



South Coast  
**AQMD**

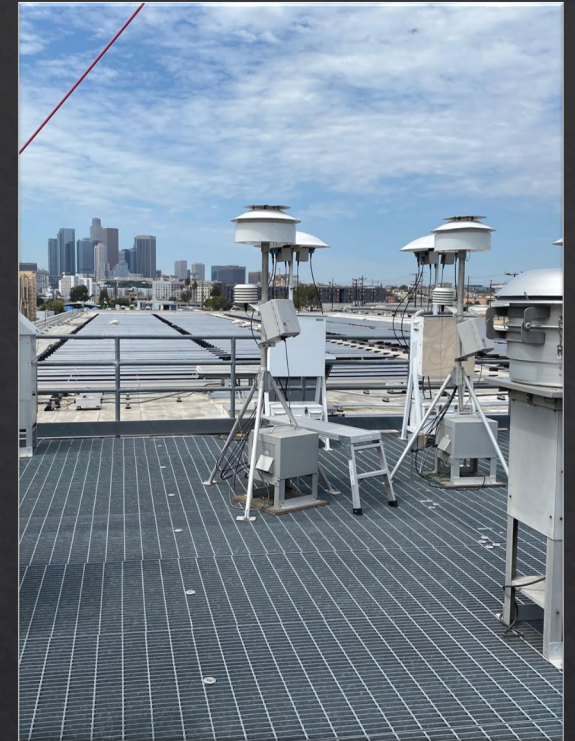
# Station Operations by the Numbers

Prepared by: Annie Shin - Air Quality Instrument  
Specialist II

Presented by: Juan Garcia – Senior Air Quality  
Instrument Specialist

Ricardo Morales - Air Quality Instrument  
Specialist II





What is the purpose of a Station Operator?

# Outline

1. Purpose of a station operator
2. Level 1 Data Validation
3. How do operators ensure instruments are operating properly, producing high quality data?
  - ◆ Daily QC checks: precision, zero and span checks
  - ◆ Instrument diagnostics
  - ◆ Preventative maintenance
  - ◆ Data pattern/trends
  - ◆ Documentation: downtime, station status, unusual activities

# Purpose of a Station Operator

- ◆ **Goal:** healthy instruments  $\Rightarrow$  quality and defensible data
- ◆ Data used for policy making, public advisory, health of residents
- ◆ Operator is the most familiar with day-to-day monitoring operations
- ◆ Level 1 Data Validation

# 4-Level Data Review Validation Process

- ◆ Level 0: Automated Machine Level
- ◆ Level 1: Station Operator -> **MOST IMPORTANT**
- ◆ Level 2: Data Validation by Lead Staff
- ◆ Level 3: Senior AQIS in Data Management



## Level 0: Automated Machine Level Screening

- ◇ Done by Data Management System (DMS)
- ◇ Auto-flag:
  - ◇ Automated zero, precision, span checks
  - ◇ Rate of change (hourly)
  - ◇ Sticking or repeating values
  - ◇ Suspect data
  - ◇ Shelter temperature exceedance
  - ◇ Severe negative values

# Level 1 Data Validation: Station Operator

- ◆ Most important step in the review process
- ◆ Review auto-flagged data, missing data, max and min values
- ◆ Be familiar with normal data vs anomalies,
  - ◆ Is it normally a windy site? High PM site? High vehicle traffic?
- ◆ **Minute data**: review daily, record in downtime log and report to Senior Staff (do not flag at Level1) or **marked as “Reviewed”** weekly
- ◆ **Hourly data**: end of the month, use downtime log, **apply null codes** to invalid data
- ◆ Monthly maintenance packet completeness is imperative to ensure documented conditions are communicated to data validation staff

# Typical Null Codes for Hourly Data

## Appendix A1 – Level 1 – Null Code Quick Reference

Event	Recommended Null Code
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Power failure</li> </ul>	AV – Power Failure
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Calibration</li> <li>O<sub>3</sub> Generator re-certification</li> <li>As-is calibration check</li> <li>Enviro-nics certification</li> </ul>	AT – Calibration
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BAM flow check</li> </ul>	AZ – QC Audit
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Weekly maintenance</li> <li>Analog Output test</li> <li>Zero check</li> <li>Manifold Cleaning</li> <li>Non-calibration related diagnostic tests</li> </ul>	BA – Maintenance/Routine Repairs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Instrument disabled due to flowrate error</li> </ul>	AH – Sample Flow rate Out of Limits

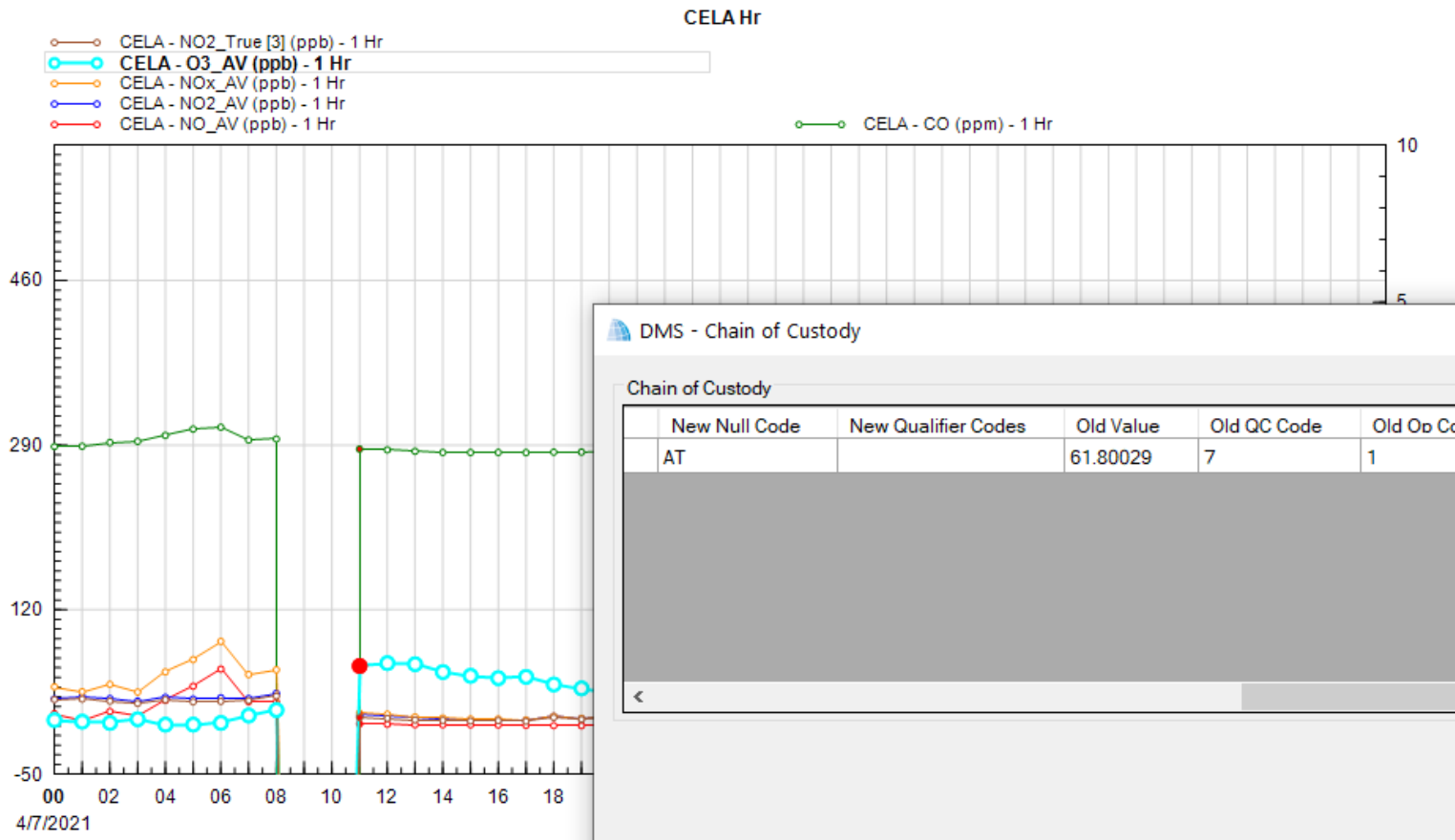
**SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT**  
**MONTHLY DOWNTIME LOG**

Location: CELA 70387      Month/Year: June/2020  
 Reviewed by: \_\_\_\_\_      Technician: Annie Shis  
 Page: 1 of \_\_\_\_\_

QC	Pollutant	Event	Date & Time		COMMENTS	Initials
			From	To		
AT	All Gases	Cal	6/2/20 8:04	6/2/20 12:22	Not final Calibration	JK
✓	All Gases	Maint	6/3/20 0746	6/3/20 0507	Weekly Maint.	AS
AT	All Gases	CAL	6/5/20 1013	6/5/20 1449	TNO <sub>2</sub> FINAL CAL	JK
BA	Met	Maint	6/9/20 919	6/9/20 105	drop tower to lube / check wiring	JK
AT	All Gases	CAL	6/9/20 1050	6/9/20 1354	TNO <sub>2</sub> ADJUSTMENT	JK
	UVR	Disabled	6/9/20 1253	→	Disabled channel due to erratic readings since 5/28/20	AS
AT	All Gases	CAL	6/10/20 1050	6/10/20 1249	TNO <sub>2</sub> FINAL CAL AGAIN	JK
✓	All Gases	Maint.	6/11/20 0846	6/11/20 0909	Weekly Maintenance	AS
✓	All Gases	Maint.	6/16/20 0747	6/16/20 0823	Weekly Maint.	AS



# Apply Null Code to Hourly Data



R	L	C	Local Standard Time	Data	QC Code	Op Code	Computed
R			04/07/2021 06:00	3.01309	0	1	True
R			04/07/2021 07:00	10.71024	0	1	True
R			04/07/2021 08:00	16.37787	0	1	True
R	C		04/07/2021 09:00	-999.00000	9	1	True
R	C		04/07/2021 10:00	-999.00000	9	1	True
R	C		04/07/2021 11:00	61.80029	9	1	True
R			04/07/2021 12:00	64.77153	0	1	True

DMS - Chain of Custody

Chain of Custody

New Null Code	New Qualifier Codes	Old Value	Old QC Code	Old Op Code	Old Null Code	Old Qualifier Codes	QC Comment	AutoQC Check
AT		61.80029	7	1			O3 Gen Cert	QC Code Changed

Reviews

Reviewed On	User Name	Note	Site Name	Parameter (units)	Data Date	Locked	Model
4/9/2021 11:19 AM	Enriquez Lila	Reviewed.	CELA	O3_AV (ppb)	4/7/2021 11:00 AM	<input type="checkbox"/>	400E
6/25/2021 11:04 AM	Hanna Zhuang	Reviewed.	CELA	O3_AV (ppb)	4/7/2021 11:00 AM	<input type="checkbox"/>	400E

Display

Graph:

Series:    Hide This Series

Axis:  Left  Right  Show Vector Plot

Time

Displ

H  R

# 4-Level Data Review Process

- ◆ Level 0: Automated
- ◆ Level 1: Station Operator
- ◆ **Level 2: Data Validation Staff**
  - ◆ Verifies the work performed by level 1 reviewer
  - ◆ Verifies data meets requirements outlined in the Code of Federal Regulations (40 CFR 58 App. A and QA HB Vol II, App. D)
  - ◆ Focuses on diurnal and seasonal trends surrounding high/low values & exceedances
- ◆ **Level 3: Senior AQIS in Data Management**
  - ◆ Final ensures all data has been reviewed, validated and locked in the data system

# Data Validation Criteria

- Code of Federal Regulations (40 CFR 58 App. A)
- EPA QA Handbook Vol II (App. D)
- SOP & QAPP's
- Instrument Operating Manuals

Critical Data Validation Criteria (red) - Operations: QC check daily

Ozone Validation Template			
1) Requirement (O <sub>3</sub> )	2) Frequency	3) Acceptance Criteria	Information /Action
<b>CRITICAL CRITERIA-OZONE</b>			
Monitor	NA	Meets requirements listed in FRM/FEM designation	1) 40 CFR Part 58 App C Sec. 2.1 2) NA 3) 40 CFR Part 53 & <a href="#">FRM/FEM method list</a>
One Point QC Check Single analyzer	Every 14 days	< ±7.1% (percent difference) or < ±1.5 ppb difference whichever is greater	1 and 2) <a href="#">40 CFR Part 58 App A Sec. 3.1</a> 3) Recommendation based on DQO in 40 CFR Part 58 App A Sec. 2.3.1.2. QC Check Conc range 0.005 - 0.08 ppm and 05/05/2016 <a href="#">Technical Note on AMTIC</a>
Zero/span check	Every 14 days	Zero drift < ± 3.1 ppb (24 hr) < ± 5.1 ppb (>24hr-14 day) Span drift < ± 7.1 %	1 and 2) <a href="#">QA Handbook Volume 2 Sec. 12.3</a> 3) Recommendation and related to DQO

AQMD Daily (Exceeds)

Operational Criteria (yellow) – Support: Calibration every 6 months

Verification/Calibration	Upon receipt/adjustment/repair/installation/moving and repair and recalibration of standard of higher level Every 182 day and 2/ calendar year if manual zero/span performed biweekly Every 365 day and 1/ calendar year if continuous zero/span performed daily	All points < ± 2.1 % or ≤ ±1.5 ppb difference of best-fit straight line whichever is greater and Slope 1 ± .05	1) 40 CFR Part 50 App D 2) Recommendation 3) 40 CFR Part 50 App D Sec 4.5.5.6  Multi-point calibration (0 and 4 upscale points)  Slope criteria is a recommendation
Zero Air/Zero Air Check	Every 365 days and 1/calendar year	Concentrations below LDL	1) 40 CFR Part 50 App D Sec. 4.1 2 and 3) Recommendation

Systematic Criteria (green) – Operations: Semiannual manifold cleaning and residence time verification

Sample Residence Time Verification	Every 365 days and 1/calendar year	≤ 20 Seconds	1) 40 CFR Part 58 App E, Sec. 9 (c) 2) Recommendation
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# How do operators perform daily QC?

## Daily Precision Checks (% out) for: 2021/08/06

Data displayed is the most recent of last 24 hours.

	O3	NO	NO2	NOx	NO2_T	NOy	CO	CO_TL	SO2	H2S
Warning:	(5%)	(10%)	(10%)	(10%)	(10%)	(10%)	( 7%)	( 7%)	( 7%)	(10%)
Invalid:	(7%)	(15%)	(15%)	(15%)	(15%)	(15%)	(10%)	(10%)	(10%)	(15%)
====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
60NR		-3.76	-2.34	-3.73						
AHNR		-4.78	-1.41	-4.59			-1.35			
ANAH	-0.13	-7.65	-1.64	-8.03			-0.21			
AZUS	0.10	<b>-99.76</b>	<b>-101.05</b>	<b>-100.36</b>			-6.12			
BNAP	2.67	-2.98	-0.38	-3.60						
CELA	-2.57	-2.70	3.36	-1.78	0.78	****	-1.36	-2.41	0.69	
CMPT	-0.57	-5.21	-2.97	-5.09			-0.21			
CRES	-0.88									
ELSI	-2.14	-6.00	-5.05	-4.92			-1.52			

Daily  
precision,  
zero report  
across all  
stations

## Daily Zero Checks (abs val) for: 2021/08/06

Data displayed is the most recent of last 24 hours.

	O3	NO	NO2	NOx	NO2_T	NOy	CO	CO_TL	SO2	H2S
Invalid:	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(2)	(0.4)	(50)	(3)	(3)
====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
60NR		-0.03	1.04	1.01						
AHNR		0.18	0.97	1.15			0.07			
ANAH	0.54	0.59	0.33	0.93			-0.01			
AZUS	0.85	<b>15.33</b>	-0.66	<b>14.67</b>			0.04			
BNAP	-0.96	-0.88	0.20	-0.68						
CELA	0.34	-0.06	0.13	0.07	0.33	****	0.01	4.87	0.43	
CMPT	0.59	-0.19	0.45	0.25			0.00			
CRES	-0.84									
ELSI	0.31	0.66	0.09	0.74			0.00			

# Weekly Span Report

## Weekly Span Checks (% out) for: 2021/08/06

Data displayed is the most recent of last 7 days.

	O3	NO	NO2	NOx	NO2_T	NOy	CO	CO_TL	SO2	H2S
Warning:	(5%)	(7%)	(7%)	(7%)	(7%)	(7%)	(7%)	(7%)	(7%)	(10%)
Invalid:	(7%)	(10%)	(10%)	(10%)	(10%)	(10%)	(10%)	(10%)	(10%)	(15%)
====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
60NR		-1.74	-6.77	-2.56						
AHNR		-2.73	-5.13	-4.05			-1.25			
ANAH	-0.41	-6.44	-2.40	-6.95			0.66			
AZUS	-0.72	-0.02	-1.33	0.11			-6.75			
BNAP	4.99	-2.99	-0.17	-4.19						
CELA	-3.63	-0.75	-2.08	-0.85	-5.69	****	-3.53	-1.80	0.16	
CMPT	-0.36	-4.41	-3.34	-4.27			1.21			
CRES	1.08									
ELSI	-1.34	-5.84	-4.44	-5.19			-0.44			

Look at  
Daily Report

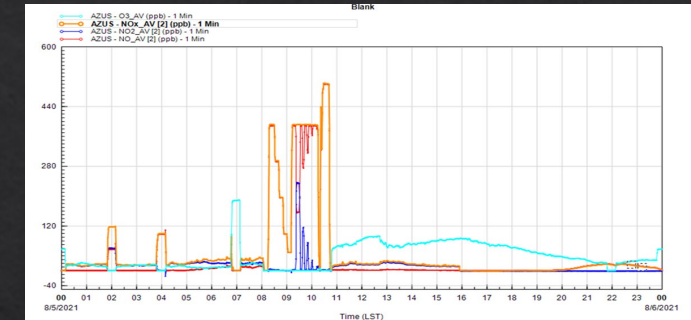
- ◇ Daily report on instrument precision checks, zeros and weekly spans sent at 6:40 AM

Daily Precision Checks (% out) for: 2021/08/06  
Data displayed is the most recent of last 24 hours.

	O3	NO	NO2	NOx	NO2_T	NOy	CO
Warning:	(5%)	(10%)	(10%)	(10%)	(10%)	(10%)	(7%)
Invalid:	(7%)	(15%)	(15%)	(15%)	(15%)	(15%)	(10%)
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
60NR	-3.76	-2.34	-2.34	-3.73			
AHNR	-4.78	-1.41	-1.41	-4.59			-1.35
ANAH	-0.13	-7.65	-1.64	-8.03			-0.21
AZUS	0.10	-99.76	-101.05	-100.36			-6.12
BNAP	2.67	-2.98	-0.38	-3.60			
CELA	-2.57	-2.70	3.36	-1.78	0.78	****	-1.36
CMPT	-0.57	-5.21	-2.97	-5.09			-0.21
CRES	-0.88						
ELSI	-2.14	-6.00	-5.05	-4.92			-1.52

Investigation

- ◇ Investigate values in warning and out of tolerance:
  - ◇ DMS: review last 24 Hr. data
  - ◇ On site: power failure? Instrument alerts? flow error?
  - ◇ Remotely: access instrument parameters



Report to Senior Staff

- ◇ Report findings to senior staff and request work order if necessary



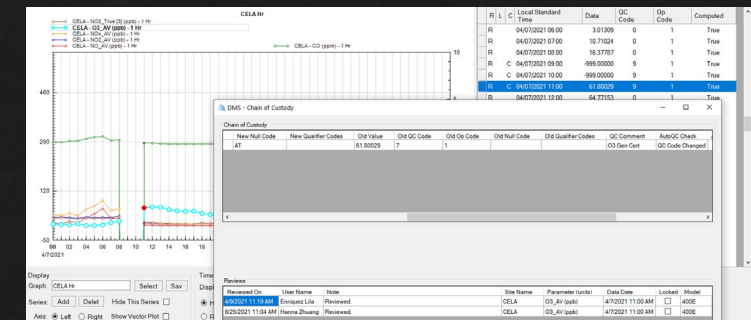
Record in logbook/  
downtime log/  
maint sheet

- ◇ Record event and actions taken in Monthly QC Checks, instrument logbook, downtime log, maintenance sheet



Monthly:  
Apply null codes

- ◇ End of the month, apply appropriate Null codes to hourly data affected



# What to look for in Daily QC Check?

1. Out of tolerance
2. In warning
3. Trends: PCs drifting “out of tolerance”

## Daily Precision Checks (% out) for: 2021/08/06

Data displayed is the most recent of last 24 hours.

	O3	NO	NO2	NOx	NO2_T	NOy	CO	CO_TL	SO2	H2S
Warning:	(5%)	(10%)	(10%)	(10%)	(10%)	(10%)	(7%)	(7%)	(7%)	(10%)
Invalid:	(7%)	(15%)	(15%)	(15%)	(15%)	(15%)	(10%)	(10%)	(10%)	(15%)
====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
6ONR		-3.76	-2.34	-3.73						
AHNR		-4.78	-1.41	-4.59			-1.35			
ANAH	-0.13	-7.65	-1.64	-8.03			-0.21			
AZUS	0.10	-99.76	-101.05	-100.36			-6.12			
BNAP	2.67	-2.98	-0.38	-3.60						
CELA	-2.57	-2.70	3.36	-1.78	0.78	****	-1.36	-2.41	0.69	
CMPT	-0.57	-5.21	-2.97	-5.09			-0.21			
CRES	-0.88									
ELSI	-2.14	-6.00	-5.05	-4.92			-1.52			
FONT	-1.96	-4.52	-0.72	-4.71			-5.23		3.19	
GLEN	0.54	-5.98	-0.54	-4.95			1.75			
INDI	-3.37									
LAHB	0.22	-8.76	3.76	-6.00			0.65			
TYH	0.95	-5.50	-6.48	-4.52	-2.09	3.20	-0.41	7.65	-2.15	-1.70
18	1.37	-4.32	-7.14	-5.08	-1.51	5.39	-0.39	8.49	-1.92	-2.32
19	1.77	-3.59	-8.05	-5.05	-1.17	4.33	0.77	9.97	-1.86	-2.17
20	1.41	-4.24	-10.81	-6.08	-1.70	2.34	0.12	7.97	-1.83	-2.07
21	1.32	-6.72	-10.46	-7.91	-1.45	4.44	-0.69	8.54	-1.91	-2.24
22	1.58	-6.71	-9.80	-7.68	-1.14	4.91	1.52	8.33	-1.52	-0.90
23	1.24	-7.86	-10.90	-8.49	-1.87	4.91	-0.52	-5.40	-2.31	-0.90
24	-0.14	-8.26	-10.96	-8.84	-2.48	4.53	1.49	0.22	-2.64	-1.32
25	0.64	-5.67	-6.64	-4.78	-2.09	2.09	0.80	-2.62	-2.62	-0.93
26	0.57	-6.14	-5.98	-4.75	-2.12	2.92	1.06	-2.49	-0.75	-1.94



# Example: Daily QC check

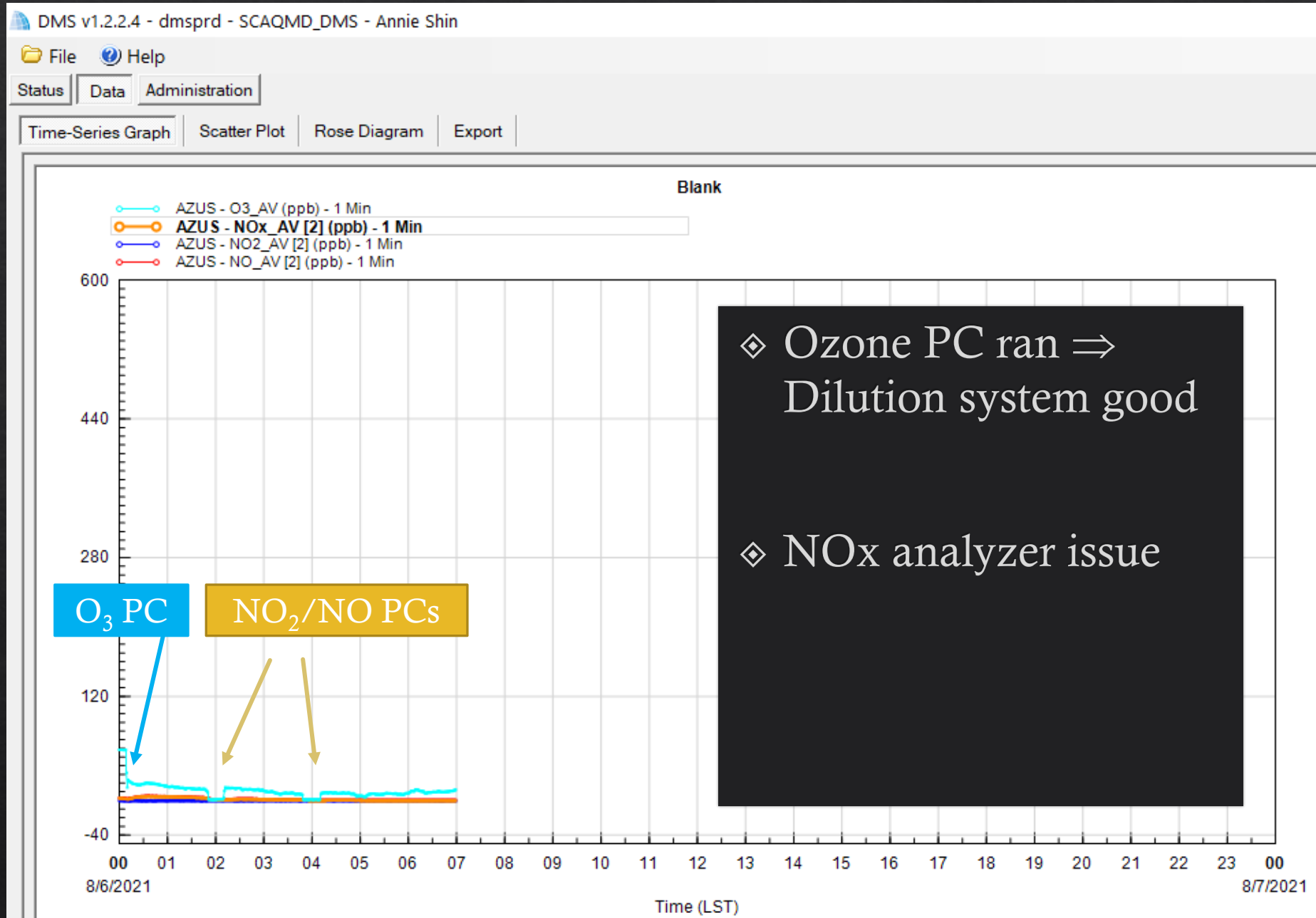
## Daily Precision Checks (% out) for: 2021/08/06

Data displayed is the most recent of last 24 hours.

	O3	NO	NO2	NOx	NO2_T	NOy	CO	CO_TL	SO2	H2S
Warning:	(5%)	(10%)	(10%)	(10%)	(10%)	(10%)	(7%)	(7%)	(7%)	(10%)
Invalid:	(7%)	(15%)	(15%)	(15%)	(15%)	(15%)	(10%)	(10%)	(10%)	(15%)
====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
6ONR		-3.76	-2.34	-3.73						
AHNR		-4.78	-1.41	-4.59			-1.35			
ANAH	-0.13	-7.65	-1.64	-8.03			-0.21			
AZUS	0.10	-99.76	-101.05	-100.36			-6.12			
BNAP	2.67	-2.98	-0.38	-3.60						
CELA	-2.57	-2.70	3.36	-1.78	0.78	****	-1.36	-2.41	0.69	
CMPT	-0.57	-5.21	-2.97	-5.09			-0.21			
CRES	-0.88									
ELSI	-2.14	-6.00	-5.05	-4.92			-1.52			
FONT	-1.96	-4.52	-0.72	-4.71			-5.23		3.19	
GLEN	0.54	-5.98	-0.54	-4.95			1.75			
INDI	-3.37									
LAHB	0.22	-8.76	3.76	-6.00			0.65			
LAXH	4.85	-5.00	-3.99	-5.93			0.25		-3.35	
LBSH	-1.77	-2.08	-5.99	-2.98			-39.39		1.79	
MLVB	0.12	-3.69	-2.41	-6.32			-3.36			
MSVJ	0.85						0.96			
NOHO	1.08	-7.25	0.61	-6.88						
ONNR		-2.40	0.18	-2.43			-2.29			
PASA	-3.03	-2.29	-5.45	-3.10			-1.31			
PERI	2.41									
PICO	2.83	-6.98	-3.21	-7.31			-3.85			
PLSP	-3.27	-2.23	-2.96	-3.87			2.01			
POMA	-1.80	-7.62	3.49	-3.32			-2.35			
RDLI	0.51									
RESE	-1.82	-3.15	4.05	-3.17			-0.21			

- ◇ What happened at AZUS?
- ◇ Operator investigates

# AZUS minute data the morning of 8/6/21



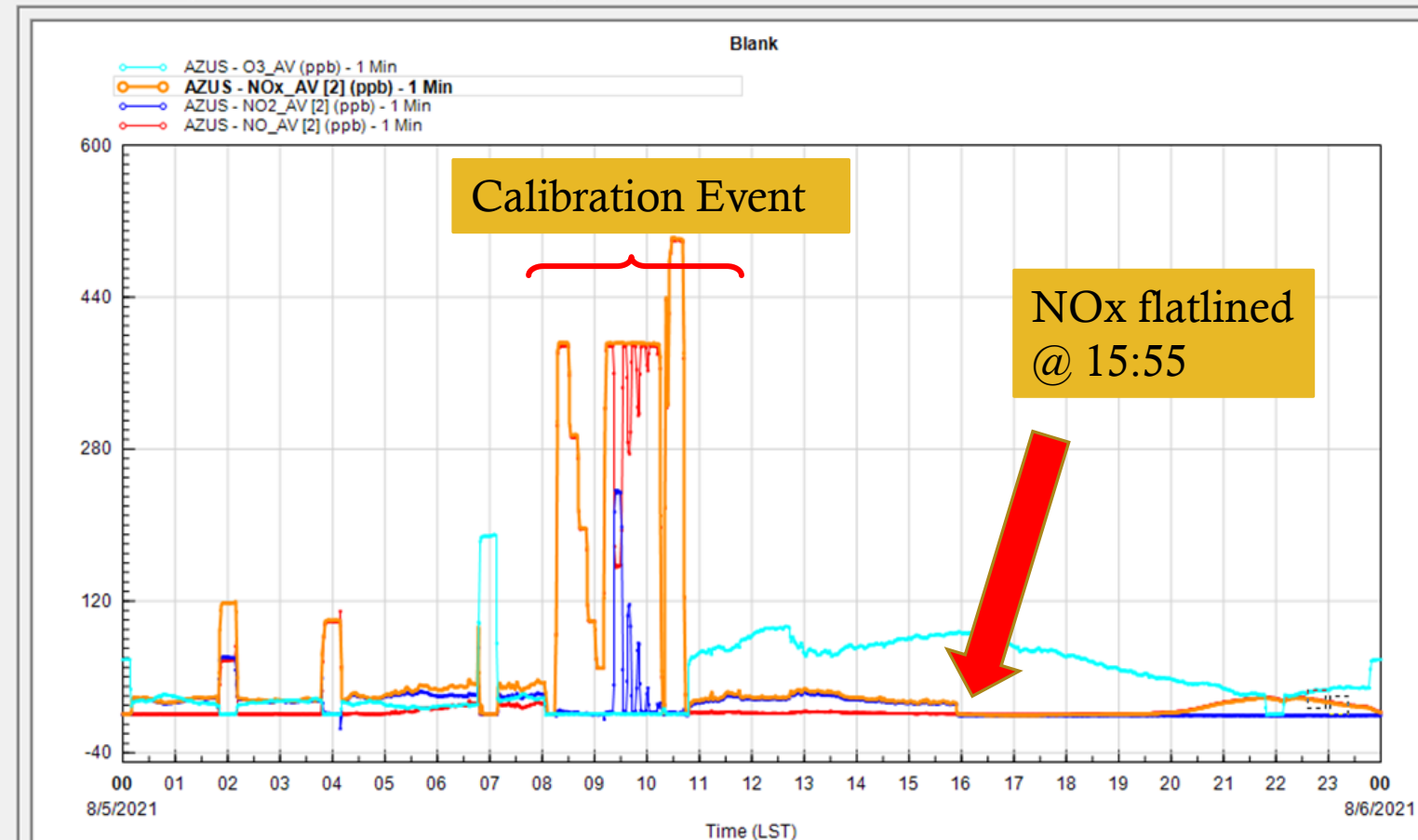
# AZUS minute data previous 24hr

DMS v1.2.2.4 - dmsprd - SCAQMD\_DMS - Annie Shin

File Help

Status Data Administration

Time-Series Graph Scatter Plot Rose Diagram Export



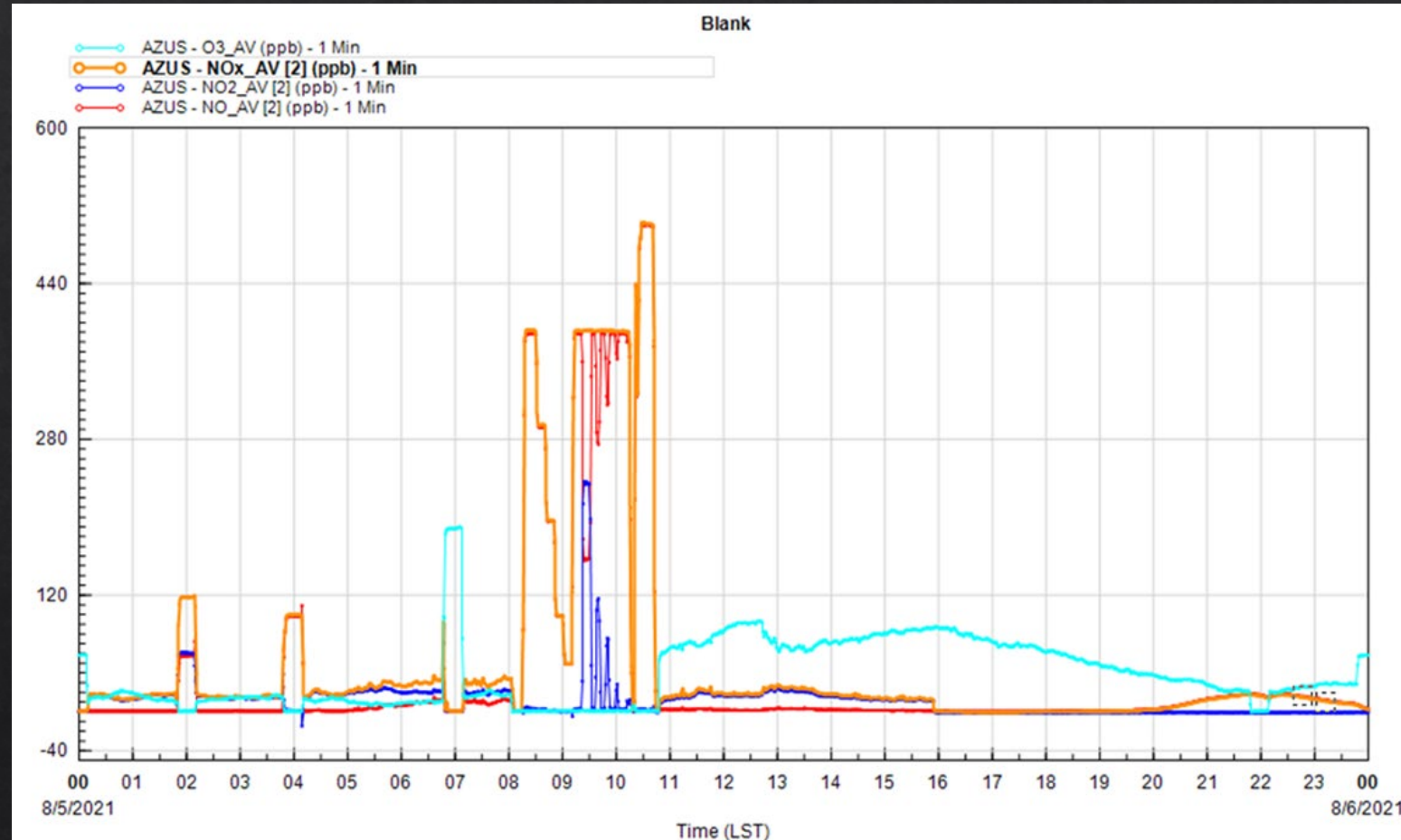
R	L	C	Local Standard Time	Data	QC Code	Op Code	Computed
			08/05/2021 15:50	13.20040	0	1	False
			08/05/2021 15:51	12.64181	0	1	False
			08/05/2021 15:52	12.43767	0	1	False
			08/05/2021 15:53	12.94026	0	1	False
			08/05/2021 15:54	12.21325	0	1	False
C			08/05/2021 15:55	2.55724	5	5	False
C			08/05/2021 15:56	0.13733	5	5	False
C			08/05/2021 15:57	0.16510	5	5	False
C			08/05/2021 15:58	0.12024	5	5	False
C			08/05/2021 15:59	0.13724	5	5	False
C			08/05/2021 16:00	0.13473	5	5	False
C			08/05/2021 16:01	0.24597	5	5	False
C			08/05/2021 16:02	0.38861	5	5	False
C			08/05/2021 16:03	0.49538	5	5	False
C			08/05/2021 16:04	0.46813	5	5	False
C			08/05/2021 16:05	0.31593	5	5	False
C			08/05/2021 16:06	0.10157	5	5	False
C			08/05/2021 16:07	0.03548	5	5	False
C			08/05/2021 16:08	-0.02539	5	5	False
C			08/05/2021 16:09	-0.06102	5	5	False
C			08/05/2021 16:10	-0.10197	5	5	False

◇ Flatlined data -> Instrument or communication failure

◇ Check instrument diagnostics: Flow @ 0 LPM -> likely pump failure -> work order to repair/replace pump.

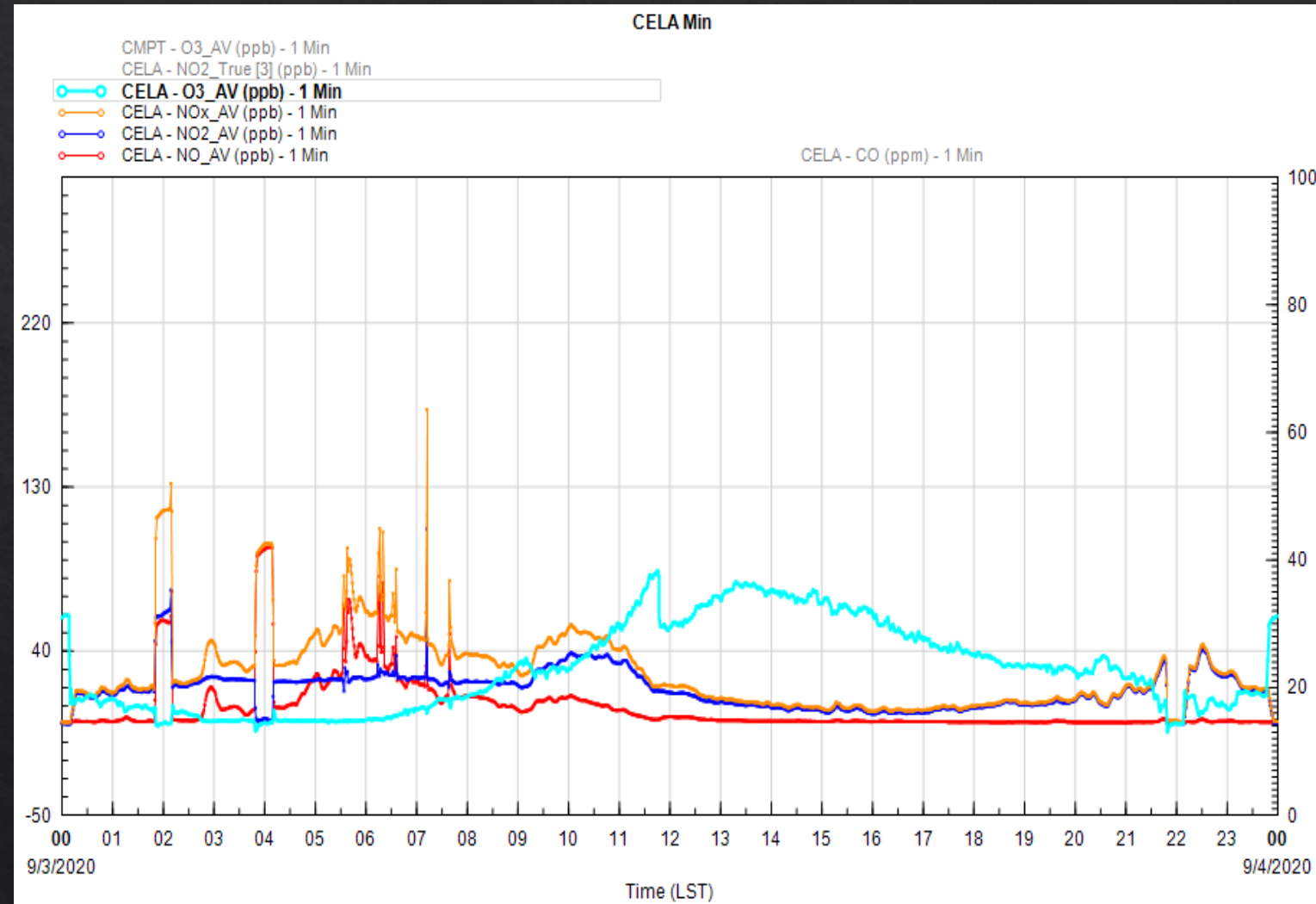
# Daily DMS Data Review

- ◇ Review previous 24hr data (minute and hourly)
  - ◇ Missing data (power failures, communications failures, etc.)
  - ◇ Flags, erroneous data (instrument malfunctions)
  - ◇ High/ low values (real or not)
  - ◇ Extreme values (over range data, negative data)
  - ◇ Unusual changes (spikes, flatlined data)
  - ◇ Diurnal Trends

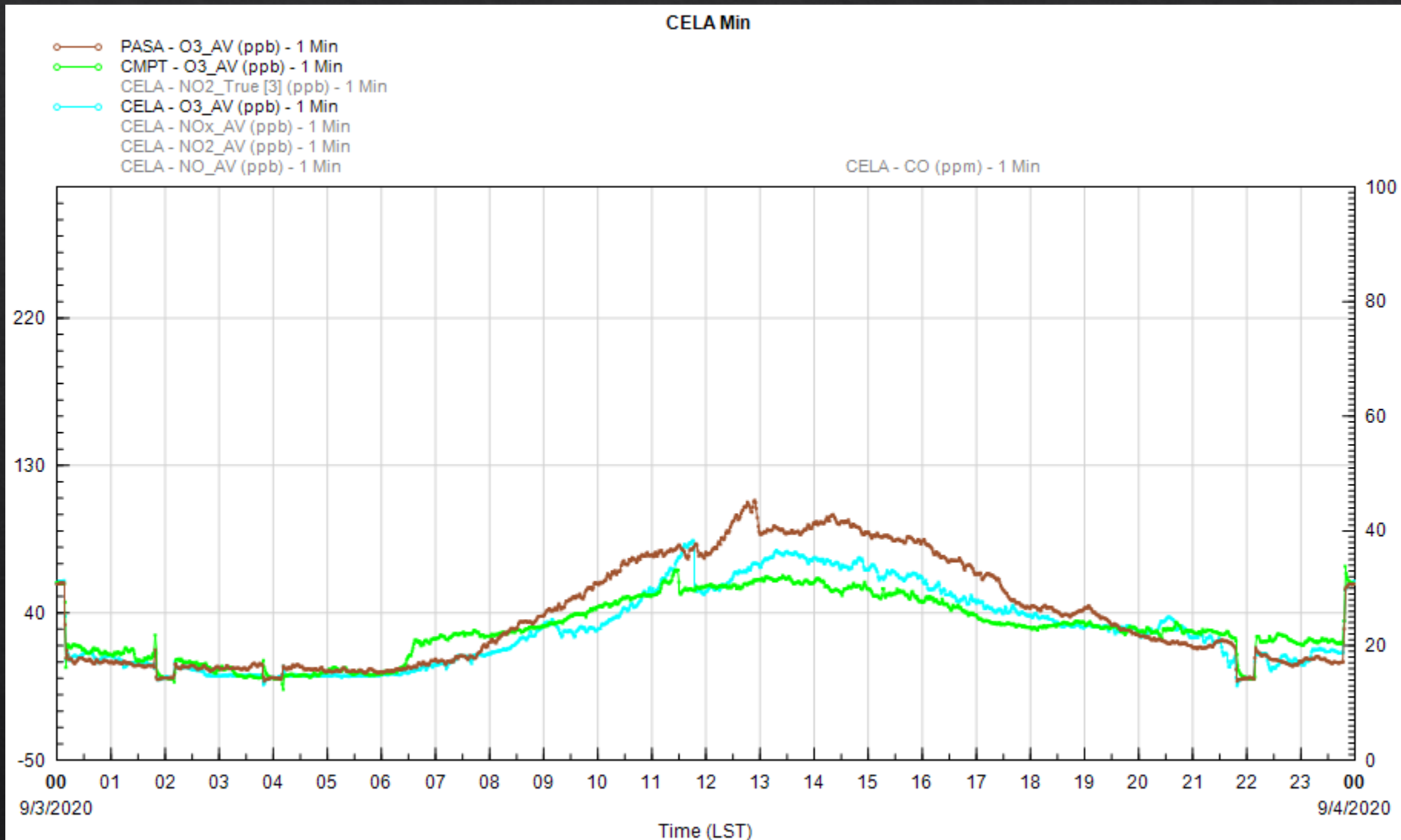


# Diurnal Trends

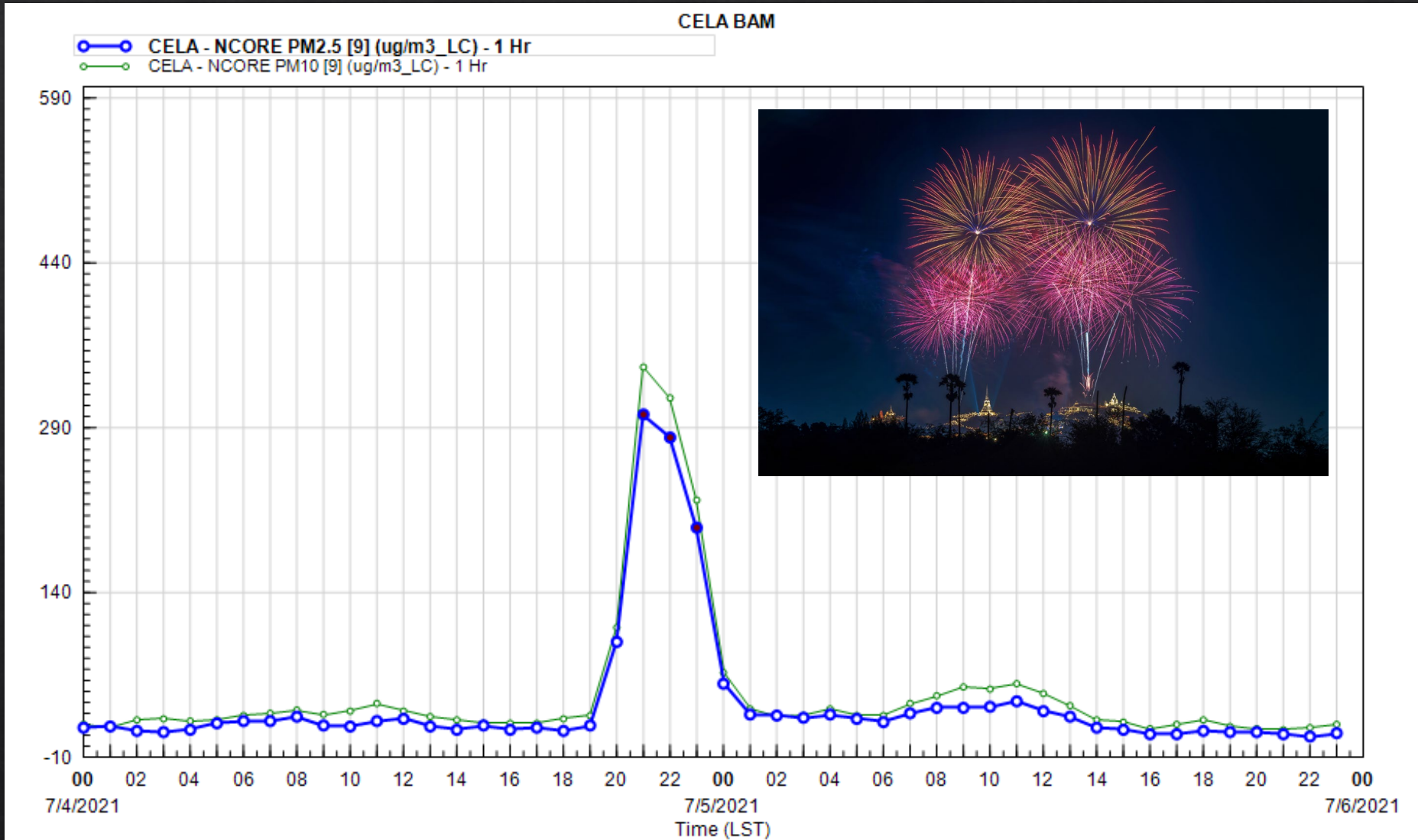
- ◇ Times at which daily max concentrations occur and the interrelationship of pollutants
  - ◇ O<sub>3</sub> peak starts @~10 AM-2PM
  - ◇ CO and NO usually increase and decrease together
  - ◇ NO and O<sub>3</sub> cannot coexist at high concentrations
- ◇ Operator is most familiar with the trends at their stations



# Buddy-site Comparison



# Special Occasion Trends



# How do station operators ensure the quality of data?

- ◆ Follow SOPs
- ◆ Review data frequently (recommended daily)
- ◆ Document downtimes/unusual events
- ◆ Report missing or invalid data with reasons
- ◆ Routine preventative maintenance



# Preventive Maintenance

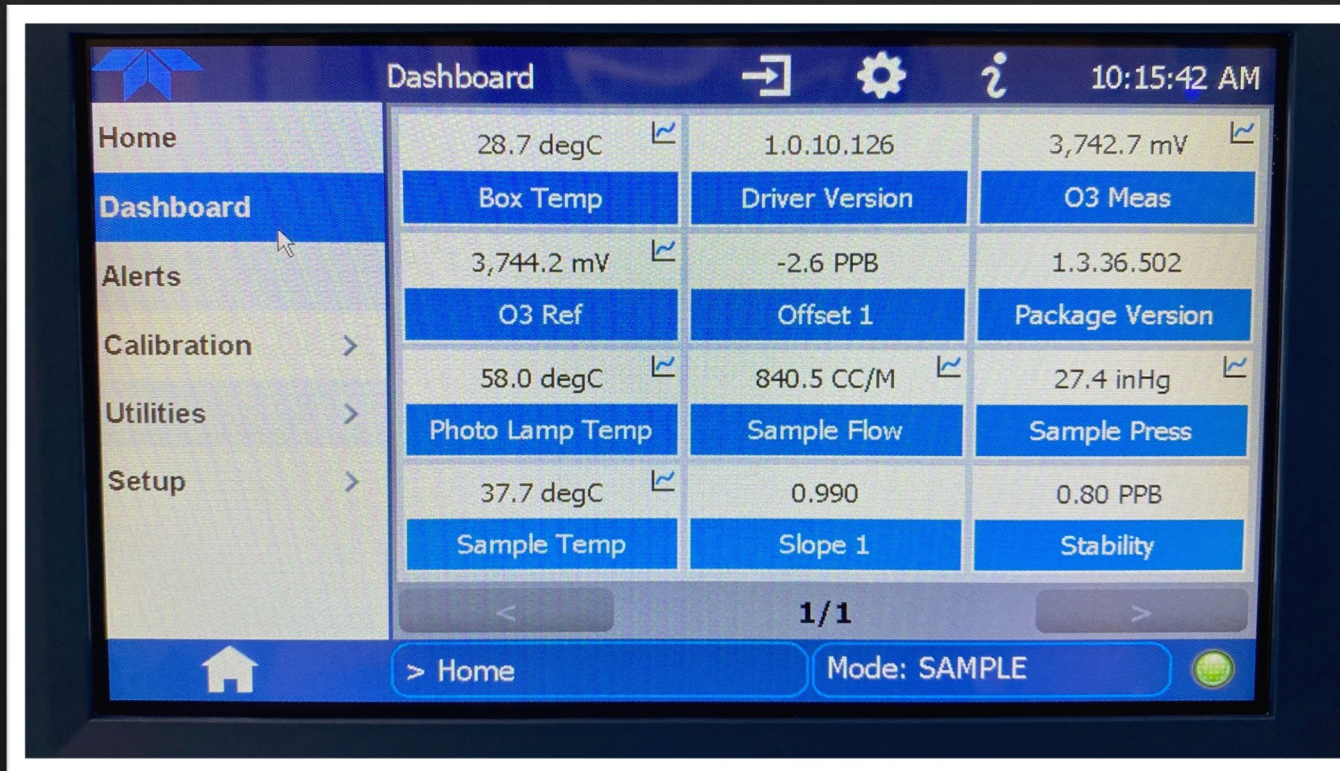
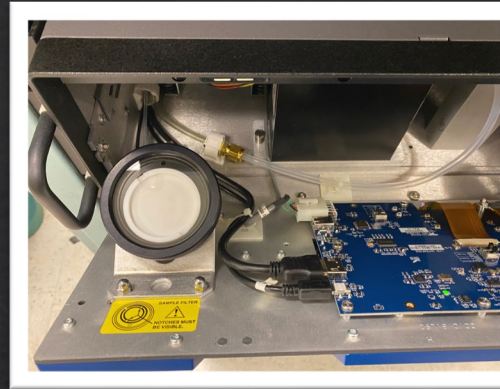
- ◆ Minimizes downtime which increases data capture
- ◆ Prevents costly repairs
- ◆ An ongoing element of Quality Control
- ◆ Performed at the “right” time
  - ◆ Top of the hour
  - ◆ Avoid peak hours especially during Ozone season or Fire Events

# Preventative Maintenance

- ◆ **Weekly:** maintenance on continuous gas & PM instruments
- ◆ **Monthly:** flow checks, leak checks, cleaning and checking of inlets/cyclones, O-rings, etc. of PM instruments
- ◆ **Semi-annually:** Manifold and sample line cleaning

# Continuous Gas Instruments Maintenance

- ◆ Weekly/bi-weekly filter change
- ◆ Check instrument dashboard



Monthly Maintenance Report  
Teledyne T400 Ozone (O3)  
See SOP for Maintenance Sheet Instructions

Location: CELA	Month & Year: August, 2020
Station # 70087	Technician: Annie Shin
Instrument Serial # 5704	AQMD Property # 0017206

DATE:	8/5/20	8/12/20	8/19/20	8/25/20	
TIME:	0754	0755	0754	0755	
Change Filter	Y	Y	Y	Y	
Alert Status	⊖	⊖	⊖	⊖	
O3 MEAS (2500-4800mV)	3832.2	3778.6	3724.5	3681.5	
O3 REF (2500-4800mV)	3832.1	3778.4	3724.4	3681.3	
Sample Pressure (25-31 inHg)	27.6	27.5	27.4	27.4	
Sample Flow (800±800mlm)	822.2	820.5	818.2	816.0	
Sample Temp (10-50°C)	38.0	38.2	38.3	38.2	
Photo Lamp (58°C ±2°C)	58.0	58.0	58.0	58.0	
Box Temp (10-45°C)	28.0	28.3	28.4	28.4	
Offset (0±5.0) (Zero)	-2.2	-2.2	-2.2	-2.2	
Slope (1±0.15) (Span)	1.018	1.018	1.018	1.018	

Comments:

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Calibration Date: 5/12/20 Reviewed BY: \_\_\_\_\_

Teledyne T400 Ozone (O3) 20200305

# BAM Maintenance

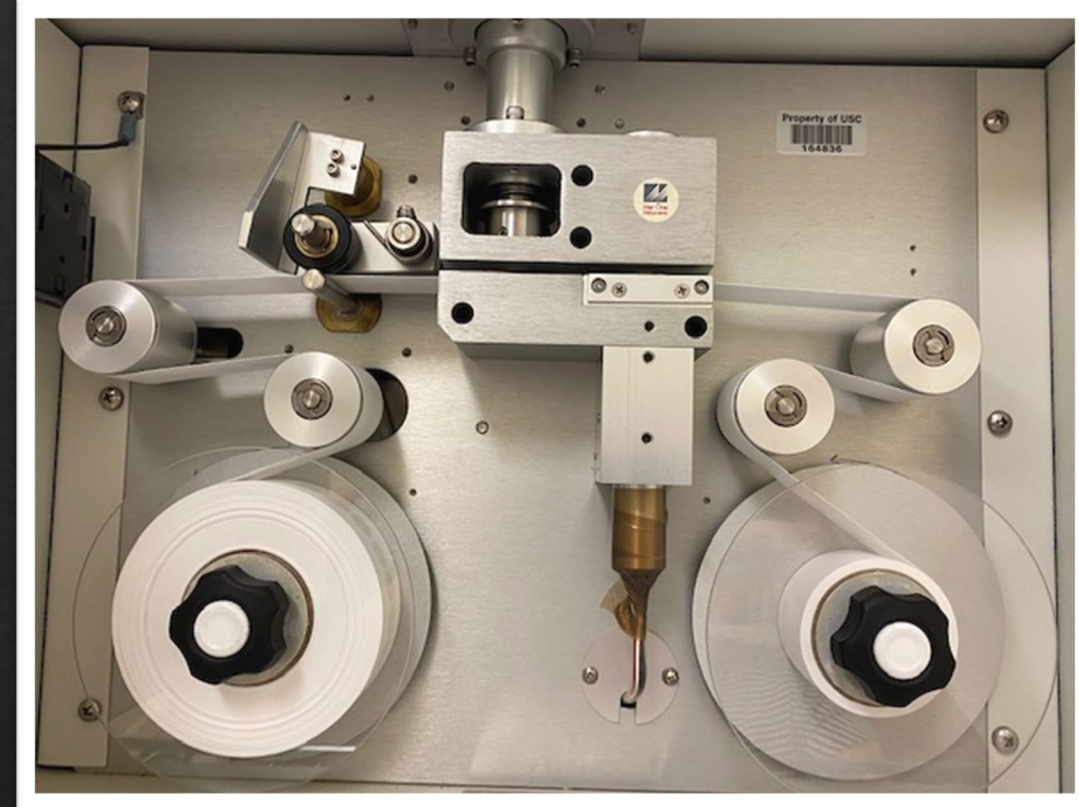
**Table 1: Acceptable Ranges for Data Validation**

Criteria	Frequency	Acceptable range
Average Flow Rate	Every Hour of Operation	Within $\pm 4\%$ of 16.67
Variability of Flow rate	Every Hour of Operation	CV $\leq 2\%$
Reference Membrane Verification	Hourly	$\pm 5\%$ of ABS Value
One Point Flow Rate Verification	Monthly	$\pm 4\%$ of Transfer Standard
Leak Check	Monthly	$\leq 1.0$ lpm
Temperature Verification	Monthly	$\pm 2$ Deg C
Pressure Verification	Monthly	$\pm 10$ mmHg

SOP00072

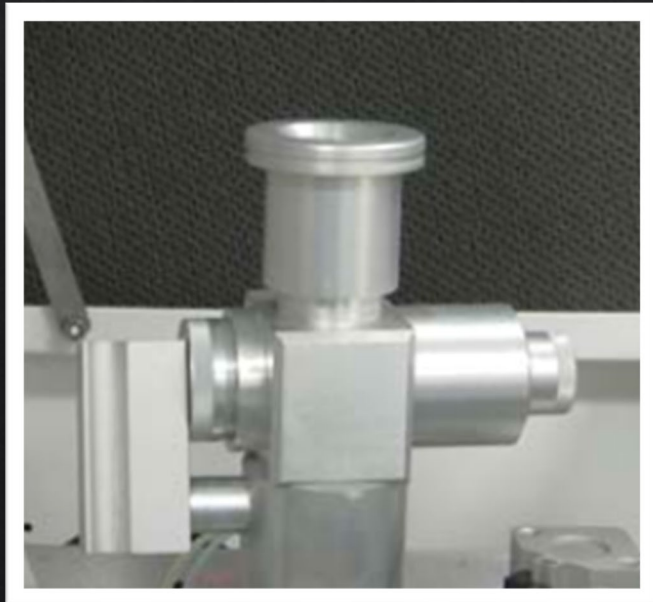
## Daily Task/Each Site Visit:

- ◇ Visual inspection of sample tape: spot pattern, pin holes?
- ◇ Replace tape every 2 months
- ◇ Clean nozzle and vane monthly



# BAM Monthly Flow Check/Maintenance

- ◇ Flow Check
- ◇ Leak Check
- ◇ Inlet, downtube, cyclone cleaning
- ◇ O-ring inspection/replacement
- ◇ Temp, press, clock verification



# Routine Station Check:

## ◆ Outside conditions

- ◆ Weather conditions, shelter condition, potential sources, pests...
- ◆ E.g.: Rain, high winds, construction, fires, paint smell nearby

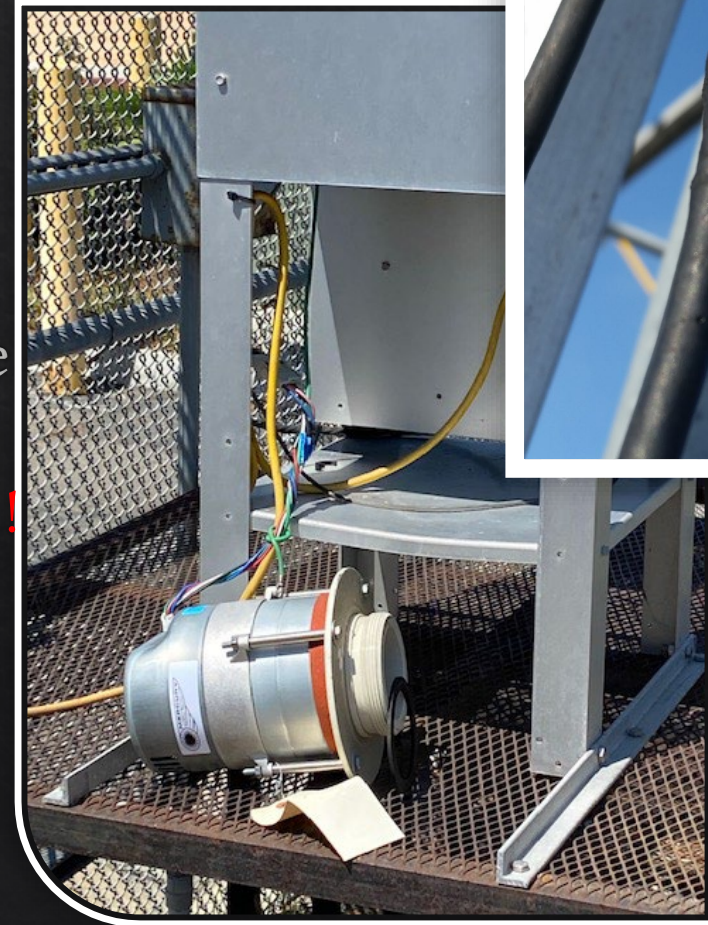
◆ **Document !!!**

## ◆ Instrument conditions



# Routine Station Check:

- ◇ **Outside conditions**
- ◇ **Instrument conditions**
  - ◇ Power on/off
  - ◇ Sample inlet line disconnected, probes damaged
  - ◇ Damaged outdoor samplers
  - ◇ Incorrect clocks and/or timers; ensure actual time is correct (PST)
- **Document in instrument logbooks/downtime log!**





# Documentation, Documentation, Documentation

- ◇ Criteria Gas -Weekly QC Checks (daily PC)
- ◇ Criteria Gas - QC Certification Checks (last calibration, review)
- ◇ Station Gas Dilution & Ozone Calculations
- ◇ Monthly Maintenance Sheet
- ◇ Monthly Downtime Log
- ◇ Station logbook
- ◇ Instrument logbook
  
- ◇ Submitted to Level 2 reviewer



# Overview of an Operator's Routine

- ◆ Routine Station Check (station/weather condition, AC, construction, etc.)
- ◆ **Daily:** QC check on gaseous instruments, data review
- ◆ **Weekly:** maintenance on continuous gas & PM instruments, Level 1 data Review
- ◆ **Monthly:** flow checks, leak checks, cleaning cyclones, O-rings, etc. Level 1 data validation on continuous instruments
- ◆ **Semi-annually:** Manifold cleaning, residence time verification
- ◆ **Every 3, 6, 12 days:** Loading and retrieval of filter/canister samples

# Loading and Retrieval of Samples



# Loading and Retrieval of Samples

- ◆ Chain of Custody
- ◆ Loading & Retrieval times
- ◆ Observations
- ◆ Apply sample flag (power failure, flow error, sample time, CV...)
- ◆ Does it match local condition?
- ◆ Some need to be transport in cooler (-4°C)



Field and Laboratory Chain of Custody  
Version 1.3

South Coast Air Quality Management District  
Monitoring and Analysis Division

### Field and Laboratory Chain of Custody Form PM2.5 FRM 24 Hour Filter Sampler

Site Name: CEUA A      Cassette ID Number: 8623885  
 AIRS Site Number: 06037103      Sampling Date/Port Number: 1/3/20 / FR1  
 Field Operator: A. Shir      Sampler ID #: 1108  
 LIMS Sample ID: \_\_\_\_\_

Check if data WAS NOT electronically submitted to Laboratory, explain in comments.

#### SAMPLE SUMMARY

Elapsed Time, hr:min: <u>23:54</u>	Average:	Ambient Temp: (°C): <u>16.1</u>	Ambient Pressure (mm Hg): <u>759</u>
Volume, m <sup>3</sup> : <u>24.0</u>	Minimum:	Minimum: <u>10.3</u>	Maximum: <u>75.6</u>
Average Flow, LPM: <u>16.7</u>	Maximum:	Maximum: <u>25.9</u>	
Flow CV, %: <u>0.04</u>			
Start Date/Time: <u>2020/01/03 / 0000</u>			

Local Condition Codes: J

A. High Wind      E. Forest Fire  
 K. Farming Nearby      J. Construction Nearby  
 N. Sanding/Salting Streets      L. Highway Construction  
 P. Roofing Operations      Q. Prescribed Burn

Check Problem Type:  Mechanical     Software     Calibration     Filter     Other

Operator Comments: J: Department of Water and Power (DWP) construction in front of station.

#### Chain of Custody

Action	Date	Time	Temperature < 4°C	Name
Sample Load	<u>12/31/19</u>	<u>0948</u>		<u>A. Shir</u>
Sample Removal	<u>1/7/20</u>	<u>0913</u>		
Sample Placed In Cooler		↓	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Sample Shipped to Lab			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	↓
Sample Placed in Lab Fridge		↓		
Sample Removed for Weighing				

**FOR LABORATORY USE ONLY**

Validation      Checked by:      Date

Step 1		
Step 2		

Lab Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

# Audits

- ◆ **Semiannually**- QA; particulate samplers
- ◆ **Annually**- QA; continuous gaseous samplers
- ◆ **Annually**- EPA contractor; 25% of the network each year
- ◆ **Every 3 years**- EPA; Technical Systems Audit

# Summary

1. The purpose of a station operator is to ensure the health of instruments & quality of data
2. Level 1 data validation is the most important
3. How do we make sure instruments are operating well, producing quality data?
  - ◇ Daily QC checks
  - ◇ Data pattern/trends
  - ◇ Preventative maintenance
  - ◇ Documentation: downtime, station/instrument logbooks, notation of unusual activities
4. All the above items have contributed to increased data capture, a positive improvement in data quality over time (PC's, Spans and Zeros), and increased confidence in our data reporting.

# Questions?



[JGarcia@AQMD.GOV](mailto:JGarcia@AQMD.GOV)

[RMorales@AQMD.GOV](mailto:RMorales@AQMD.GOV)