

User Manual TRIME-ES with Probe T3/22

TRIME-ES with external Tube Access Probe T3/22



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Thank you for buying an IMKO moisture probe. Please carefully read these instructions in order to achieve best possible results with your TRIME-ES in-line moisture measurement system. Should you have any questions or suggestions regarding your new system after reading, please do not hesitate to contact our authorised dealers or IMKO directly. We will gladly help you.

User Manual for TRIME-ES with T3/22 Tube Access Probe

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1. Instrument Description TRIME-ES

1.1.1. The patented TRIME® TDR-Measuring Method

The TDR technology (Time-Domain-Reflectometry) is a radar-based dielectric measuring procedure at which the transit times of electromagnetic pulses for the measurement of dielectric constants, respectively the moisture content are determined.

TRIME-ES consists of the measurement transformer TRIME-ES and the probe head SILO-ES in a high grade steel casing with a wear-resistant sensor head with ceramic window. An integrated TRIME TDR measuring transducer is installed into the TRIME-ES casing. A high frequency TDR pulse (1GHz), passes along wave guides and generates an electro-magnetic field around these guides and herewith also in the material surrounding the probe. Using a new patented measuring method, IMKO has achieved to measure the transit time of this pulse with a resolution of 1 picosecond (1x10⁻¹²), consequently determine the moisture and the conductivity of the measured material.

The established moisture content, as well as the conductivity, respectively the temperature, can either be uploaded directly into a SPC via two analogue outputs 0(4) ...20 mA or recalled via a serial RS485 interface.

1.1.2. TRIME® compared to other Measuring Methods

In contrary to conventional capacitive or microwave measuring methods, the TRIME[®] technology (Time-Domain-Reflectometry with Intelligent Micromodule Elements) does not only enable the measuring of the moisture but also to verify if the mineral concentration specified in a recipe has been complied with. This means more reliability at the production.

TRIME-TDR technology operates in the ideal frequency range between 600MHz and 1,2 GHz. Capacitive measuring methods (also referred to as Frequency-Domain-Technology), depending on the device, operate within a frequency range between 5MHz and 40MHz and are therefore prone to interference due to disturbance such as the temperature and the mineral contents of the measured material. Microwave measuring systems operate with high frequencies >2GHz. At these frequencies, nonlinearities are generated which require very complex compensation. For this reason, microwave measuring methods are more sensitive in regard to temperature variation.

TRIME probes calibrate themselves in the event of abrasion due to a novel and innovative probe design. This consequently means longer maintenance intervals and, at the same time, more precise measurement values.

The modular TRIME technology enables a manifold of special applications without much effort due to the fact that it can be variably adjusted to many applications.

1.1.3. Areas of Application with TRIME-ES with probe T3/22

The TRIME-ES with probe T3/22 is suited for measuring in different materials. The probe head of the T3/22 probe consists of PEEK. The special 2 meter long radar cable is made of PTFA. Probe T3/22 and the cable withstands temperatures up to 70° Celsius.

The temperature range for the TRIME-ES measurement transformer should not be higher than 70°C.



2. Mode of Operation

2.1.1. Measurement value collection with pre-check, average value and filtering

TRIME-ES measures internally at a rate of 100 measurements per seconds and issues the measurement value at a cycle time of up to 200 milliseconds at the analogue output. In these 200 milliseconds a probe-internal pre-check of the moisture values is already carried out, i.e. only plausible and physically pre-averaged measurement values are be used for the further data processing. This increases the reliability for the recording of the measured values to a downstream control system significantly.

In the **Measurement Mode CS** (Cyclic-Successive), an average value is not accumulated and the cycle time here is 200 milliseconds. In the **Measurement Mode CA and CF** (Average), not the momentarily measured individual values are directly issued, but an average value is accumulated via a variable number of measurements in order to filter out temporary variations. These variations can be caused by inhomogeneous moisture distribution in the material surrounding the sensor head. The delivery scope of TRIME-ES includes suited parameters for the averaging period and a universally applicable filter function deployable for currently usual applications. The time for the average value accumulation, as well as various filter functions, can be adjusted for special applications.

2.1.2. Temperature Measurement

A temperature sensor is installed into the TRIME-ES measurement transformer which establishes the casing temperature.

2.1.3. Analogue Outputs

The measurement values are issued as a current signal via the analogue output. With the help of the service program **SONO-CONFIG**, the SONO probe can be set to the two versions for 0..20mA or 4..20mA. Furthermore, it is also possible to variably adjust the moisture dynamic range e.g. to 0-10%, **0-20%** or 0-30%. For a 0-10V DC voltage output, a 500R resistor can be installed in order to reach a 0..10V output.

Analogue Output 1: Moisture in % (0...20%, variable adjustable)

Analogue Output 2: Conductivity (EC-TRIME) or optionally the temperature.

In addition, there is also the option to split the analogue output 2 into two ranges: into 4..11mA for the temperature and 12..20mA for the conductivity. The analogue output two hereby changes over into an adjustable one-second cycle between these two (current) measurement windows.

For the analogue outputs 1 and 2 there are thus two adjustable options: Analog Output: (two possible selections)

0..20mA 4..20mA

For very special PLC applications, the current output can be inverted into:

20mA...0mA or 20mA...4mA



<u>Analogue Output Channel 1 and 2</u>: The two analogue outputs of the SONO probe can be adjusted into one to four possible selections.

Moist, Temp	Analogue output 1 for moisture, output 2 for material temperature.	
Moist, Conduct	Analogue output 1 for moisture, output 2 for conductivity in ranges of 020dS/mS or 50dS/m	
Moist, Temp/Conductivity	Analogue output 1 for moisture, output 2 for both, temperature and conductivity (EC-TRIME) with an automatic current-window change in cycles of 5 seconds.	
Moist / MoistSTdDev	Analogue output 1 for moisture, output 2 for the standard deviation based on the single moisture values. This function is useful in e.g. fluid bed drier for air volume control.	

Adjustment for the Measurement Ranges

For analogue output 1 and 2 the moisture dynamic range and temperature dynamic range can be variably adjusted. The moisture dynamic range should not exceed 100%

Moisture Range:Temp. Range:Maximum: e.g. 20 for sand (Set in %)Maximum: 70 °CMinimum: 0Minimum: 0 °C

Conductivity Range: 0..20dS/m or 0...50dS/m

Dependent on probe type and moisture range, SONO probes can measure pore water

conductivities (EC-TRIME) in ranges of 5dS/m up to 50dS/m.

2.1.1. The IMP-Bus as a user friendly network system

With external power supply on site for the SONO probes, a simple 2-wire cable can be used for the networking. By use of 4-wire cables, several probes can be also supplied with power.

Standard RS485-interfaces cause very often problems! The RS485 is usually not galvanically isolated and therefore raises the danger of mass grindings or interferences which can lead to considerably security problems. An RS485 network needs shielded and twisted pair cables, especially for long distances. Depending on the topology of the network, it is necessary to place 1000hm termination resistors at sensitive locations. In practice this means considerable specialist effort and insurmountable problems.

The robust IMP-Bus ensures security. SONO-probes have in parallel to the standard RS485 interface the robust galvanically isolated IMP-Bus which means increased safety. The serial data line is isolated from the probe's power supply and the complete sensor network is therefore independent from single ground potentials and different grid phases. Furthermore the IMP-Bus transmit its data packets not as voltage signals, but rather as current signals which also works at already existing longer cables. A special shielded cable is not necessary and also stub lines are no problem.

2.1.2. Error Reports and Error Messages

SONO probes are very fault-tolerant. This enables failure-free operation. Error messages can be recalled via the serial interface.



2.2. Configuration of the Measure Mode

The configuration of TRIME-ES is preset in the factory before delivery. A process-related later optimisation of this device-internal setting is possible with the help of the service program **SONO-CONFIG**. For all activities regarding parameter setting and calibration the probe can be directly connected via the RS485 interface to the PC via a RS485 USB-Module which is available from IMKO

The following settings of TRIME-ES can be amended with the service program **SONO-CONFIG**:

Measurement-Mode and Parameters:

- Measurement Mode A-On-Request (only in network operation for the retrieval of measurement values via the RS485 interface).
- Measurement Mode C Cyclic: TRIME-ES is supplied ex factory with suited parameters in Mode CS for bulk goods.

Mode CS: (Cyclic-Successive) For very short measuring processes (e.g. 5...20 seconds) without floating average, with internal up to 100 measurements per second and a cycle time of 250 milliseconds at the analogue output. Measurement mode CS can also be used for getting raw data from the SONO-probe without averaging and filtering.

Mode CA: (Cyclic-Average-Filter) For relative short measuring processes with continual average value, filtering and an accuracy of up to 0.1%

Mode CF: (Cyclic-Float-Average) for continual average value with filtering and an accuracy of up to 0.1% for very slowly measuring processes, e.g. in fluidized bed dryers, conveyor belts, etc.

Mode CK: (Cyclic-Kalman-Filter) Standard setting for SONO-MIX for use in fresh concrete mixer with continual average value with special dynamic Kalman filtering and an accuracy of up to 0.1%.

Calibration (if completely different materials are deployed)

Each of these settings will be preserved after shut down of the probe and is therefore stored on a permanent basis.

2.3. Operation Mode CA and CF at non-continuous Material Flow

For mode CA and CF the TRIME probes are supplied ex factory with suited parameters for the averaging time and with a universally deployable filter function suited for most currently applications.

The setting options and special functions of TRIME probes depicted in this chapter are only rarely required. It is necessary to take into consideration that the modification of the settings or the realisation of these special functions may lead to faulty operation of the probe!

For applications with non-continuous material flow, there is the option to optimise the control of the measurement process via the adjustable filter values *Filter-Lower-Limit*, *Filter-Upper-Limit* and the time constant *No-Material-Keep-Time*. The continual/floating averaging can be set with the parameter *Average-Time*.

Parameters in the Measurement Mode CA, CF and CK	Function	
Average-Time Standard Setting: 10 Setting Range: 120	The time (in seconds) for the generation of the average value can be set with this parameter.	
Filter-Upper-Limit-Offset Standard Setting: 5 Setting Range: 120 With the setting of 20, this parameter must be disabled for Mode CK!	Too high measurement values generated due to metal wipers or blades are filtered out. The offset value in % is added to the dynamically calculated upper limit.	



Filter-Lower-Limit Standard Setting: 2 Setting Range: 120 With the setting of 20, this parameter must be disabled for Mode CK!	Too low measurement values generated due to insufficient material at the probe head are filtered out. The offset value in % is subtracted from the dynamically calculated lower limit with the negative sign.	
Upper-Limit-Keep-Time Standard Setting: 5 Setting Range: 1100 With the setting of 100, this parameter must be disabled for Mode CK!	The maximum duration (in seconds) of the filter function for Upper-Limit-failures (too high measurement values) can be set with this parameter.	
Lower-Limit-Keep-Time Standard Setting: 30 Setting Range: 1100 With the setting of 100, this parameter must be disabled for Mode CK!	The maximum duration (in seconds) of the filter function for Lower-Limit-failures (too low measurement values) for longer-lasting "material gaps", ie the time in which no material is located on the probe, can be bridged.	
Kalman Filter-Parameter in Measurement Mode CK:		
Q-Parameter Standard Setting: 1x10 ⁻⁵ Setting Range: 0.011x10 ⁻⁷	This Kalman filter parameter Q is used to characterize the systemic measurement error. It is recommended to leave this parameter to the default setting!	
R-Parameter Standard Setting: 0.033 Setting Range: 0.01 0.1	This Kalman filter parameter R is used for smoothing the measurement error. The lower this parameter, the faster is the response to smaller changes in the moisture readings. The higher this parameter is the more smoothed the measured value, but with a delayed reaction time. It is recommended to leave this parameter to the default setting!	
K-Parameter Standard Setting: 0.01 Setting Range: 0.01 0.2	This Kalman filter parameter K is used for a predynamic behaviour of the Kalman Filter for higher changes in the moisture reading, i.e. the reaction rate of the measurement signal can be affected hereby. The K-parameter is related to the Average-Time. It is recommended to leave this parameter to the default setting!	

2.3.1. Average Time in the measurement mode CA and CF

TRIME-ES establishes every 200 milliseconds a new single measurement value which is incorporated into the continual averaging and issues the respective average value in this timing cycle at the analogue output. The averaging time therefore accords to the "memory" of the TRIME-ES. The longer this time is selected, the more inert is the reaction rate, if differently moist material passes the probe. A longer averaging time results in a more stable measurement value. This should in particular be taken into consideration, if the TRIME-ES is deployed in different applications in order to compensate measurement value variations due to differently moist materials.

At the point of time of delivery, the *Average Time* is set to 4 seconds. This value has proven itself to be useful for many types of applications. At applications which require a faster reaction rate, a smaller value can be set. Should the display be too "unstable", it is recommended to select a higher value.



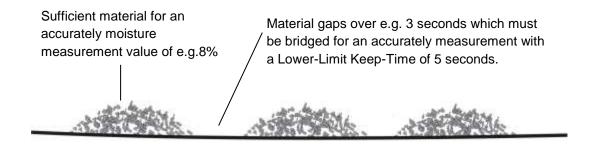
2.3.2. Filtering at material gaps in mode CA

A TRIME probe is able to identify, if temporarily no or less material is at the probe head and can filter out such inaccurate measurement values (*Filter-Lower-Limit*). Particular attention should be directed at those time periods in which the measurement area of the probe is only partially filled with material for a longer time, i.e. the material (sand) temporarily no longer completely covers the probe head. During these periods (*Lower-Limit-Keep-Time*), the probe would establish a value that is too low. The *Lower-Limit-Keep-Time* sets the maximum possible time where the probe could determine inaccurate (too low) measurement values.

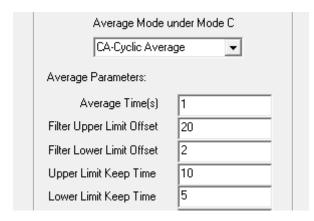
Furthermore, the passing or wiping of the probe head with metal blades or wipers can lead to the establishment of too high measurement values (*Filter-Upper-Limit*). The *Upper-Limit-Keep-Time* sets the maximum possible time where the probe would determine inaccurate (too high) measurement values.

Using a complex algorithm, TRIME probes are able to filter out such faulty individual measurement values. The standard settings in the **Measurement Mode CA and CF** for the filter functions depicted in the following have proven themselves to be useful for many applications and should only be altered for special applications.

It is appropriate to bridge material gaps in mode CA with Upper- and Lower-Limit Offsets and Keep-Time. For example the Lower-Limit Offset could be adjusted with 2% with a Lower-Limit Keep-Time of 5 seconds. If the TRIME probe determines a moisture value which is 2% below the average moisture value with e.g. 8%, than the average moisture value will be frozen at this value during the Lower-Limit Keep-Time of 5 seconds. In this way the material gap can be bridged. This powerful function inside the TRIME probe works here as a highpass filter where the higher moisture values are used for building an average value, and the lower or zero values are filtered out. In the following this function is described with SONO parameters.



The following parameter setting in mode CA fits a high pass filtering for bridging material gaps.



The Filter Upper-Limit is here deactivated with a value of 20, the Filter Lower-Limit is set to 2%. With a Lower-Limit Keep-Time of 5 seconds the average value will be frozen for 5 seconds if a single measurement value is below the limit of 2% of the average value. After 5 seconds the average value is deleted and a new average value building starts. The Keep-Time function stops if a single measurement value lies within the Limit values.



3. Calibration Curves

TRIME-ES is supplied with a universal calibration curve for sand (Cal1: Universal Sand Mix). A maximum of 15 different calibration curves (CAL1 ... Cal15) are stored inside the TRIME probe and can optionally be activated via the program **SONO-CONFIG**.

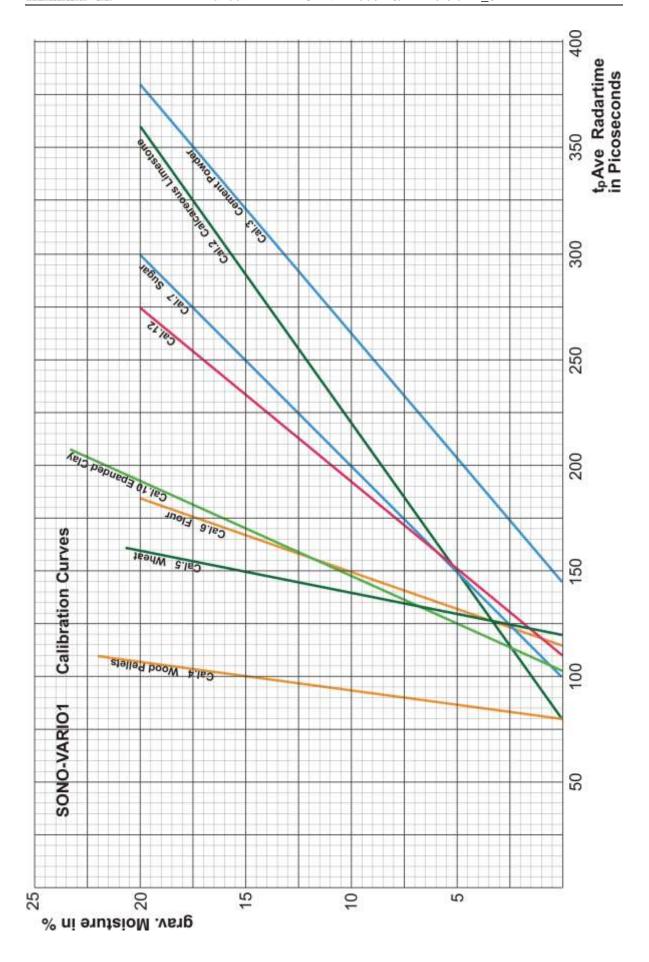
A preliminary test of an appropriate calibration curve (Cal1..15) can be activated in the menu "Calibration" and in the window "Material Property Calibration" by selecting the desired calibration curve (Cal1...Cal15) and with using the button "Set Active Calib". The finally desired and possibly altered calibration curve (Cal1..15) which is activated after switching on the probes power supply will be adjusted with the button "Set Default Calib".

Nonlinear calibrations are possible with polynomials up to 5th grade (coefficients m0...m5). IMKO publish on its website more suitable calibration coefficients for different materials. These calibration coefficients can be entered and stored in the TRIME probe by hand (Cal14 and Cal15) with the help of SONO-CONFIG.

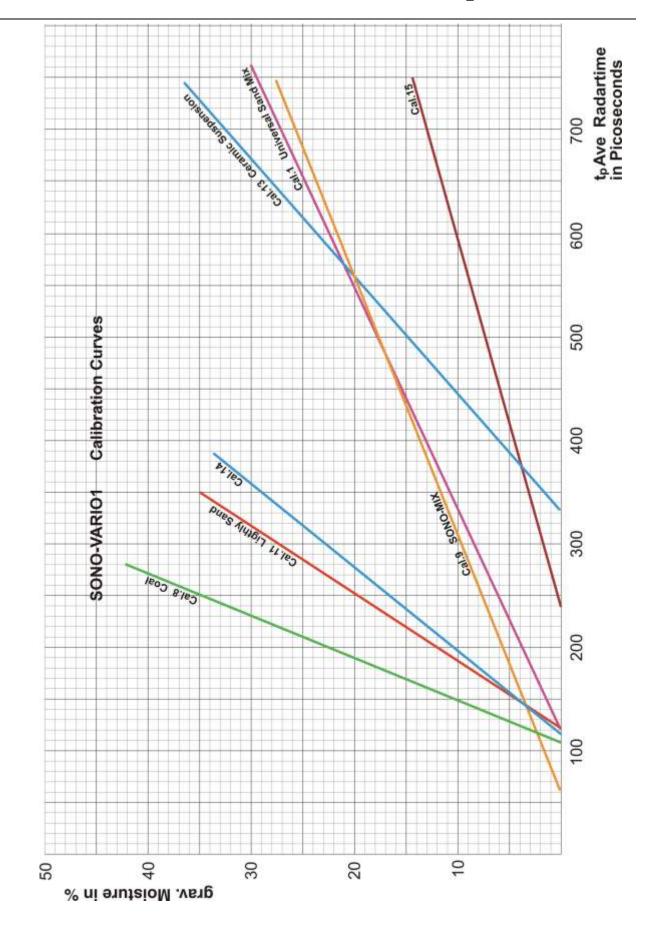
The following charts (Cal.1 .. 15) show different selectable calibration curves which are stored inside the TRIME probe.

Plotted is on the y-axis the gravimetric moisture (**MoistAve**) and on the x-axis depending on the calibration curve the associated radar time **tpAve** in picoseconds. With the software **SONO-CONFIG** the radar time **tpAve** is shown on the screen parallel to the moisture value **MoistAve** (see "Quick Guide for the Software SONO-CONFIG).











3.1. Creating a linear Calibration Curve for a specific Material

The calibration curves Cal1 to Cal15 can be easily created or adapted for specific materials with help of SONO-CONFIG. Therefore, two measurement points need to be identified with the probe. Point P1 at dried material and point P2 at moist material where the points P1 and P2 should be far enough apart to get a best possible calibration curve. The moisture content of the material at point P1 and P2 can be determined with laboratory measurement methods (oven drying). It is to consider that sufficient material is measured to get a representative value.

Under the menu "Calibration" and the window "Material Property Calibration" the calibration curves CAL1 to Cal15 which are stored in the SONO probe are loaded and displayed on the screen (takes max. 1 minute). With the mouse pointer individual calibration curves can be tested with the SONO-probe by activating the button "Set Active Calib". The measurement of the moisture value (MoistAve) with the associated radar time tpAve at point P1 and P2 is started using the program SONO-CONFIG in the sub menu "Test" and "Test in Mode CF" (see "Quick Guide for the Software SONO- CONFIG").

Step 1: The radar pulse time **tpAve** of the probe is measured with dried material. Ideally, this takes place during operation of a mixer/dryer in order to take into account possible density fluctuations of the material. It is recommended to detect multiple measurement values for finding a best average value for **tpAve**. The result is the first calibration point P1 (e.g. 70/0). I.e. 70ps (picoseconds) of the radar pulse time **tpAve** corresponds to 0% moisture content of the material. But it would be also possible to use a higher point P1' (e.g. 190/7) where a **tpAve** of 190ps corresponds to a moisture content of 7%. The gravimetric moisture content of the material, e.g. 7% has to be determined with laboratory measurement methods (oven drying).

Step 2: The radar pulse time **tpAve** of the probe is measured with moist material. Ideally, this also takes place during operation of a mixer/dryer. Again, it is recommended to detect multiple measurement values of **tpAve** for finding a best average value. The result is the second calibration point P2 with X2/Y2 (e.g. 500/25). I.e. **tpAve** of 500ps corresponds to 25% moisture content. The gravimetric moisture content of the material, e.g. 25% has to be determined with laboratory measurement methods (oven drying).

Step 3: With the two calibration points P1 and P2, the calibration coefficients m0 and m1 can be determined for the specific material (see next page).

Step 4: The coefficients m1 = 0.0581 and m0 = -4.05 (see next page) for the calibration curve Cal14 can be entered directly by hand and are stored in the probe by pressing the button "**Set**". The name of the calibration curve can also be entered by hand. The selected calibration curve (e.g. Cal14) which is activated after switching on the probes power supply will be adjusted with the button "**Set Default Calib**".



Attention: Use "dot" as separator (0.0581) in SONO-CONFIG, not comma!

3.1.1. Calculation for a linear 2-point calibration curve

- 1. Download the Excel-Sheet "SONO 2-Point LinearCalibration_Calculation" from IMKO's Homepage under "Support Software".
- 2. Enter into the Excel-Sheet both TP-values with the respective reference moisture values.
- 3. Read out both parameters m0 and m1 from the Excel-Sheet.
- **4.** Enter, set and save both parameters m0 and m1 with help of the software "SONO-CONFIG" in the menu "Calibration" in the window "Material Property Calibration" in the selected calibration curve.



3.1.2. Calculation for a linear 1-point calibration curve

In practice during commissioning of a SONO probe in process, it could be happen that the measured material above the probe is only available with a single moisture value. So a 2-point calibration could not be carried out.

The procedure described below is not as precisely like a 2-point calibration, but it could be a compromise to achieve an acceptable result for a usable calibration curve.

Below you will find the basic steps which are necessary:

- Measure the radar travel time **Tp** in the running process while the material lies or flows above the SONO probe's surface. **Tp** can be measured with help of the module **SM-USB** or with the display module **SONO-VIEW**.
- 2. Determine the reference moisture **M** in % of the measured material which lies above the SONO probe. Unless the material moisture is already known, the reference moisture can be determined with an infrared- or microwave oven in the laboratory.
- 3. Determine the bulk **density D** of the material in kg per dm³. Unless the bulk density is already known this can be done by weighing of exactly 1 liter volume of the material.
- 4. Download the Excel-Sheet "SONO 1-Point LinearCalibration_Calculation" from IMKO's Homepage under "Support Software". Enter the three determined parameters **Tp** (Radar travel time), **M** (Moisture) und **D** (bulk density) into the Excel-Sheet. As result you get the two calibration curve coefficients m0 and m1.
- 5. Enter, set and save both parameters m0 and m1 with help of the software "SONO-CONFIG" in the menu "Calibration" in the window "Material Property Calibration" in the selected calibration curve. The three parameters **Tp**, **M** and **D** can be also entered without a PC with the module SONO-VIEW (see manual SONO-VIEW).

3.1.3. Calculation for a non-linear calibration curve

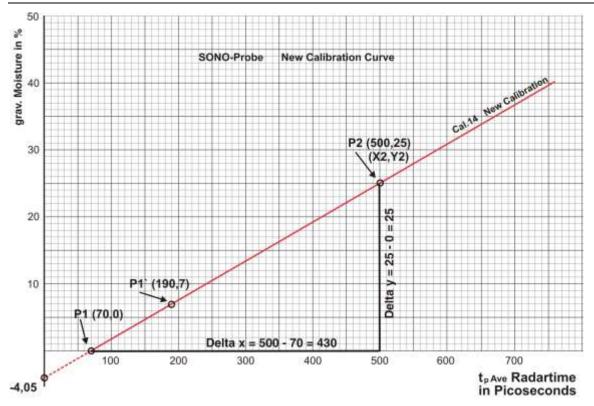
SONO probes can work also with non-linear calibration curves with polynomials up to 5th grade. For a non-linear calibration it is necessary to calibrate with 4...8 different calibration points with different Tp values and the related moisture values in %. To calculate nonlinear coefficients for polynomials up to 5th grade, an EXCEL software tool from IMKO can be used.

- 1. Download the Excel-Sheet "SONO_NonlinearCalibration_Calculation" from IMKO's Homepage under "Support Software".
- 2. Enter the TP-values with the respective reference moisture values into the Excel-Sheet.
- 3. Read out the parameters m0 to m5 from the Excel-Sheet.

Enter, set and save the parameters m0 to m5 in the selected calibration curve with help of the software "SONO-CONFIG" in the menu "Calibration" under the window "Material Property Calibration".

The following diagram shows a sample calculation for a linear calibration curve with the coefficients m0 and m1 for a specific material.





The coefficient m₁ is calculated from the slope of the curve Cal14:

Coefficient
$$m_1 = \frac{\text{Delta y}}{\text{Delta x}} = \frac{25 - 0}{500 - 70} = 0,0581$$

The coefficient m_0 is the offset on the y-axis at x = 0:

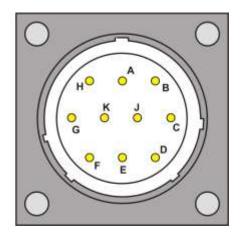
Coefficient
$$m_0 = Y2 - (m_1 \cdot X2) = 25 - (0,0581 \cdot 500) = -4,05$$



4. Connection Plug and Plug Pinning

TRIME-ES is supplied with a 10-pole MIL flange plug.





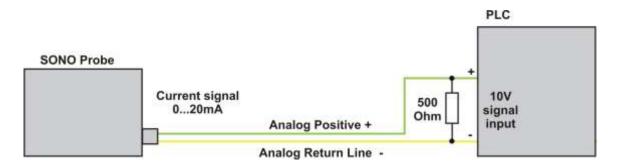
Assignment of the 10-pole MIL Plug and sensor cable connections:

Plug-PIN	Sensor Connections	Lead Colour	Lead Colour
Α	+7V24V Power Supply	red	red
В	0V Power Supply	Blue	Blue
D	1. Analogue Positive (+) Moisture	Green	Green
E	1. Analogue Return Line (-) Moisture	yellow	yellow
F	RS485 A	white	white
G	RS485 B	brown	brown
С	(rt) IMP-Bus	grey/pink	grey/pink
J	(com) IMP-Bus	blue/red	blue/red
K	2. Analogue Positive (+)	Pink	Pink
E	2. Analogue Return Line (-)	Grey	Grey
Н	Screen (is grounded at the sensor. The plant must be properly grounded!)	transparent	transparent



4.1.1. Analogue Output 0..10V with a Shunt-Resistor

There are PLC's which have no current inputs 0..20mA, but voltage inputs 0..10V. With the help of a shunt resistor with 500 ohm (in the delivery included) it is possible to generate a 0..10V signal from the current signal 0..20mA. The 500 ohm shunt resistor should be placed at the end of the line resp. at the input of the PLC. Following drawing shows the circuit principle.

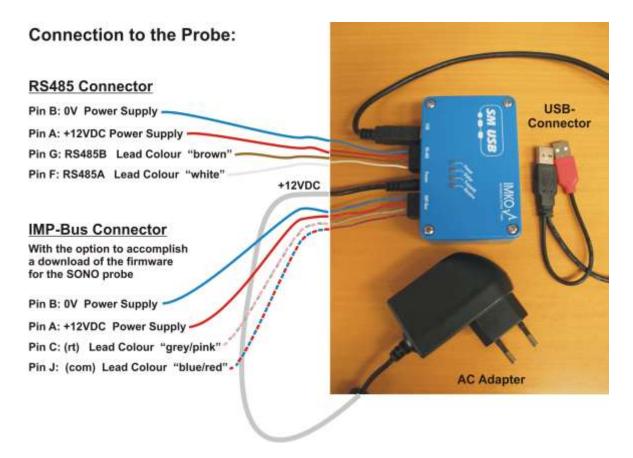




5. Serial Connection to the SM-USB Module from IMKO

The SM-USB provides the ability to connect a SONO probe either to the standard RS485 interface or to the IMP-Bus from IMKO. In fact that the IMP-Bus is more robust and enables the download of a new firmware to the SONO probe, the SONO probes are presetted ex-factory to the IMP-Bus. So it is recommended to use the IMP-Bus for a serial communication. Both connector ports are shown in the drawing below.

The SM-USB is signalling the status of power supply and the transmission signals with 4 LED's. When using a dual-USB connector on the PC, it is possible to use the power supply for the SONO probe directly from the USB port of the PC without the use of the external AC adapter.



How to start with the SM-USB module from IMKO

- Install USB-Driver from USB-Stick.
- Connect the SM-USB to the USB-Port of the PC and the installation will be accomplished automatically.
- Install Software SONOConfig-SetUp.msi from USB-Stick.
- Connection of the SONO probe to the SM-USB, with 4 wires for power supply and serial interface.
- Check the setting of the COM-Ports in the Device-Manager und setup the specific COM-Port with the Baudrate of 9600 Baud in SONO-CONFIG with the button "Bus" and "Configuration" (COM1-COM15 is possible).
- Start "Scan probes" in SONO-CONFIG.
- The SONO probe logs in the window "Probe List" after max. 30 seconds with its serial number.

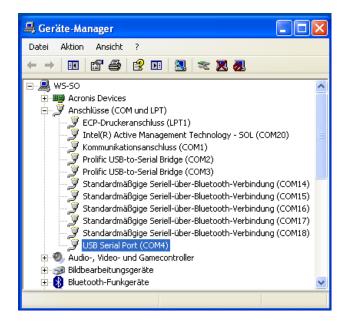


Note 1:

In the Device-Manager passes it as follows:

Control Panel → System → Hardware → Device-Manager

Under the entry "Ports (COM & LPT) now the item "USB Serial Port (COMx)" is found.

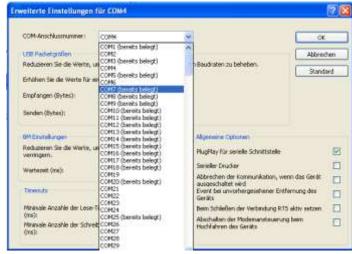


COMx set must be between COM1....COM9 and it should be ensured that there is no double occupancy of the interfaces.

If it comes to conflicts among the serial port or the USB-SM has been found in a higher COM-port, the COM port number can be adjusted manually:

By double clicking on "USB Serial Port" you can go into the properties menu, where you see "connection settings" – with "Advanced" button, the COM port number can be switched to a free number.





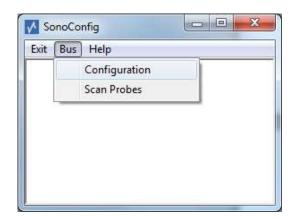
After changing the COMx port settings, SONO-CONFIG must be restarted.

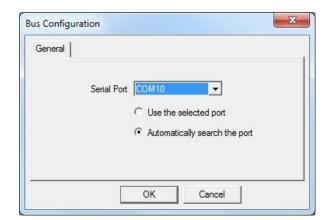


6. Quick Guide for the Commissioning Software SONO-CONFIG

With SONO-CONFIG it is possible to make process-related adjustments of individual parameters of the SONO probe. Furthermore the measurement values of the SONO probe can be read from the probe via the serial interface and displayed on the screen.

In the menu **"Bus**" and the window **"Configuration**" the PC can be configured to an available COMx-port with the Baudrate of 9600 Baud.

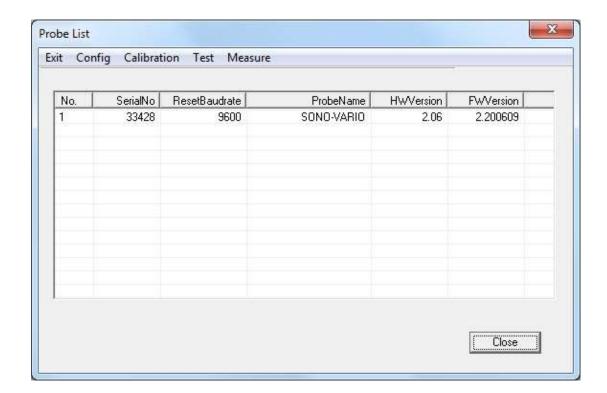




6.1.1. Scan of connected SONO probes on the serial interface

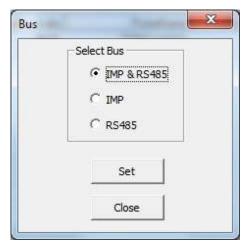
In the menu **"Bus**" and the window **"Scan Probes**" the serial bus can be scanned for attached SONO probes (takes max. 30 seconds).

SONO-CONFIG reports one or more connected and founded SONO probes with its serial number in the window "**Probe List**". One SONO probe can be selected by klicking.





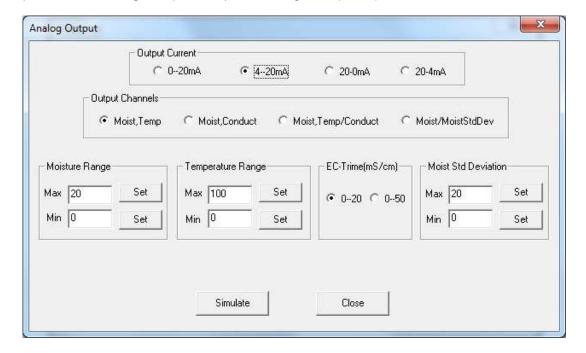
6.1.2. Configuration of serial SONO-interface



The serial interface inside the SONO probe can be selected to IMP-Bus or RS485. Due to very robust behavior it is recommended to select the IMP-Bus.

6.1.3. Set analogue outputs of the SONO probe

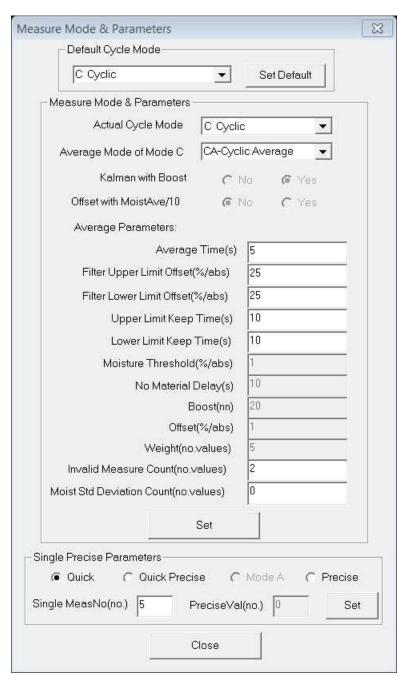
In the menu "Config" and the window "Analog Output" the two analogue outputs of the SONO probe can be configured (see Chapter "Analogue outputs..").





6.1.4. Configuration of Measure Mode

In "Probe List" with "Config" and "Measure Mode & Parameters" the SONO probe can be adjusted to the desired measure mode CA, CF, CS, CK, CC or CH (see Chapter "Configuration Measure Mode



By selecting the operating mode, the SONO probe can be set up to different measurement modes, e.g. for averaging values from several single measurement values, for performing a filtering or performing other functions (see chapter "Measurement mode configuration" in this manual).

Furthermore, a SONO probe can be set to a special required precision of the single value measurement with "Single Precise Parameters". It is about settings, how the TDR radar pulse is executed and evaluated during one measurement cycle. The next chapter describes how this can be done.



6.1.5. Setting the precision of a single value measurement cycle

The SONO probe can be adjusted to the precision of a single value measurement via **"Single Precise Parameters".** First of all, the more accurate the SONO probe has to measure, the longer the time required for a single value measurement with a TDR radar pulse evaluation. There are applications where the SONO probe under a silo valve has only 2 to 4 seconds to perform several measurements with average value building. Here, a precise single value measurement would take too long, which is why the setting **"Quick"** with a shortes measuring time of 280 ms is recommended. Especially since the fluctuating flow of material under a silo valve cannot lead to constant conditions anyway in order to be able to carry out a highly precise individual measurement.

However, there are applications where it is necessary to achieve measuring accuracies up to + - 0.05% moisture content which is only possible with very constant material conditions. E.g. in liquids with fractions of water in oil or in emulsions.

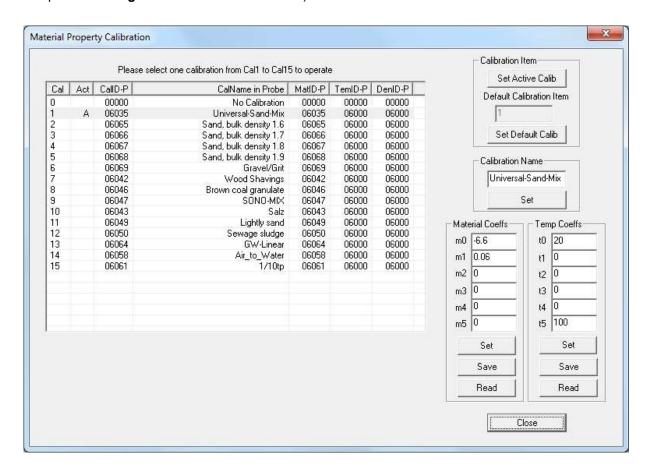
The following table provides an overview of the possible settings in the SONO probe for a single TDR radar pulse evaluation.

Parameter Setting	Measure- Mode	Function of the parameter	Application
Quick:	Mode C e.g. CS, CH, CF, etc.	Very quick TDR pulse search and very quick measurement within 280 ms.	e.g. under a silo flap with only 2-4 seconds measurement time.
Quick Precise:	Mode C e.g. CS, CH, CF, etc.	Quick and precise TDR pulse search and precise measurement within 350ms.	Similar to "Quick" but with a little longer reaction time in process measurements.
Mode A:	Mode A	Mode A only with measurements via serial interface of the sensor. E.g. for calibrations.	Mode A for mobile moisture probes with hand measurement device HD2 or SONO-DIS.
Precise: PreciseVal: Input value: 14	Mode C <u>and</u> Mode A	Most precise single value measurement with precise TDR radar pulse triggering and pulse analysis. The higher the value 1 to 4 the higher the precision but the longer the measurement time.	Only in process environment where a continuously material flow is guaranteed and a very high precision is necessary.
Single MeasNo Default value: 4 Input value max. 10	Mode C <u>and</u> Mode A	Additional averaging of the single value measurement. Please consider: when 10 is entered, one single measurement can take up to one second.	Only in process environment where a continuously material flow is guaranteed and a very high precision is necessary.



6.1.6. Selection of the individual Calibration Curves

In the menu "Calibration" and the window "Material Property Calibration" the calibration curves CAL1 to Cal15 which are stored in the SONO probe are loaded and displayed on the screen (takes max. 1 minute). With the mouse pointer individual calibration curves can be activated and tested with the SONO-probe by activating the button "Set Active Calib". Furthermore, the individual calibration curves CAL1 to Cal15 can be adapted or modified with the calibration coefficients (see Chapter "Creating a linear calibration curve").



The desired and possibly altered calibration curve (Cal1. .15) which is activated after switching on the probes power supply can be adjusted with the button "**Set Default Calib**".

The calibration name can be entered in the window "Calibration Name".

The coefficients m0 to m1 (for linear curves) and m0 to m5 (for non-linear curves) can be entered and adjusted directly by hand with the buttons "**Set**" and "**Save**". Possible are non-linear calibration curves with polynomials up to fifth order (m0-m5).



Attention: Use "dot" as separator not comma, for coefficients m0 to m5!

Determination of the parameters m0 and m1 for a linear calibration curve (see also chapter "Creating a linear calibration curve..."

- 1. Download the Excel-Sheet "SONO_LinearCalibration_Calculation" from IMKO's Homepage in the dropdown menu "Support Software".
- 2. Enter into the Excel-Sheet both TP-values with the respective reference moisture values.
- 3. Read out both parameters m0 and m1 from the Excel-Sheet.
- 4. Enter, set and save both parameters m0 and m1 in the selected calibration curve.

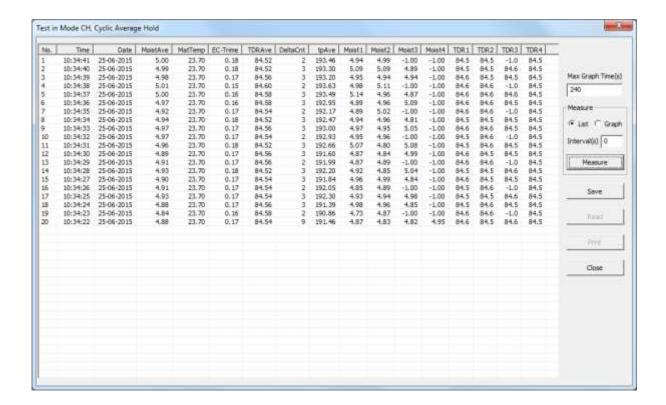


6.1.7. Test run in the respective Measurement Mode

In the menu "Test" and the window "Test in Mode CA to CF" the measured moisture values "MoistAve" (Average) of the SONO probe are displayed on the screen and can be parallel saved in a file. In the menu "Test" and the window "Test in Mode CS" the measured single measurement values "Moist" (5 values per second) of the SONO probe are displayed on the screen and parallel stored in a file. In "Test in Mode A" single measurement values (without average) are displayed on the screen and can also be stored in a file.



Attention: for a test run in mode CA, CH, CC, CF, CS or A it must be ensured that the SOI probe was also set to this mode (Measure Mode CA, CF, CS, A). If this is not assured, the probe returns zero values.



Following measurement values are displayed on the screen:

MoistAve Moisture Value in % (Average)

MatTemp Temperature

EC-TRIME Radar-based-Conductivity EC-TRIME in dS/m (or mS/cm)

TDRAve TDR-Signal-Level for special applications.

DeltaCount Number of single measurements which are used for the averaging.

tpAve Radar time (average) which corresponds to the respective moisture value.

By clicking "Save" the recorded data is saved in a text file in the following path: \SONO-CONFIG.exe-Pfad\MD\Dateiname

The name of the text file **Statis+SN+yyyymmddHHMMSS.sts** is assigned automatically with the serial number of the probe (SN) and date and time. The data in the text file can be evaluated with Windows-EXCEL.

6.1.8. "Measure" Run in Datalogging-Operation

In the menu "**Datalogging**" it is possible to aquire and store measurement data from several SONO probes with variable and longer cycle rates in a datalogger-operation, e.g. to store measurement data during a long-term drying cycle.



6.1.9. Basic Balancing in Air and Water

SONO probe heads are identical and manufactured precisely. After an exchange of a probe head it is nevertheless advisable to verify the calibration and to check the basic calibration and if necessary to correct it with a "Basic Balancing".

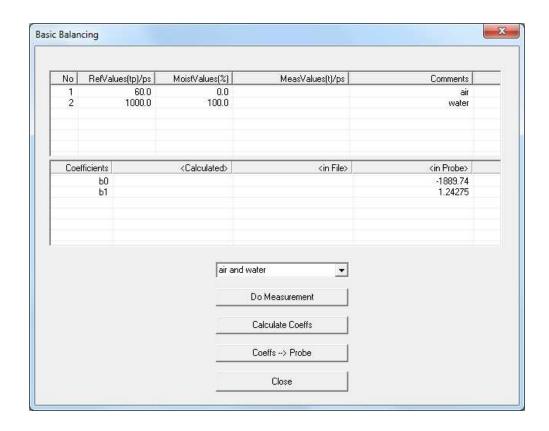
With a "Basic Balancing" two reference calibration measurements are to be carried out with known set-points ("RefValues"). For the reference media, different calibration materials are used, dependent on the SONO probe type. For SONO probes with a ceramic measurement window, air and water (tap water) is used. For other SONO probes like SONO-GS1 glass beads are used for basic calibrations (on request).



<u>Attention:</u> Before performing a "Basic Balancing" it must be ensured that the SONO probe was set to "Measure Mode" A. If this is not assured, the probe returns zero values. <u>After a "Basic Balancing"</u> the SONO probe has to be set to "Measure Mode C" again, because otherwise the probe would not measure continuously!

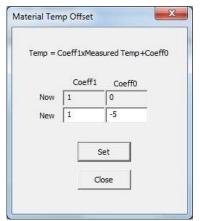
In the menu "Calibration" and the window "Basic Balancing" the two set-point values of the radar time **tp** are displayed with 60ps and 1000ps.

- Reference set-point A: tp=60ps in air (the surface of the probe head must be dry!!)
 The first set-point can be activated with the mouse pointer by clicking to No.1. By activating the button "Do Measurement" the SONO probe determines the first reference set-point in air. In the column "MeasValues" the measured raw value of the radar time t is displayed (e.g. 1532.05 picoseconds).
- 2. Reference set-point B: tp=1000ps in water. The SONO probe head has to be covered with water in a height of about 50mm. The second set-point can be activated with the mouse pointer by clicking to No.2. By activating the button "Do Measurement" the SONO probe determines the second reference set-point in water. In the column "MeasValues" the measured raw value of the radar time t is displayed.
- 3. By activating the button "Calculate Coeffs" and "Coeffs → Probe" the alignment data is calculated automatically and is stored in the SONO probe non-volatile. With a "Test run" (in Mode A) the radar time tp of the SONO probe should be now 60ps in air and 1000ps in water.

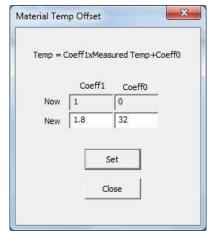




6.1.10. Offsetting the material temperature sensor

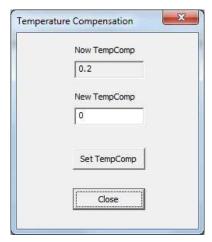


In the menu "Calibration" and the window "Material Temp Offset", a zero point offset can be adjusted for the material temperatur sensor which is installed inside the SONO probe. In this example a temperature deviation of +5° C is produced by inside self-warming of the SONO probe. The correction value -5 can be setted in the Coeff0 window.



The example shows the parameters for displaying the temperature in the unit: Degree Fahrenheit.

6.1.11. Compensation of the electronic temperature



With this method of temperature compensation, a possible temperature drift of the SONO-electronic can be compensated. Because the SONO-electronic shows a generally low temperature drift, SONO probes are presetted at delivery for standard ambient conditions with the parameter **TempComp**=0.2. Dependent on SONO probe type, this parameter TempComp can be adjusted for higher temperature ranges (up to 120°C for special high temperature version) to values up to **TempComp**=0.75. But it is to consider that it is necessary to make a Basic-Balancing of the SONO probe in air and water, if the parameter TempComp is changed to another value as TempComp=0.2. The parameter TempComp can be changed with the software tool SONO-CONFIG, in the menu **"Calibration"** and the window **"Electronic-Temperature-Compensation"**.



Attention: When changing the TempComp parameter, a new basic balancing of the SONO probe is necessary!



6.2. Installation of the Probe

The installation conditions are strongly influenced by the constructional circumstances of the installation facility. The ideal installation location must be established individually. The following guidelines should hereby be observed.

6.3. Assembly Instructions

The following instructions should be followed when installing the probe:

Attention! Risk of Breakage!

The probe head is made of hardened special steel and a very wear-resistant ceramic in order to warrant for a long life-span of the probe. In spite of the robust and wear-resistant construction, the ceramic plate may not be exposed to any blows as ceramic is prone to breakage.

Attention! Risk of Overvoltage!

In case of welding work at the plant, all probes must be completely electrically disconnected. SONO-probes need a stabilized power supply with 12V-DC to max. 24 V-DC. With unstabilized power supply there is the risk of overvoltage. We strongly suggest not to use unstabilized power supplies.

Attention! Risk of Malfunction!

- 1. In larger concrete plants it could be possible, that there are different mass potentials for different power lines in use, especially if the PLC is installed in larger distances to the moisture probe. Here it could come to problems that the analogue moisture signal 0(4)..20mA could not be measured correctly in the PLC. With such a problem we recommend to use an isolated powerbox for the SONO probe. Available upon request by IMKO.
- Take care that there are no other electromagnetic fields nearby the SONO probe. E.g. another moisture probe installed beside or in opposite of the SONO probe could influence the measurement field.

Any damage caused by faulty installation is not covered by the warranty!

Abrasive wear of sensor parts is not covered by the warranty!



7. Technical Data TRIME-ES P2

SENSOR DESIGN

TRIME-ES Measurement Transformer: Aluminium case.

Probe T3/22: PEEK mit 20mm diameter

Cable length: 2 meter in PTFE

POWER SUPPLY

+12V to max. +24V-DC, 3W

Attention: Do not use unstabilized power supplies. Risk of overvoltage!

AMBIENT CONDITIONS

Probe T3/22: -20°C+70°C

TRIME-ES Measurement Transformer: -20°C.....+70°C

MEASUREMENT RANGE MOISTURE

The sensor measures from 0% up to the point of material saturation. Measurement ranges up to 90% moisture are possible with a special calibration.

MEASUREMENT RANGE TEMPERATURE

Measurement Range: 0°C ...70°C

The temperature is only measured inside the TRIME-ES measurement transformer.

MEASUREMENT DATA-PREPROCESSING

MEASUREMENT MODE CA: (Cyclic-Average) For relative short measuring processes with continual average value, filtering and an accuracy of up to 0.1%

MEASUREMENT CF: (Cyclic-Float-Average) For very slow measuring processes with floating average value, filtering and an accuracy of up to 0.1%

MEASUREMENT MODE CS: (Cyclic-Successive) For very short measuring processes without floating average and without filtering with internal up to 100 measurements per second and a cycle time of 200 milliseconds at the analogue output.

Mode CC: (Cyclic Cumulated) with automatic summation of a moisture quantity during one batch process.

Mode CH: (Cyclic Hold) with filtering functions, similar to Mode CC but without summation.

Mode CK: (Cyclic-Kalman-Filter with Boost) Standard setting for SONO-MIX for use in fresh concrete mixer with continual average value with special dynamic Kalman filtering and an accuracy of up to 0.1%.



ANALOGUE OUTPUT

2 x Analogue Outputs 0(4)...20mA

Analogue Output 1: Moisture in % (e.g. 0..20% variably adjustable)

Analogue Output 2: Conductivity (EC-TRIME) 0..20dS/m, or optionally the temperature, or

optionally the standard deviation.

In addition, there is the option to split the analogue output 2 into two ranges: into 4..11mA for the temperature and 12..20mA for the conductivity. The analogue output 2 hereby changes over into an adjustable 5 second cycle between these two (current) measurement windows.

The two analogue outputs can be variably aligned with the SONO-CONFIG software. For a 0-10V DC voltage output, a 500R resistor can be installed.

CALIBRATION

The sensor is provided with a universal calibration. A maximum of 15 different calibrations can be stored. For special materials, variable calibrations with polynomials up to the 5th order are possible. A zero point correction can be performed easily with the SONO-CONFIG software.

COMMUNICATION

A RS485 interface enables network operation of the probe, whereby a data bus protocol for the connection of several TRIME probes to the RS485 is implemented by default. The connection of the probe to industrial busses such as Profibus, Ethernet, etc. is possible via optional external modules (available upon request).

MEASUREMENT FIELD EXPANSION

Approximately 50 - 80 mm, depending on material and moisture.

CONNECTOR PLUG

The sensor is equipped with a robust 10-pole MIL flange connector. Ready made connection cables with MIL connectors are available cable lengths of 4m, 10m, or 25 m.



8. Savety Notes

In this documentation, text points are highlighted, which require special attention.



DANGER:

The Warning Triangle with the exclamation mark warns you against personal injury or property damage.

Intended Use

Sensors and measuring systems of IMKO GmbH may only be used for the purpose described, taking into account the technical data. Misuse **and use of the e**quipment other than for its intended purpose **are not eligible.** The function and operational safety of a sensor or measuring system can only be guaranteed if the general safety precautions, national regulations and the special safety instructions in this operating manual are observed during use.

The moisture sensors and measuring systems of IMKO GmbH are used to measure moisture according to the measuring purpose and measuring range defined and defined in the technical data. Only adherence to the instructions described in the manual is regarded as intended use. The manual describes the connection, use and maintenance of IMKO sensors and IMKO measuring systems. Read the manual before connecting and operating a sensor or measuring system. The manual is part of the product and must be kept close to the sensor or measuring system.

Impairment of safety



The sensor or the measuring system has been designed and tested in accordance with EN 61010 safety regulations for electronic measuring instruments and has left the factory in a safe and safe condition. If the sensor or the measuring system can no longer be operated safely, it must be put out

of operation and secured by means of marking before further commissioning. In case of doubt, the sensor or the measuring system must be sent to the manufacturer or his contractual partner for repair or maintenance.



Modifications

For safety reasons, it is not permitted to carry out any modifications or modifications to the sensor or the measuring system without the consent of the manufacturer. The opening of the sensor or hand-held meter, adjustment and repair work, as well as all maintenance work other than the work

described in the manual may only be carried out by a specialist authorized by IMKO. The sensor or the measuring system must be disconnected from the power supply before installation or maintenance work. Do not open or repair the hand-held unit and the power supply!



Hazard Warnings

Danger due to improper operation. The sensor or the measuring system may only be operated by instructed personnel. The operating personnel must have read and understood the operating instructions.





Danger by electricity

The hand-held meter must not be immersed in water or other liquids. The sensor is insensitive to moisture contained in the typically measured products. Only connect the hand-held meter to a properly installed outlet with the supplied voltage supply cable, the voltage of which corresponds to

the technical data. Make sure that the power outlet is well accessible, so that you can unplug the power supply quickly if necessary. Use only the adapter that is suitable for your outlet.

Only operate the meter with the supplied original accessories. If you need additional accessories or replacement, please contact the manufacturer.

Do not use the meter in following case:

- if the measuring instrument, sensor, plug-in power supply or accessories are damaged,
- the sensor or the measuring system does not operate as intended,
- the power cord or plug is damaged,
- the sensor or the measuring system has fallen down.

Unplug the power supply from the wall outlet in following case:

- if you do not use the sensor or the measuring system for an extended period of time,
- before cleaning, unpacking or changing the sensor or the measuring system,
- if you are working inside the sensor or measuring instrument, e.g. connect devices,
- if a fault occurs during operation,
- during thunderstorms.



Caution - Property damage

Ensure that there is a sufficient distance to strong heat sources such as heating plates, heating pipes. Disconnect the sensor or handheld device from other devices before relocating or transporting it. Disconnect the connectors on the device.

Do not use aggressive chemical cleaning agents, scouring agents, hard sponges or the like.



Precise Moisture Measurement

in hydrology, forestry, agriculture, environmental and earth science, civil engineering, as well as individual applications!