVATION

Cable Temperature of °F

Absolute Pressure P.S.I.A.	Cable Temperature of °F																																							
	65°	67°	68°	69°	70°	71°	72°	73°	74°	75°	76°	77°	78°	79°	80°	81°	82°	83°	84°	85°	86°	87°	88°	89°	90°	91°	92°	93°	94°	95°	96°	97°	98°	99°	100°	101°				
19.0	000656	000654	000653	000652	000651	000650	000649	000648	000647	000646	000645	000644	000643	000642	000641	000640	000639	000638	000637	000636	000635	000634	000633	000632	000631	000630	000629	000628	000627	000626	000625	000624	000623	000622	000621	000620	000619	000618		
19.1	000618	000617	000616	000615	000614	000613	000612	000611	000610	000609	000608	000607	000606	000605	000604	000603	000602	000601	000600	000599	000598	000597	000596	000595	000594	000593	000592	000591	000590	000589	000588	000587	000586	000585	000584	000583	000582	000581	000580	
19.2	000583	000582	000581	000580	000579	000578	000577	000576	000575	000574	000573	000572	000571	000570	000569	000568	000567	000566	000565	000564	000563	000562	000561	000560	000559	000558	000557	000556	000555	000554	000553	000552	000551	000550	000549	000548	000547	000546	000545	
19.3	000548	000547	000546	000545	000544	000543	000542	000541	000540	000539	000538	000537	000536	000535	000534	000533	000532	000531	000530	000529	000528	000527	000526	000525	000524	000523	000522	000521	000520	000519	000518	000517	000516	000515	000514	000513	000512	000511	000510	
19.4	000513	000512	000511	000510	000509	000508	000507	000506	000505	000504	000503	000502	000501	000500	000499	000498	000497	000496	000495	000494	000493	000492	000491	000490	000489	000488	000487	000486	000485	000484	000483	000482	000481	000480	000479	000478	000477	000476	000475	
19.5	000478	000477	000476	000475	000474	000473	000472	000471	000470	000469	000468	000467	000466	000465	000464	000463	000462	000461	000460	000459	000458	000457	000456	000455	000454	000453	000452	000451	000450	000449	000448	000447	000446	000445	000444	000443	000442	000441	000440	
19.6	000443	000442	000441	000440	000439	000438	000437	000436	000435	000434	000433	000432	000431	000430	000429	000428	000427	000426	000425	000424	000423	000422	000421	000420	000419	000418	000417	000416	000415	000414	000413	000412	000411	000410	000409	000408	000407	000406	000405	
19.7	000408	000407	000406	000405	000404	000403	000402	000401	000400	000399	000398	000397	000396	000395	000394	000393	000392	000391	000390	000389	000388	000387	000386	000385	000384	000383	000382	000381	000380	000379	000378	000377	000376	000375	000374	000373	000372	000371	000370	
19.8	000373	000372	000371	000370	000369	000368	000367	000366	000365	000364	000363	000362	000361	000360	000359	000358	000357	000356	000355	000354	000353	000352	000351	000350	000349	000348	000347	000346	000345	000344	000343	000342	000341	000340	000339	000338	000337	000336	000335	
19.9	000348	000347	000346	000345	000344	000343	000342	000341	000340	000339	000338	000337	000336	000335	000334	000333	000332	000331	000330	000329	000328	000327	000326	000325	000324	000323	000322	000321	000320	000319	000318	000317	000316	000315	000314	000313	000312	000311	000310	
20.0	000315	000314	000313	000312	000311	000310	000309	000308	000307	000306	000305	000304	000303	000302	000301	000300	000299	000298	000297	000296	000295	000294	000293	000292	000291	000290	000289	000288	000287	000286	000285	000284	000283	000282	000281	000280	000279	000278	000277	
20.1	000280	000279	000278	000277	000276	000275	000274	000273	000272	000271	000270	000269	000268	000267	000266	000265	000264	000263	000262	000261	000260	000259	000258	000257	000256	000255	000254	000253	000252	000251	000250	000249	000248	000247	000246	000245	000244	000243	000242	
20.2	000245	000244	000243	000242	000241	000240	000239	000238	000237	000236	000235	000234	000233	000232	000231	000230	000229	000228	000227	000226	000225	000224	000223	000222	000221	000220	000219	000218	000217	000216	000215	000214	000213	000212	000211	000210	000209	000208	000207	
20.3	000210	000209	000208	000207	000206	000205	000204	000203	000202	000201	000200	000199	000198	000197	000196	000195	000194	000193	000192	000191	000190	000189	000188	000187	000186	000185	000184	000183	000182	000181	000180	000179	000178	000177	000176	000175	000174	000173	000172	
20.4	000175	000174	000173	000172	000171	000170	000169	000168	000167	000166	000165	000164	000163	000162	000161	000160	000159	000158	000157	000156	000155	000154	000153	000152	000151	000150	000149	000148	000147	000146	000145	000144	000143	000142	000141	000140	000139	000138	000137	
20.5	000140	000139	000138	000137	000136	000135	000134	000133	000132	000131	000130	000129	000128	000127	000126	000125	000124	000123	000122	000121	000120	000119	000118	000117	000116	000115	000114	000113	000112	000111	000110	000109	000108	000107	000106	000105	000104	000103	000102	
20.6	000107	000106	000105	000104	000103	000102	000101	000100	000099	000098	000097	000096	000095	000094	000093	000092	000091	000090	000089	000088	000087	000086	000085	000084	000083	000082	000081	000080	000079	000078	000077	000076	000075	000074	000073	000072	000071	000070	000069	000068
20.7	000073	000072	000071	000070	000069	000068	000067	000066	000065	000064	000063	000062	000061	000060	000059	000058	000057	000056	000055	000054	000053	000052	000051	000050	000049	000048	000047	000046	000045	000044	000043	000042	000041	000040	000039	000038	000037	000036	000035	
20.8	000040	000039	000038	000037	000036	000035	000034	000033	000032	000031	000030	000029	000028	000027	000026	000025	000024	000023	000022	000021	000020	000019	000018	000017	000016	000015	000014	000013	000012	000011	000010	000009	000008	000007	000006	000005	000004	000003	000002	000001
20.9	000000	000000	000000	000000	000000	000000	000000	000000	000000	000000	000000	000000	000000	000000	000000	000000	000000	000000	000000	000000	000000	000000	000000	000000	000000	000000	000000	000000	000000	000000	000000	000000	000000	000000	000000	000000	000000	000000	000000	